



**CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CC COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT
CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA**

899 South Maine Street
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Contact Person: Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant
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******NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING******

AGENDA
PLEASE POST

PLACE OF MEETING: Churchill County Administrative Building, Commission Chambers,
155 North Taylor Street Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada

DATE & TIME: October 2, 2025 at 11:00 AM

TYPE OF MEETING: Regularly Scheduled CC Communications Management Meeting

If you wish to make public comment, you may provide them at the meeting or via email, no later than 4:30 PM the day before the meeting, to shelly.bunyard@cccomm.co.

Notes:

- I. These meetings are subject to the provisions of Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS Chapter 241). Except as otherwise provided for by law, these meetings are open and public.***
- II. Action will be taken on all Agenda items, unless otherwise noted.***
- III. The Agenda is a tentative schedule. The CC Communications Management Board may act upon Agenda items in a different order than is stated in this notice – so as to affect the people’s business in the most efficient manner possible.***
- IV. In the interest of time, the CC Communications Management Board reserves the right to impose uniform time limits upon matters devoted to public comment.***
- V. Any statement made by a member of the CC Communications Management Board during the public meeting is absolutely privileged.***
- VI. All persons participating in the meetings are put on notice that an audio and video***

recording is made of these meetings.

AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order.**
2. **Public Comment.**
3. **Verification of Posting of Agenda.**
4. **Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Agenda as submitted or revised.**
5. **Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on:**
 - A. August 7, 2025
6. **New Business.**
 - A. Consideration and possible action re: NUSF application status update.
7. **Reports: General Manager Report.**
8. **Affidavit of Posting:**
9. **Public Comment.**
10. **Adjournment.**

STATE OF NEVADA)
 : ss.
County of Churchill)

*I, **Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant**, do hereby affirm that I posted, or caused to be posted, a copy of this notice of public meeting, on or before the **26th day of September, 2025** between the hours of **1 pm and 5 pm**, at the following locations in Churchill County, Nevada:*

1. *Churchill County Administration Building, 155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV;*
2. *The CC Communications Website @ www.cccomm.info;*
3. *The State of Nevada Website @ <https://notice.nv.gov/>.*



Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant

Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant, who was subscribed and sworn to before me this September 26, 2025



Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Endnotes:

Disclosures:

**CC Communications is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

Accommodations/Nondiscrimination:

**Notice to Persons with Disabilities: Members of the public who are disabled and require special assistance or accommodations at the meeting are requested to notify the CC Communications Executive Office in writing at P.O. Box 1390, Fallon, NV 89407 (Attn: Shelly Bunyard), or by calling 775-423-7171 ext. 1215 at least two days in advance.*

**In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies or complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible agency [(775)423-4092] or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the Complaint Form, call (866)632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:*

- 1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;*
- 2. Fax: (202)690-7442; or*
- 3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.*

Procedures:

**The public meetings may be conducted according to rules of parliamentary procedure.*

**Persons providing public comment will be asked to state their name for the record.*

**The CC Communications Management Board reserves the right to restrict participation by persons in the public meeting where the conduct of such persons is willfully disruptive to the people's business.*

**All supporting materials for this Agenda, previous Agendas, or Minutes are available by requesting a copy from the CC Communications Office, 775-423-7171 ext. 1215. During the meeting, there will be one copy available for public inspection. Additional copies are available by making the request from the CC Communications Office. You are entitled to one copy of the supporting materials free of charge.*

MINUTES OF THE CC COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT

155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406

August 7, 2025

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the CC Communications was called to order at 11:00 AM on August 7, 2025.

PRESENT: Commissioner Matt Hyde
Commissioner Eric Blakey
Commissioner Myles Getto
General Manager Mark Feest
Chief Financial Officer Jamie Hyde
Administrative Assistant Shelly Bunyard

ABSENT:

Public Comment:

Chair Matt Hyde asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Verification of Posting of Agenda:

It was verified by Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 1st day of August, 2025 between the hours of 1 pm and 5 pm at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Agenda as submitted or revised:

Commissioner Myles Getto made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Eric Blakey seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on:

A- July 3, 2025

Commissioner Eric Blakey made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on July 3, 2025 as submitted. Commissioner Myles Getto seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B- July 16, 2025

Commissioner Eric Blakey made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on July 16, 2025 as submitted. Commissioner Myles Getto seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

New Business:

A- Consideration and possible action re: Adoption of Resolution 13-2025, a resolution authorizing the equity transfer of \$3,000,000.00 from the CC Communications Telephone Enterprise Fund to the CC Communications CAP Enterprise Fund and other matters related thereto.

Jamie Hyde, CC Communications. The management of CC Communications has determined that since the build-out of Spring Creek and Virginia City has reached at least 50% completion, additional funds are needed to complete these projects. Yerington Grant will need pre-funding to start the project, as it is a reimbursement grant. YPT is under environmental review. After

that, construction will begin in this fiscal year. Te Moak will need pre-funding if that project is approved by the Tribe. This project goes before the Te Moak Tribal Council in August, and thereafter, will go for environmental review. It is anticipated that this construction will be started and completed in this fiscal year.

Yerington Paiute budget is \$3,041,000. This requires pre-funding and reimbursement on a rolling basis. This is 100% reimbursable.

Te Moak budget is \$2,862,000. This requires pre-funding and reimbursement on a rolling basis. This is 100% reimbursable.

Commissioner Myles Getto made a motion to approve the adoption of resolution 13-2025, a resolution authorizing the equity transfer of \$3,000,000.00 from the CC Communications Telephone Enterprise to the CC Communications CAP Enterprise Fund and other matters related thereto. Commissioner Eric Blakey seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B- Consideration and possible action authorizing the engagement of Moss Adams/Baker Tilly to assist and represent CC Communications in a NV USF rate case filing with the NV PUC not to exceed \$400,000.

Jamie Hyde, CC Communications. State USF requires every telecommunications carrier that provides intrastate telecommunications to contribute, on an equitable and nondiscriminatory basis, in a manner determined by the State to the preservation and advancement of universal service in that State.

Consumers in all regions of the Nation, including low-income consumers and those in rural, insular, and high cost areas, should have access to telecommunications and information service, including interexchange services and advanced telecommunications and information services, that are reasonably comparable to those services provided in urban areas and that are available at rates that are reasonably comparable to rates charged for similar services in urban areas.

Costs for telecommunications providers in rural areas are far greater than those in dense urban areas.

To offset the greater costs, Moss Adams/Baker Tilly estimates CC Communications' can request from NVUSF: \$2,100,000 annually over 5 years. Requests are usually reduced by 50% through the rate case process

1. Estimated Fees:

- a. Up to Application Filing: \$150,000 (\$110,000 Consulting / \$40,000 Legal)
- b. From Application through Staff Testimony & Initial Settlement Discussion: \$100,000 (\$50,000 Consulting / \$50,000 Legal)
- c. From Initial Settlement Discussion to PUCN Order: \$150,000

These estimates are based on our prior experience, but each case has its own circumstances, which results in fees being higher or lower. Fees depend on factors such as which attorney CC Communications utilizes, the amount of data requests that Staff submits, how open Staff is to settlement discussions, unique/novel theories that Staff incorporates its testimony and

recommendations, whether the case settles or goes to hearings, and other factors that are out of our control.

CC Communications will do our best internally to keep the costs to a minimum.

There is a risk that the ruling may be unfavorable, and no funds are secured.

Mark Feest, CC Communications. I can give you a little background if you don't have questions.

Commissioner Matt Hyde. Go ahead.

Mark Feest, CC Communications. Chief Civil Deputy District Attorney, Joe Sanford, Jamie and I met on a zoom call with the USF staff. There were seven or eight people on the call. The question we wanted to establish is that due to the fact we are not rate regulated by the State PUC, are they going to object to us even applying. Are they going to attempt to gain greater authority over us? Are they going to want us to submit to authority. They said, "No, but they would need to do a rate case as if they were setting the rates in order to determine the delta between our revenue and what's called a revenue requirement." For example, we are required to provide telephone service to every single location that makes a reasonable request in Churchill County. That requires us to purchase a switch, maintain a switch and pay consultants to help us install and migrate that switch. You're not getting a lot of revenue with that service, but you're mandated to hit every location. You may have switch costs that are here, but your revenue opportunities from customers are all the way down here. It's that delta that you're entitled to seek Nevada USF because that is an intrastate, meaning that it stays within the state service. They did not object to the theory that we are allowed to apply even though we are not subject to rate regulation. That is the exact same way as a co-op they are not subject to rate regulations. They recently allowed a co-op to apply for and be awarded Nevada State USF. That's our theory is if they're allowed to, then we should be allowed to apply. They also told us that it's going to be an arduous process. It's difficult to predict how many data requests they will make in addition to the original application. That's why we stated that there is a risk of the ruling may be unfavorable, and no funds are secured, or funds are secured at a much lower rate. Once they do establish a NV USF amount, it's frozen for five years. You get the same amount for five years and as you lead up to that fifth year you can go back and redo that process.

Commissioner Matt Hyde. That answered my questions.

Commissioner Eric Blakey. What do you think the take would be if we were to apply for this and what's the revenue going to generate?

Mark Feest, CC Communications. Moss Adams in their experience has noted that a stipulated agreement is often available to stop the process and stipulate that this is a reasonable amount. That agreement is often times in the neighborhood of 50% of what the accountants on our side believe we are entitled to. That drops to \$2.1 that the accountants believe we are entitled to in the neighborhood of \$1 million dollars per year over five years, then you owe the \$400,000 or whatever that ends up costing us. It's my understanding that Moss Adams has handled every

one of these rate cases for the rural companies in Nevada and one gave up after a long time of increasing costs. The other companies were successful.

Commissioner Eric Blakey. The rate of return is good for everyone that has been involved.

Mark Feest, CC Communications. Other than the company that gave up. I don't have particulars on why they gave up or what the situation was.

Commissioner Eric Blakey. Is this something that you're interested in doing?

Mark Feest, CC Communications. I believe we should move forward. We always knew that there was some delta between what we were able to recover from customers and what our revenue requirement was for intrastate. We had concerns that the PUC would say, if you're going to come collect it, you need to be fully subject to PUC regulations. We never thought that delta was big enough to risk that. The other issue, I think is the delta was never that big, but it just grows over time due to changes in the Federal Universal Service Fund where they eliminate intrastate costs from going into their Universal Service Fund calculations. The numbers are growing, and we now have a unregulated company that has successfully gone through it without any new regulations being mandated. We think this is the time to do it.

Commissioner Eric Blakey. Thank you.

Sherry Wideman, Comptroller. After five years, do you have to go back for a rate change or can you continue to keep receiving it.

Mark Feest, CC Communications. We would not have to go back for a rate change, but you don't keep receiving it. If you want any money after the fifth year, you will have to do another rate case and application. I will note from the rate case perspective, they will say what a reasonable rate is but because they don't rate regulated us, they say reasonable rate is \$15.00 for basic dial tone. If we are only charging \$10.00, they would impute that \$15.00 in our revenue. You will not get the delta plus the \$5.00. If they say you should be charging \$15.00, then you get the amount they say. That's why they want to do the rate case because they feel they need to establish that we are not undercharging for basic telephone service. From the Federal standpoint for basic telephone service, we are not undercharging. We brought it up to the number that matches what the feds say. I don't know how our state would say it's a different number, but we won't know until we move forward.

Commissioner Matt Hyde. I would assume it's an easier process five years from now, if we've already been approved.

Mark Feest, CC Communications. I would assume the ease of the process depends on the attitude of the staff. In September or October, they were supposed to open a rule making to create rules. They do not have any printed or adopted rules on their process to do this. Our State Legislature passed a law that says we will have State Universal Service, and the PUC will administer it. Not every state has State Universal Service. They have never adopted the rules on how you go about receiving it. In five years, if they actually adopt those rules, then any

provider will know what they have to do to get there, and I know I will be treated the same as someone else. We don't know that right now. That is the potential it won't work out in our favor because we don't have enough information upfront about the process.

Commissioner Matt Hyde. Since there's already been a co-op that made us feel like we can do this.

Commissioner Eric Blakey. I think it's an awesome idea. I think we have the right staff to put it together and move this forward. As mentioned, once you get over the first hurdle it will be easy the rest of the time.

Commissioner Myles Getto. Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Commissioner Eric Blakey made a motion to authorizing the engagement of Moss Adams/Baker Tilly to assist and represent CC Communications in a NV USF rate case filing with the NV PUC not to exceed \$400,000. Commissioner Myles Getto seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

General Managers Report:

1. Transport Network Update
 - a. Migration plan is being implemented
 - i. Scheduled August 12-13
 - b. Working on Colo agreements for partners in Northern Nevada
 - c. Reviewing dark fiber lease options for statewide network
 - i. Increase ability for NNI intrastate and interstate
 - ii. Increase geographic redundancy as TRIC and surrounding areas buildout data centers
 - iii. Increase redundancy for our Internet customers
2. C15
 - a. Complete
 - b. TNS Contract complete for new Sigtran to replace SS7
 - i. Transitioning to Sigtran
 - ii. This requires professional services, which is difficult to schedule.
3. Virginia City
 - a. About 80% complete with mainline
 - b. Splicing and drops continue while the other 20% mainline is placed.
 - c. Engineering on VC Highlands in progress
4. YPT
 - a. Environmental returned
 - b. Ordering equipment
 - c. Getting schedules aligned
5. Ruby Vista Apartments (Elko MTU)
 - a. Installed

- b. I received an email from the Managing Director that expressed how pleased they were and how easy we are to work with.
- 6. NTIA
 - i. Completed draft for extension to completion date for SCA. This is an iterative process with our Program Officer providing input.
 - ii. Request will be submitted by Elko County once there are no more questions or clarifications to resolve.
- 7. NTA
 - a. Broadband Tech Conference in Las Vegas
 - i. 1 Tech and 1 supervisor will attend
- 8. HR
 - a. New CSR starting 8/11/25
 - b. Business Dev/Marketing Manager position open
 - c. NOC Supervisor position is open
 - d. HR Generalist position posted
- 9. Vacation planned September 1 -September 12

Affidavit of Posting:

Public Comment:

Chair Matt Hyde asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

APPROVED: _____
Matt Hyde, Chairman

APPROVED: _____
Eric Blakey, Vice Chairman

APPROVED: _____
Myles Getto, Commissioner


Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant


Mark Feest, General Manager/CEO



CC Communications Agenda Report

Date Submitted: September 25, 2025

Agenda Item #: New Business - A

Meeting Date Requested: October 2, 2025

To: Board of Churchill County Commissioners

From: Mark Feest, General Manager / CEO

Subject Title: Consideration and possible action re: NUSF application status update.

Type of Action Requested: Accept

Does this action require a Business Impact Statement? No

Recommend Board Action: None

Discussion: The Churchill County Commission previously authorized CC Communications management to pursue distributions from the NUSF and to incur associated costs. On September 23, 2025 the PUCN Staff filed comments in Docket 24-12030 Investigation to Explore NUSF Issues. Staff's comments argue that the fund has served its purpose and is no longer applicable and should therefore be terminated. Staff states in its conclusion:

VIII. Conclusion Staff believes that **disbursements from the Nevada Universal Service Fund are no longer necessary** to support insular, rural and high-cost areas because the purpose of the fund has been satisfied. Furthermore, it appears that all telecommunications companies in Nevada exist in a competitive market and could be relieved of their PLR obligations. To the extent that any telecommunication companies would qualify for disbursements from the Nevada Universal Service Fund **the Commission should exercise its authority to cap the fund, consider asking for a legislative change to the management of the fund, and use a "big picture" method for determining each company's need** in a general rate case. Finally, Staff does not object to expanding this investigation into a rule making. **(emphasis added)**

Thus, staff argues (1) if a provider has competition, then they should relieve funds, (2) if they are eligible to receive funds (no competition), then (a) it should be capped, (b) legislative changes are needed, and (c) "big picture" method should be used. "Big picture" likely means that even if the PLR obligation is losing money, the company should not receive NUSF if overall the company makes money.

CC Communications and the impacted Nevada carriers will need to review staff comments and formulate industry and/or individual responses. Until this is further evaluated, CC Communications management recommends holding off on further expenditures to pursue a rate case.

Whether a motion is needed will be determined by counsel.

Alternatives: Continue to pursue a rate case

Fiscal Impact:

Explanation of Impact:

Funding Source:

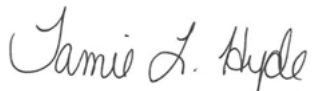
Prepared By: Shelly Bunyard, Administrative Assistant

Reviewed By:



Mark Feest, General Manager

Date: September 25, 2025



Jamie Hyde, Chief Financial Officer

Date: September 25, 2025

Board Action Taken:

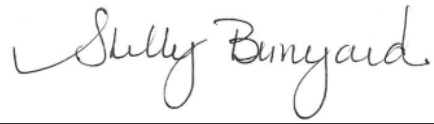
Motion: _____

1) None _____

Aye: _____

2) None _____

Nay: _____



(Vote Recorded By)

The submission of this agenda report by county officials is not intended, necessarily, to reflect agreement as to a particular course of action to be taken by the board; rather, the submission hereof is intended, merely, to signify completion of all appropriate review processes in readiness of the matter for consideration and action by the board.