

September 26, 2025

Rachel Peterson  
Executive Director  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

## **California High-Cost Fund-A Program Annual Report Fiscal Years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025**

This California High-Cost Fund-A (CHCF-A) Annual Report for Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 is submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) by the California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee (CHCF-A AC or Committee) in compliance with Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code) § 273(b). This report covers the CHCF-A program's purpose, subsidy disbursements, surcharges, funding balance, related proceedings, and the approved minutes of the CHCF-A AC meetings held during FY 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

To further the Commission's universal service commitment—ensuring the affordability and widespread availability of safe, reliable, high-quality communications services in rural areas—the CHCF-A program was established pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 275.6. The CHCF-A program provides subsidies to small independent telephone corporations serving rural areas in amounts sufficient to meet the revenue requirements established by the Commission through rate-of-return regulation. The CHCF-A program is funded by an all-end-user surcharge billed and collected by telecommunications carriers.

The CHCF-A AC is the advisory board for the CHCF-A program pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 275. Its purpose is to advise the Commission on the development, implementation, and administration of the CHCF-A program, which provides funding to small independent telephone corporations for local exchange services in high-cost rural and small metropolitan areas. This funding is designed to promote fair and equitable local rate structures and is implemented under the Commission's direction, control, and approval. The Committee also addressed matters such as the program budget, potential impacts of new requirements, and charter-related governance issues.

## II. CALIFORNIA HIGH-COST FUND-A DISBURSEMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS 2024 AND 2025

Currently, ten small incumbent local exchange carriers (Small ILECs) receive support from the CHCF-A program:

1. Calaveras Telephone Company
2. Cal-Ore Telephone Company
3. Ducor Telephone Company
4. Foresthill Telephone Company
5. Kerman Telephone Company
6. Pinnacles Telephone Company
7. The Ponderosa Telephone Company
8. Sierra Telephone Company
9. The Siskiyou Telephone Company
10. Volcano Telephone Company

Table 1 and Table 2 below present the CHCF-A funding amounts for each Small ILEC in Calendar Years 2024 and 2025, respectively.

**Table 1: Adopted Calendar Year 2024 CHCF-A Support<sup>1</sup>**

Small ILEC	Number of Customers	Yearly Support Calendar Year 2024	Subsidy per Customer
Calaveras Telephone Company	3,497	\$2,966,631	\$848
Cal-Ore Telephone Company	1,716	\$1,471,776	\$858
Ducor Telephone Company	703	\$1,333,744	\$1,897
Foresthill Telephone Company *	1,628	\$1,449,008	\$890
Kerman Telephone Company *	2,777	\$2,905,003	\$1,046
Pinnacles Telephone Company	212	\$437,231	\$2,062
The Ponderosa Telephone Company *	8,059	\$4,771,796	\$592
Sierra Telephone Company	15,302	\$7,559,452	\$494
The Siskiyou Telephone Company	3,838	\$5,923,715	\$1,543
Volcano Telephone Company	9,478	\$2,565,414	\$271
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,210</b>	<b>\$31,383,771</b>	
* For the three Small ILECs with Test Year 2024 general rate cases (GRC), this table reflects the CHCF-A funding amounts adopted by the Commission in their final GRC decisions.			

<sup>1</sup> Resolution T-17806, January 11, 2024, Table 4 at 22 and Ordering Paragraph (OP) 1 at 26-27.

**Table 2: Adopted Calendar Year 2025 CHCF-A Support<sup>2</sup>**

<b>Small ILEC</b>	<b>Number of Customers</b>	<b>Yearly Support Calendar Year 2025</b>	<b>Subsidy per Customer</b>
Calaveras Telephone Company *	3,356	\$2,334,425	\$695.60
Cal-Ore Telephone Company *	1,680	\$1,637,241	\$974.55
Ducor Telephone Company *	612	\$1,661,087	\$2,714.19
Foresthill Telephone Company	1,520	\$1,343,855	\$884.11
Kerman Telephone Company	2,517	\$2,740,545	\$1,088.81
Pinnacles Telephone Company *	207	\$314,564	\$1,519.63
The Ponderosa Telephone Company	7,891	\$4,182,008	\$529.97
Sierra Telephone Company	14,189	\$6,055,266	\$426.76
The Siskiyou Telephone Company	3,814	\$5,800,964	\$1,520.97
Volcano Telephone Company	9,382	\$2,117,622	\$225.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,168</b>	<b>\$28,187,576</b>	
* For the four Small ILECs with Test Year 2025 GRCs, this table reflects the CHCF-A funding amounts adopted by the Commission in their final GRC decisions.			

### **III. SURCHARGE FOR CHCF-A PROGRAM**

Beginning April 1, 2023, the Commission transitioned the Public Purpose Program surcharges to an access line flat rate surcharge mechanism adopted in decision (D.) 22-10-021. This new surcharge mechanism assesses a flat rate surcharge for each active access line that the telephone corporation services in California.<sup>3</sup> The flat rate was initially set at \$1.11 per access line in 2023 and was reduced to \$0.90 in 2025. The surcharge is allocated across public purpose programs at varying percentages, which are subject to change over time. Of the \$1.11 per line in 2023, \$0.08 (7.54%) was allocated to the CHCF-A program in 2023. Beginning in August 2025, only \$0.03 (3.02%) of \$0.90 per line is allocated to the CHCF-A program. Table 3 below presents the CHCF-A surcharge per access line beginning in 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution T-17868, January 16, 2025, Table 4 at 15 and OP 1 at 29-30.

<sup>3</sup> D.22-10-021, *Decision Updating the Mechanism for Surcharges to Support Public Purpose Programs*, issued October 24, 2022, OP 7 at 76. This surcharge applies to all telephone corporations including wireline, wireless (prepaid and postpaid), and Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP).

**Table 3: CHCF-A Monthly Surcharge Amount per Access Line, 2023–2025<sup>4</sup>**

Effective Date	Flat Rate Surcharge Amount per Access Line	Percentage of Total Flat Rate Surcharge Allocated to CHCF-A Program per Access Line	CHCF-A Surcharge Amount per Access Line
8/1/2025	\$0.90	3.02%	\$0.03
5/1/2025	\$0.90	6.60%	\$0.06
1/1/2025	\$1.11	7.09%	\$0.08
9/1/2024	\$1.11	10.23%	\$0.11
4/1/2023	\$1.11	7.54%	\$0.08

#### **IV. CHCF-A PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR BUDGET AND BALANCE**

For FY 2023–2024, the CHCF-A program had a budget appropriation of approximately \$49.5 million. At the end of the fiscal year, the program’s appropriation balance was about \$39.7 million.

For FY 2024–2025, the CHCF-A program again had a budget appropriation of roughly \$49.5 million. As of June 30, 2025, the appropriation balance was approximately \$36.5 million.

The appropriation balances in Table 4 are organized by Enactment Year (ENY), which refers to the year in which the Legislature enacted the budget appropriation. Because appropriations may remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years until fully spent or reverted, balances from earlier ENYs (e.g., 2021–2022, 2022–2023, and 2023–2024) continue to appear alongside the current fiscal year amounts. This presentation provides a complete accounting of available program funding.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/telecommunications-surcharges-and-user-fees/surcharge-rates>

**Table 4: CHCF-A Program Appropriation Balance**

	<u>ENY 21-22</u>	<u>ENY 22-23</u>	<u>ENY 23-24</u>	<u>Total</u>
Budget Appropriation	\$13,250,212	\$9,584,017	\$49,474,000	<b>\$72,308,228</b>
Program Expenditures (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)	(\$13,734)	(\$61,364)	(\$32,583,877)	<b>(\$32,658,974)</b>
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$17,785	\$52,602	(\$39,380)	<b>\$31,007</b>
<b>Appropriation Balance as of June 30, 2024</b>	\$13,254,263	\$9,575,254	\$16,850,743	<b><u>\$39,680,261</u></b>

	<u>ENY 22-23</u>	<u>ENY 23-24</u>	<u>ENY 24-25</u>	<u>Total</u>
Budget Appropriation	\$9,575,254	\$16,850,743	\$49,456,000	<b>\$75,881,997</b>
Program Expenditures (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)	(\$526,327)	(\$1,201,651)	(\$31,035,977)	<b>(\$32,763,954)</b>
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$6,804	\$25,383	(\$6,601,272)	<b>(\$6,569,085)</b>
<b>Appropriation balance as of June 30, 2025</b>	<b>\$9,055,731</b>	<b>\$15,674,475</b>	<b>\$11,818,752</b>	<b><u>\$36,548,958</u></b>

## V. GENERAL RATE CASE PROCEEDING

In accordance with the Rate Case Plan adopted in Appendix A to the Commission’s D.15-06-048 and Appendix C to D.20-08-011, the ten Small ILECs receiving CHCF-A support are required to file general rate case (GRC) applications to adjust their requested funding levels. The Rate Case Plan establishes a filing cycle under which three GRC applications (Group A)<sup>5</sup> were filed for Test Year 2023, three applications (Group B)<sup>6</sup> for Test Year 2024, and four applications (Group C)<sup>7</sup> for Test Year 2025. The 2023-2025 test year rate case cycle for the 10 Small ILECs concluded with the issuance of the final decision on the last GRC, dated August 14, 2025. Tables 1 and 2 above reflect the CHCF-A funding amounts adopted by the Commission in these final GRC decisions.

<sup>5</sup> Group A companies are Sierra Telephone Company, The Siskiyou Telephone Company, and Volcano Telephone Company.

<sup>6</sup> Group B companies are Foresthill Telephone Company, Kerman Telephone Company, and The Ponderosa Telephone Company.

<sup>7</sup> Group C companies are Calaveras Telephone Company, Cal-Ore Telephone Company, Ducor Telephone Company, and Pinnacles Telephone Company.

## VI. COST OF CAPITAL PROCEEDING

In accordance with the Rate Case Plan adopted in Appendix A to the Commission’s D.15-06-048, and as authorized by Ordering Paragraph (OP) 4 of D.16-12-035 and the Assigned Commissioner’s Scoping Rulings and Memoranda issued in proceedings A.21-11-005, A.21-11-006, and A.21-11-007, the ten Small ILECs jointly filed an application on September 1, 2022, requesting a determination of their cost of capital for ratemaking purposes.

The Commission issued its final decision in September 2024, adopting cost of capital values for each of the ten Small ILECs ranging from 6.61% to 7.72%. Table 4 below provides the details.<sup>8</sup> The adopted cost of capital applies to Test Years 2023, 2024, and 2025 and remains in effect until the Small ILECs’ next GRC proceedings, beginning with Test Year 2028. The CHCF-A funding amounts shown in Tables 1 and 2 reflect these newly adopted cost of capital values.

**Table 4: Small ILECs’ Cost of Capital**

Small ILECs	Cost of Equity	Cost of Debt	Common Equity Ratio	Debt Ratio	Cost of Capital
Calaveras Telephone Company	9.77%	2.840%	55%	45%	<b>6.65%</b>
Cal-Ore Telephone Company	9.77%	3.980%	55%	45%	<b>7.16%</b>
Ducor Telephone Company	9.77%	3.980%	55%	45%	<b>7.16%</b>
Foresthill Telephone Company	9.77%	2.740%	55%	45%	<b>6.61%</b>
Kerman Telephone Company	9.77%	3.000%	55%	45%	<b>6.72%</b>
Pinnacles Telephone Company	9.77%	3.980%	55%	45%	<b>7.16%</b>
The Ponderosa Telephone Company	9.77%	2.930%	55%	45%	<b>6.69%</b>
Sierra Telephone Company	9.77%	3.830%	55%	45%	<b>7.10%</b>
The Siskiyou Telephone Company	9.77%	3.980%	55%	45%	<b>7.16%</b>
Volcano Telephone Company	9.77%	5.220%	55%	45%	<b>7.72%</b>

## VII. CHCF-A AC MEETING MINUTES

The CHCF-A AC meetings were attended by Committee members representing the Small ILECs, a community-based organization, the Public Advocates Office at the California Public Utilities Commission,<sup>2</sup> and Commission staff. The attachments to

<sup>8</sup> D.24-09-021, *Decision Determining the Cost of Capital for Ratemaking Purposes for California’s Independent Small Telephone Companies*, September 12, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Charter of the California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee, Section 3.1 Members.

this report include the approved meeting minutes for the CHCF-A AC meetings held on:

- September 21, 2023
- February 27, 2025
- May 29, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

*yebixia*

Bixia Ye  
Chair of the CHCF-A Administrative Committee

cc: Alice Busching Reynolds, President  
Darcie Houck, Commissioner  
John Reynolds, Commissioner  
Karen Douglas, Commissioner  
Matthew Baker, Commissioner  
Eric Votaw, CHCF-A Administrative Committee  
Stephen Kalish, CHCF-A Administrative Committee  
Sindy Yun, Legal Division  
Lalaine Semana, Administrative Services Division  
Risa Hernandez, Communications Division  
Dorris Chow, Communications Division  
Sandy Lam, Communications Division  
Hannah Steiner, Communications Division

## ATTACHMENT A: CHCF-A AC MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

### California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 21 2023, at 1:00 pm

#### Venues:

Please note that this will be an in-person meeting due to the expiration of the governor's executive order that allows for virtual public meetings. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### Telephone Conference Phone Bridge:

Phone Bridge: 415-655-0002

Participant/Access Code: 2493 318 7389

#### Attendees:

##### Present – Committee Members

- Bixia Ye, CPUC - Public Advocates Office
- Eric Votaw - Ducor Telephone Company
- Stephen Kalish, Alternate Committee Member - Community Based Organization

##### Present – Others

- Danny Tse, CPUC - Communications Division
- Sindy Yun CPUC - Communications Division
- Patrick Rosvall – BRB Law LLP
- Lalaine Semana, CPUC - Fiscal Office
- Tayyeb Malik, CPUC - Fiscal Office

#### Minutes:

##### 1. Introductions

##### 2. Announcements

Danny Tse announced that the meeting was being recorded for note taking purposes.

##### 3. Public Comments

None

##### 4. **Nomination of Eric Votaw as primary member of the CHCF-A Administrative Committee**

Bixia Ye moved to vote on Eric Votaw's nomination as a primary member of the CHCF-A Administrative Committee. Stephen Kalish seconded the vote. All in favor and Eric Votaw was confirmed as a primary member of the CHCF-A Administrative Committee.

##### 5. FY2022-23 Annual Report

Ms. Ye summarized the changes made to the draft version of the FY2022-23 Annual Report. While Mr. Votaw has no suggestions for the draft version of the Annual Report, Mr. Kalish suggested two minor corrections to the text of the draft version of the Annual Report. The corrections were accepted by the

Committee members. Mr. Kalish moved to vote on the approval of the FY2022-23 Annual Report; Mr. Votaw seconded. Ms. Ye asked for all in favor to approved the FY2022-23 Annual Report, and received approvals from both Mr. Kalish and Mr. Votaw.

**6. Review and Approval of the February 16, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Stephen Kalish pointed out the minutes should be submitted to members of the AC within a few weeks after the previous meeting. Furthermore, Mr. Kalish questioned the accuracy of Item No. 10, regarding CHCF-A (R.11-11-007) Rulemaking Issues. Ms. Sarah Banola of the BRB Law LLP noted the important dates when the State of California Court of Appeal rejected the ILEC challenge to the CPUC's broadband imputation. In addition, Ms. Bonala confirmed the date on which the ILECs sought rehearing and the date a modification Order was filed that modified the statements of the opinion based on rehearing and the Court partially published its opinion.

Mr. Kalish moved to approve the amended February 16, 2023 meeting minute and Mr. Eric Votaw approved the motion. The amended February 16, 2023, was approved unanimously by roll call by the CHCF-A AC members.

**7. Date and time for next meeting**

The next meeting will be held via Webex on Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 pm.

ATTACHMENT B: CHCF-A AC MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2025

**California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 27, 2025, 1:30 PM**

**Attendees:**

**Committee Members**

- Bixia Ye, Cal Advocates Office (Chair)
- Eric Votaw, Ducor Telephone Company (Vice Chair)
- Stephen Kalish, Community Based Organization
- Chrystian Villareal, Cal Advocates Office (Alternate)

**CPUC Staff**

- Hannah Steiner, Communications Division
- Sandy Lam, Communications Division
- Danny Tse, Communications Division
- Sindy Yun, Legal Division
- Lalaine Semana, Fiscal Office
- Tayyeb Malik, Fiscal Office

**Public**

- Patrick Rosvall – BRB Law LLP

**Agenda:**

**1. Introduction – Bixia Ye, Chair**

Bixia Ye observed that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Attendees introduced themselves. Bixia Ye introduced Chrystian Villareal as the alternate for Cal Advocates.

**2. Announcements**

Danny Tse announced he was retiring at the end of March 2025.

Audio was recorded for notetaking purposes.

**3. Public Comments**

None.

#### **4. Review and Approval of September 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Stephen Kalish suggested revisions to the minutes and asked for the August 2023 minutes, as the committee were not provided those minutes to review. Danny Tse said he will make the corrections.

Stephen Kalish made a motion to table voting on the August and September 2023 minutes by Stephen Kalish, seconded by Eric Votaw seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to table voting on the August and September 2023 meetings at the next AC meeting.

#### **5. Vote to approve FY 2023-24 Annual Report**

Stephen Kalish mentioned that the Annual Report is missing the August 2023 minutes and should be included.

Sindy Yun suggested that the committee vote on the 2023 meeting minutes at the next meeting, and combine the last two fiscal years (FY 2023-2024 and FY 2024-2025) into one report since the Annual Report for FY 2023-2024 is already late.

Patrick Rosvall inquired if the List of 2024 Support on the draft Annual Report (Table 1) reflects the different impacts from rehearing and cost of capital. Eric Votaw asked Hannah Steiner to review. Hannah Steiner will review and send any corrections to Bixia Ye.

Stephen Kalish inquired about using Calendar Year figures in Fiscal Year Reports. Lalaine Semana explained the budget appropriation provided by the Department of Finance is from July to June (Fiscal Year), so it would be difficult to compute the budget appropriate for a Calendar Year. Hannah Steiner explained that the annuals amounts are what CD pays out monthly.

#### **6. Liaison Staff Reports**

##### **a. Fiscal Report – Lalaine Semana**

Lalaine Semana presented the Fiscal Report for the CHCF-A Fund as of January 31, 2025.

##### **b. Legal Report – Sindy Yun**

No updates.

##### **c. Communications Division – Hannah Steiner**

Hannah Steiner reported that the last round of General Rate Cases (GRCs) are almost complete. The next round will be filed in October 2026. 2025 amounts were adopted in January.

Draft Resolution T-17818 (lowering the surcharge flat rate from \$1.11 to \$0.90) was published for comment and will be on the March 13, 2025 Commission Business meeting. The resolution proposes a decrease to the surcharge flat rate. Surcharge collection under the new access line surcharge mechanism resulted in an excess collection of surcharges and is more than what is needed for the Public Purpose Programs (PPP). Percentages to the CHCF-A allocation will be changed slightly.

Stephen Kalish asked if the Committee needs to vote on allocation changes. Hannah Steiner stated that the Committee votes on budget expenses, not surcharge rates. CD manages collection of surcharges based on how much is needed to support the expenditures of each PPP.

**7. Update on FY 25-26 Budget Proposal**

CD will prepare for the Budget Proposal for the Committee to vote on at the next meeting.

**8. Update from Small LECS**

Eric Votaw stated the Small LECS are still proceeding with upgrades to network and providing quality communication services.

**9. Other administrative matters**

- a. Recruitment/nominations for alternate members

**10. New agenda items for next meeting**

- FY 26-27 CHCF-A Budget Proposal

Stephen Kalish asked data at a future meeting regarding the Small ILECs providing fiber to the home. Eric Votaw stated companies are absolutely pushing fiber to the home, but it's not accomplished. Bixia Ye stated there is a broadband map on the FCC's website.

Bixia Ye requested for CD to update the CHCF-A AC website. CD will begin updating the website in the upcoming months.

**11. Next meeting: Thursday, June 5, 2025, 1:30 PM**

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

## ATTACHMENT C: CHCF-A AC MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 29, 2025

### California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee Meeting Notes for Thursday, May 29, 2025, 10:00 AM

#### Attendees:

##### Committee Members

- Bixia Ye, Cal Advocates Office (Chair)
- Eric Votaw, Ducor Telephone Company (Vice Chair)
- Stephen Kalish, Community Based Organization
- Chrystian Villareal, Cal Advocates Office (Alternate)

##### CPUC Staff

- Hannah Steiner, Communications Division
- Sandy Lam, Communications Division
- Dorris Chow, Communications Division
- Sindy Yun, Legal Division
- Lalaine Semana, Fiscal Office

##### Public:

- Patrick Rosvall – BRB Law LLP

#### Agenda:

##### 1. Introduction

No introductions.

##### 2. Announcements

No announcements.

##### 3. Public Comments

No public comments.

##### 4. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

###### a. September 21, 2023

Changes were made to item #5 to include language to clarify that changes were made to draft: "Table 1 expanded per Stephen's request." Stephen Kalish moved to approve minutes as amended. Eric Votaw seconded. The committee voted unanimously to approve the September 21, 2023 minutes as amended. The minutes will be posted on the CHCF-A AC webpage.

###### b. February 27, 2025

Changes made included removing "alternate" after Stephen Kalish's name; and removing "to share," "in," and adding a period at the end of the paragraph for item #10. Stephen Kalish moved to approve minutes as amended. Eric Votaw seconded. The committee voted unanimously to approve the February 27, 2025 minutes as amended. The minutes will be posted on the CHCF-A AC webpage.

## 5. FY 26-27 Budget Proposal

Communications Division presented the FY 26-27 Budget Proposal.

Stephen Kalish asked for clarification on the balances.

Hannah Steiner clarified the difference between appropriation and actual spending in the budget.

Bixia Ye and Stephen Kalish expressed concern that CD's proposed budget for FY 26-27 was too high. Bixia Ye proposed the following:

State Operations: \$12,000,000

Local Assistance: \$38,800,000

Total: \$40,000,000

Stephen Kalish supported Bixia Ye's proposal. Bixia moved to adopt the FY 26-27 Budget Proposal as amended. Stephen Kalish seconded. Eric Votaw voted no. The FY 26-27 Budget Proposal was adopted as amended with a 2-1 vote. *[\*\*An error occurred regarding the budget vote. Eric's vote should not be counted, as he was required to recuse himself. Therefore, the result should be recorded as a 2-0 vote.]*

Patrick Rosvall asked what the next step is after the committee voted on CD's recommendation for the budget. Hannah Steiner clarified that the budget is set through the legislature. CD and CPUC can choose to accept the committee's recommendation and submit a request to the legislature to change the appropriation, but there is no obligation to do so. The committee still votes on the budget but does not set it. Sindy Yun stated that years ago, the committees set the PPP rate and reduced the CHCF-A surcharge because there was a surplus. However, the Commission no longer sets individual surcharge rates.

## 6. Annual Report Update

A draft Annual Report was provided at the last meeting. The Small ILECs asked to verify the A fund amount, which CD provided feedback to adjust the A fund and incorporated changes to the draft.

The Annual Report will make a note that there were no minutes available for the 8/31/23 meeting.

Bixia Ye will include the budget for FY 24-25 and provide to committee to review in next meeting.

## 7. Liaison Staff Reports

### a. Fiscal Report – Lalaine Semana

Lalaine Semana presented the Fiscal Report for the CHCF-A Fund as of April 30, 2025.

### b. Legal Report – Sindy Yun

No updates. However, Stephen Kalish reminded committee members about completing Form 700. Patrick Rosvall stated that Jason Tikijian from Kerman/Foresthill can serve as the alternate Small ILEC representative for the CHCF-A AC meetings. Sindy stated that the

committee can vote today, and Bixia Ye can send approval to the Executive Director for review.

**c. Communications Division – Hannah Steiner**

Hannah Steiner stated that Resolution T-17818, which lowered the per access line surcharge rate to from \$1.11 to \$0.90, was adopted on April 3. The surcharge allocation for CHCF-A remains at 5.5%. The Commission also denied the Application for Rehearing of Decision 25-05-031 in the Cost of Capital proceeding.

**8. Presentation of Small LEC Data in Response to Stephen Kalish’s Question – Bixia Ye**

Bixia Ye presented public information from the FCC website in response to Stephen Kalish’s request for data related to infrastructure for the Small LECs at the last meeting.

**9. Update from Small LECS**

Eric Votaw stated that the Small LECs are continuing to deploy fiber networks.

**10. Other administrative matters**

**a. Recruitment/nominations for alternate members**

Patrick Rosvall announced that Jason Tikijian of Kerman/Foresthill was interested in serving as the alternate for the Small LECs for the CHCF-A AC committee. Eric Votaw moved to accept the nomination. Stephen Kalish seconded. The committee voted unanimously in favor of accepting Jason Tikijian’s nomination as the alternate for the Small LECs. Bixia Ye will send approval for Jason Tikijian’s nomination to the Executive Director.

**b. New chair elections**

Stephen moved to jointly reappoint Bixia Ye as the Committee Chair and Eric Votaw as the Committee’s Vice Chair. Bixia Ye seconded. The committee voted unanimously to reappoint Bixia Ye and Eric Votaw as Chair and Vice Chair respectively, and both Bixia Ye and Eric Votaw accepted their nominations.

**11. New agenda items for next meeting**

- a. Standard agenda items
- b. FY Annual Report
- c. Update from Sierra regarding the number of fiber locations
- d. Report on Supreme Court Decision: FCC on USF

**12. Proposed date and time for next meeting: Wednesday August 20, 2025 at 1:30 PM**

Meeting adjourned at 11:19 AM.