

**California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 10:30 AM**

Attendees:

Committee Members

- Bixia Ye, Cal Advocates Office (Chair)
- Eric Votaw, Small LEC Representative (Vice Chair)
- Stephen Kalish, Community Based Organization
- Jason Tikijian, Small LEC Representation (Alternate)
- Chrystian Villareal, Cal Advocates Office (Alternate)

CPUC Staff

- Hannah Steiner, Communications Division
- Sandy Lam, Communications Division
- Dorris Chow, Communications Division
- Saraf Tarannum, Communications Division
- Faith de Leon, Communications Division
- Diego Cerna, Communications Division
- Sindy Yun, Legal Division
- Lalaine Semana, Fiscal Office
- Heather Iwamuro, External Affairs

Public:

- QC Vu – BRB Law LLP

Agenda:

1. Introduction

Introductions were made.

2. Announcements

None.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

a. May 29, 2025

Changes were made to the May 29, 2025 meeting minutes. A note was added to correct an error for item #5 (Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2026-2027), changing the recorded 2-1 vote to the accurate result of 2-0. The committee elected to note and correct this error in both the May 29, 2025 meeting minutes and in today's meeting minutes.

Stephen Kalish moved to adopt the May 29, 2025 meeting minutes as amended. Eric Votaw seconded. The committee voted unanimously to approve the May 29, 2025 minutes as amended. The minutes will be posted on the CHCF-A AC webpage.

5. Review and Approve Annual Report

Bixia Ye explained that this year's Annual report will include Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, since an Annual Report was not submitted for FY 2023-2024.

Stephen Kalish suggested a small amendment to the Annual Report and moved to approve Annual Report as amended. Eric Votaw seconded. The committee voted unanimously to approve the Annual Report as amended.

6. Liaison Staff Reports

a. Fiscal Report – Lalaine Semana

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

b. Communications Division – Hannah Steiner

Hannah Steiner noted the decision for the Ducor GRC was adopted in August, which is the last GRC from this cycle. Resolution updating Ponderosa's CHCF-A support from 2019 was also adopted in August.

Surcharge allocations for the Public Purpose Programs were changed on August 1 to reflect the FY 25-26 appropriation. The surcharge flat rate remains at \$0.90 per access line, which is based on what is currently adopted for the FY 25-26 budget.

7. Update from Small LECS

a. Follow-up on Sierra's broadband deployment data

QC VU stated that Sierra has some preliminary answers for CD and wanted to know the best way to convey that information. Dorris Chow responded that Sierra could send the information to Dorris Chow, Hannah Steiner, and Bixia Ye. QC Vu will confirm with Patrick and Sierra that the information requested is regarding passings, which are not confidential information.

b. Update on the Supreme Court's ruling regarding the FCC's Universal Service Fund program

QC Vu noted that the Supreme court upheld the Universal Service Funding as constitutional, allowing the program to proceed. A link to the ruling was provided:
https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24pdf/24-354_0861.pdf

8. New agenda items for next meeting:

a. Standard agenda items

Bixia Ye requested an update or follow up on Sierra's broadband deployment data. There is a gap between what they proposed for Test Year 2023 compared to the amount of fiber locations as of June 2024 – only 405 locations have fiber. Eric Votaw will work with Sierra for an explanation of the discrepancy for the next meeting.

9. Proposed date and time for next meeting: Wednesday December 10, 2025 at 1:30 PM

The committee members suggest scheduling the next AC meeting for Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 10:00 AM. CD will circulate a calendar invite for the suggested date and time.

Meeting adjourned at 11:21 AM.