

Governor's Broadband Task Force on Connecting North Carolina Meeting

Sampson Community College
William C. Aiken Building, Room 140
1801 Sunset Ave., Clinton, NC 28328
January 28, 2020
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Welcome & Introductions **8:45 a.m.**

Eric Boyette, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Information Technology

Dr. Bill Starling, President, Sampson Community College

Local Broadband Initiatives **8:55 a.m.**

Mr. Jeff Shipp, Star Communications

[Star Communications](#) is a telephone membership cooperative located in Clinton. In 2019 Star receive a \$23,726,478 USDA grant to build a gigabit-capable fiber-to-the-home network. The funded service areas include 8,749 households, 10 educational facilities, and 3 critical community facilities spread over 739 square miles. Star also received an \$856,000 GREAT Grant to serve 378 homes, 19 businesses and one agricultural operation in Bladen County. Mr. Shipp will present on the company's expansion initiatives throughout the region.

Task Force Report to Governor Presentation and Approval **9:25 a.m.**

Secretary Boyette

Task Force Agency Reports **9:35 a.m.**

Adjourn **9:45 a.m.**