



Lancaster County Broadband Authority

Minutes of Board Meeting

April 17, 2019

1. Call to Order & Approval of Minutes: The meeting of the Lancaster County Broadband Authority convened at 4:30 p.m. in the public meeting room at the County Administration Building. Cassie Thompson, David Pere, Gary Silverman and Margie Armen were present along with Supervisor Bob Westbrook. Jon Dixon, Wally Dawson, Don Kierson and Les Spivey, Kilmarnock Town Council, attended as guests. Minutes of the prior meeting were approved as presented.

2. Discussions:

Following up to our budget submission in February, we held a special meeting on April 10, to discussed our strategy to present and defend our budget request to the Board of Supervisors. That presentation took place on April 11, and was successful. However, we won't know for some time whether our request has been approved. We also do not have any word from Richmond on the status of our planning grant application. Gary will follow up at regular intervals.

Cassie has been in contact with the Rappahannock Record about advertising rates. They will give us the non-profit rate of \$1,200 for a full page. Cassie has circulated a draft article for insertion in the Rappahannock Record and she asked for comments.

Cassie will also follow up with CIT to get a status report on the survey, which has been delayed since October. Don Kierson is willing to help in any way with the survey.

Bob asked about our response to Atlantic Broadband. Cassie will ask Don Gill whether he has notified Fran Bradley of the BOS action designating us as their agent. Don has been on vacation and will be back 4/18. Margie will take the lead on this action, but Cassie will fill in for her while she is away. Gary has drafted a response letter with questions about the mapping data. Any comments should be sent to Cassie ASAP.

Bob also mentioned that Windstream is in Chapter 11. Windstream has also lost its contract with the LCPS. Consequently, their physical assets in the county may be available for purchase. Cassie will ask Kevin to follow up on this matter.

Margie has drafted a letter to other Broadband Authorities and County Administrators on the subject of Dominion Energy's Broadband Feasibility Report, and urging Dominion to take stronger action. Gary inquired whether the letter should propose a more expansive plan. Margie

advised that we shouldn't bite off more than we can chew. Cassie wanted to propose a group meeting to discuss a plan of action. If a meeting is to be held, it should be on a weekend and at a central location. Margie will be away for the next several weeks, so Cassie will take this forward.

Dave updated the CIT Path and the Trello Board with info about who will take various tasks and the timeline for each. Margie will look into whether the County has a PPEA Resolution, and propose one, if we don't already have it.

Gary presented his updated maps for the area West of Route 3 and down the west shore of the Western Branch of the Corotoman. This area, from Moratico to the tip of the Peninsula is largely unserved. The Board discussed whether we are ready to issue an RFP for design/build in this area, and concluded that we are not. Margie suggested that while we are getting our design for the whole county, we might try to engage NNEC again to gauge their interest in pursuing this project.

3. Action Items:

- A. Kevin will follow up with Windstream.
- B. Cassie will follow up with Jean Plymale of CIT about the survey and finalize the Rapp Record article and the Dominion and ABB letters.
- C. Gary will check on the grant status, and may contact Greg White.
- D. Margie will research the PPEA issue and prepare the BOS monthly report, which Cassie will deliver.
- E. Other action items are as noted above.

4. Schedule Next Meeting(s) and Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. May 1, 2019, in the public meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary