



Lancaster County Broadband Authority
Minutes of Board Meeting
November 10, 2021

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1. Call to Order: Cassie Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Board/Commission meeting room of the County Administration Building. Cassie Thompson, Chérie Kiser, Kevin Bean, Dr. Gary Silverman, and Michele Craddock were present. Nicholas Pascaretti attended by video conference. Don Gill attended as a guest.

2. Public Comment: Cassie Thompson invited the public to make comments. There were no public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes: Dr. Gary Silverman made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2021 meeting. Cassie Thompson seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 5-0:

- Dr. Gary Silverman – voted in favor of the motion.
- Chérie Kiser – voted in favor of the motion.
- Cassie Thompson – voted in favor of the motion.
- Michele Craddock - voted in favor of the motion.
- Kevin Bean – voted in favor of the motion.

4. Discussions:

- a. Nicholas Pascaretti reported on the status of the regional VATI grant project between Atlantic Broadband (“ABB”), Caroline, Lancaster, Mathews, and Middlesex counties. The project is proceeding on schedule.
- b. Nicholas Pascaretti provided an update on BTS’s work on the CARES Act wireless project. He reported that BTS has enrolled 102 subscribers. On November 1, 2021, BTS made its first monthly payment in accordance with the contract the County assigned to the LCBA.
- c. Nicholas Pascaretti reported the LCBA continues to monitor the service quality and usage of the Smart poles. The Thomas Landing smart pole is currently out of service; the other sites are operational. The LCBA is exploring a fixed wireless solution to improve service to the Smart poles and save costs.

- d. James Carr, Chief Executive Officer of All Points Broadband (“APB”) reported on the status of the APB/Dominion Northern Neck (“NNK”) project.

On November 10, 2021, the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) announced it is ready to authorize Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (“RDOF”) support for APB’s project in the Northern Neck, including Lancaster County. APB expects to obtain final approval by the end of the year and funding shortly thereafter. This is a major step forward as the RDOF support will be the primary source of funding for the APB/Dominion project in Lancaster County. The other funding sources include the County’s contribution of \$575,000, private investment, and support from Dominion Energy of Virginia (“Dominion”). The County’s match represents 5% of the overall project cost.

Lancaster County is part of Phase II of APB/Dominion/NNEC broadband projects in the NNK. However, Phase I (King George, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland Counties) and Phase II timelines are beginning to merge. Dominion will submit a petition to the Virginia State Corporation Commission (the “SCC”) for approval of the Phase II pilot project (the SCC approved Phase I in March 2021). The pilot project funding is contingent on SCC approval.

APB expects to be notified on whether its 2022 VATI expansion grant application will be granted in December or January. If the grant is awarded, the funds will be used to accelerate the completion of construction in Lancaster County by a year, from 2024 to 2023. APB plans for construction to originate in two areas and expand outward. Zone 1 is in King George and Stafford, and Zone 2 is in the Warsaw area. APB will deliver fiber to approximately 2,640 currently unserved locations in Lancaster County.

Make ready engineering and construction are underway. Lancaster residents should see field crews performing pole work in the second quarter of 2022. APB expects to start construction in Lancaster in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Residents will be contacted by APB approximately ninety (90) days before the roll out of the service in a particular area. Residents can preregister for service at fiber.allpointsbroadband.com. APB will draft FAQs for posting to its website to provide residents with more detailed information. APB will participate in offering lower rate plans to qualified consumers in accordance with Federal funding requirements.

The LCBA asked Mr. Carr to provide more frequent updates and detailed information, which he agreed to do.

- e. **Closed Session:** At 5:30 p.m., we entered a closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A) 29, discussion of public contracts. The specific matters discussed were limited to the discussion of public contracts. The closed meeting concluded at 6:05 p.m. Each director certified that the matters specified above were the only matters discussed.

- f. The members further discussed the APB/Dominion project, the coverage of the unserved locations, and the monitoring of the project.

4. Schedule next meeting and adjourned: Kevin Bean made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cassie Thompson seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 5-0.

- Dr. Gary Silverman – voted in favor of the motion.
- Chérie Kiser – voted in favor of the motion.
- Cassie Thompson – voted in favor of the motion.
- Michele Craddock - voted in favor of the motion.
- Kevin Bean – voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40. The next regular meeting will be held on December 8, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michele Craddock".

Secretary