



Lancaster County Broadband Authority
Minutes of Board Meeting
October 13, 2021

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1. Call to Order: Cassie Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Board/Commission meeting room of the County Administration Building. Cassie Thompson, Dr. Gary Silverman, and Michele Craddock were present. Chérie Kiser and Nicholas Pascaretti attended by video conference.

2. Public Comment: Cassie Thompson invited the public to make comments.

John McCalla commented on the LCBA’s letter to Mr. Earnest Palin regarding the letter Chuck Rusinak, Wallace Dawson, and John McCalla sent to Mr. Palin requesting certain information be posted on the LCBA’s website. Mr. McCalla requested the LCBA intervene when a broadband service provider¹ does not respond to customer complaints. Mr. McCalla provided a document containing his comments, which is attached. Dr. Gary Silverman and Chérie Kiser directed Mr. McCalla to public websites, including the LCBA’s website, which contain information regarding APB’s proposed project area. Additionally, Lancaster County residents can go to fiber.allpointsbroadband.com and complete the survey to determine whether their location is within the proposed project area.

Nicholas Pascaretti stated the LCBA is monitoring BTS’s compliance with its obligations under the CARES Act wireless project.

3. Approval of Minutes: Dr. Gary Silverman made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2021 meeting. Cassie Thompson seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 4-0:

- 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.

4. Discussions:

- a. Nicholas Pascaretti provided an update on BTS’s work on the CARES Act wireless project. He reported that BTS has completed 74 installations. The LCBA has

¹Specifically, All Points Broadband (“APB”) and Broadband Telecom Services (“BTS”).

communicated to BTS that the LCBA expects BTS to increase the speed of installations and improve its customer service. In response to Mr. Rusinak's complaint that BTS cannot provide service to specific homes, Chérie Kiser assured Mr. Rusinak that the LCBA is managing the contract with BTS. The contract contemplates BTS will service 300 residences within a certain area, however, it does not identify specific residences.

- b. 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. BTS is interested in using fixed wireless to service the smart poles, which would be less expensive (\$50/month) than the current cellular SIM card (\$100/month) service and the LCBA will analyze the costs/benefits of wireless versus cellular service.
- c. 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. The network design is scheduled for completion on October 28, 2021. The construction is scheduled to begin the first quarter of 2022.
- d. Nicholas Pascaretti reported on the status of the APB/Dominion project. APB submitted its VATI application. Dr. Gary Silverman noted that he and Mr. Pascaretti are working to confirm that between the ABB and APB projects, broadband services will be available to all residences in Lancaster County.
- e. **Closed Session:** At 5:04 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. Dr. Gary Silverman made a motion for the LCBA to contract with BTS to provide mapping services not to exceed the total amount of \$300. Michele Craddock seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 4-0.
 - 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.

4. Schedule next meeting and adjourned: Michele Craddock 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 4-0.

- 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.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10. The next regular meeting will be held on November 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. B. Craddock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and "B".

Secretary