



Lancaster County Broadband Authority

Minutes of Board Meeting

August 11, 2022

5:00 p.m.

8311 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster, VA 22503

August 11, 2022

1. Call to Order: Cassie Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Board/Commission meeting room of the County Administration Building. Cassie Thompson, Kevin Bean, and Dr. Gary Silverman were present. Don Gill attended as a guest. Michele Craddock, Chérie Kiser, and Nicholas Pascaretti attended by video conference.

2. Public Comment: Cassie Thompson invited the public to make comments. New residents Margaret Hamel and Sam Peterson introduced themselves. The directors answered their questions about APB's service to their residence.

3. Approval of Minutes: Michele Craddock made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2022 meeting. Kevin Bean seconded the motion. The directors voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 3-0:

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

4. Discussions:

- a. Dr. Gary Silverman provided an update on the APB/Dominion project status. APB has requested a space for a Hut (approximately 10 by 15 feet) at the new elementary site. Nicholas Pascaretti, LCBA's Executive Director, is available to assist in negotiating any such agreement.
- b. Nicholas Pascaretti provided an update on the regional VATI grant project between the LCBA, Breezeline, Caroline, Lancaster, Mathews, and Middlesex counties. The project is currently running ahead of schedule. Breezeline released forty residential addresses from technical operations for service availability.
- c. Dr. Gary Silverman gave an update on the County broadband coverage maps. The data points will include the Breezeline and APB projects.

- d. Cherie Kiser provided an update on Dominion’s middle mile deployment. The Virginia State Corporation Commission will address Dominion’s petition for approval of the project on September 8, 2022.
- e. Cassie Thompson reported that she has circulated Breezeline’s flyer about the Affordable Connectivity Program to the County and will bring copies to the Boys and Girls Club. The Affordable Connectivity Program is a Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households. Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

- f. Nicholas Pascaretti provided an update on BTS’s Fixed wireless deployment related to the County’s CARES Act project. BTS has enrolled 252 subscribers.
- g. Nicholas Pascaretti provided an update on the Smart Poles. As of the date of the LCBA’s August 11th meeting, only 3-4 of the eight Smart Poles were operational. The LCBA is working on a solution to fix the on-going operational issues, including investigating alternative sites for a few of the smart poles.
- h. The directors postponed the scheduled closed session.

5. Schedule next meeting and adjourned: Kevin Bean made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cassie Thompson seconded the motion. The directors voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 3-0:

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday September 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Board/Commission meeting room of the County Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary