

**LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LOUISA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
1 WOOLFOLK AVENUE
LOUISA, VIRGINIA
JULY 15, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Melvin Burruss, Mary Johnson, Bernie Hill, Steve Duren, Brian Sullivan, Garth Wermter and Mark Luttner

Others Present: Christian Goodwin, County Administrator; Bob Hardy, Information Technology Director; Stephanie Koren, Board of Supervisors, Mineral District; Fitzgerald Barnes, Board of Supervisors, Patrick Henry District; and Sandra Robinson, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burruss called the July 15, 2015, work session of the Broadband Authority (BBA) Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Burruss led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Wermter, seconded by Mr. Luttner, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board approved the July 15, 2015, agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion – Engagement of Design Nine for completion of the plan

Ms. Johnson noted that the statement of work was forwarded to the BBA members and after a brief discussion, the BBA agreed to table this item until feedback from the Board of Supervisors was received.

Discussion – Resolution and Presentation to the Board of Supervisors on August 3, 2015, in Regards to a Budget Request

Mr. Sullivan provided the BBA with the draft presentation to be presented to the Board of Supervisors, which included the following information:

- Purpose of the BBA and efforts completed to date;
- Recommended approach by Design Nine;
- Proposed two-phased approach by the BBA; and
- Financial details.

Questions and comments were presented by the BBA in regards to the following, which were addressed by Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hardy:

- Rewording the statement in regards to reevaluating options for proceeding with phase II if federal funding was not received;
- Timeframe for tower construction;
- Location and number of towers currently accessible for broadband space;
- Concerns regarding the BBA's readiness for submitting a final plan and requesting funding from the Board;
- Review of coverage map; and
- Projected upfront costs and associated payback models.

On the motion of Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wermter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the BBA voted to provide a general update to the Board of Supervisors at their August 3, 2015, meeting, which would not include a request for funding.

Further discussion ensued in regards to the information that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors during the update. The BBA also agreed that a meeting with a representative from Northampton County, as well as the Southwest Virginia area would be beneficial.

Mr. Burruss also suggested the possibility of an additional meeting with Design Nine to scrutinize the financial figures in more detail.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brian Gilbreth, Louisa District and owner of CVALink, addressed the BBA in regards to the proposed tower construction and backhaul plan, as well as the coverage map and the need for real propagation maps.

OTHER INFORMATION AND INQUIRIES

Mr. Burruss suggested that the BBA begin engaging in conversations with Community Wireless Structures and National Towers, the two tower companies that have a presence in the County. Mr. Barnes requested the involvement of an intern to aid in the research.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr. Wermter, seconded by Ms. Johnson, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adjourn the July 15, 2015, work session at approximately 8:26 p.m.

BY ORDER OF:

MELVIN BURRUSS, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY