

**LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LOUISA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
1 WOOLFOLK AVENUE
LOUISA, VIRGINIA
NOVEMBER 4, 2015 7:00 P.M.**

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

Others Present: Bob Hardy, Information Technology Director; Stephanie Koren, Board of Supervisors, Mineral District; Fitzgerald Barnes, Board of Supervisors, Patrick Henry District; and Christy Monolo, Assistant County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burruss called the November 4, 2015, regular meeting of the Broadband Authority (BBA) Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Burruss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Wermter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board approved the November 4, 2015, agenda as amended:

- Add New Business item for approval of the October 7, 2015 minutes
- Changed the order of Unfinished Business: a. Design Nine Deliverables and b. Update Bylaws

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes – October 7, 2015

On the motion of Mr. Lutner, seconded by Ms. Johnson, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board approved the minutes of the October 7, 2015, meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion – Design Nine Deliverables

Mr. Wermter provided a brief introduction before turning the meeting over to Dr. Andrew Cohill, with Design Nine to present the following options for Phase I in regards to the proposed County-wide broadband project:

Option 1: Series of 180 foot towers that would be leased out to both the public and private sector, which would be considered the “passive only” option with no electronics on the towers. The total cost, including engineering, site surveying, administrative fees and construction is \$709,782.

Option 2: Series of 180 foot towers that would be leased out to both the public and private sector, but place 300 mega bit radios on the towers with two redundant loops which would allow backhaul to the network. The total cost, including engineering, site surveying, administrative fees and construction is \$1,095,000

Questions and comments were presented by the BBA in regards to the following, which were addressed by Dr. Cohill:

- Financial and revenue projections;
- Overview of work proposed and maintenance costs;
- Demonstration of broadband efforts in other areas;
- Clarification regarding funding for construction;
- Cost estimates and staff expenses;
- Installation of fiber and transport;
- Backbone and infrastructure needs;
- Tower leases and backhaul services;
- Assumptions of cost of debt;
- Fiber scenarios;
- Contingency planning;
- Option 3: Nuclear Option (last resort)
- Minimum required investment for the County;
- Interest in redundant backhaul circuit at the schools;
- Technology options and order of magnitude costs;
- Courses of action and ranking of priorities;
- Map identifying wireless locations and potential coverage;
- Conceptual network architecture design; and
- Recommended approach for moving forward.

The BBA scheduled a joint worksession with the Board on December 21, 2015.

The BBA thanked Dr. Cohill for the presentation.

Discussion – Update: Bylaws

There were no updates to present.

Discussion – Update – Rappahannock Electric

Mr. Hill provided a brief update and indicated that Rappahannock Electric Company (REC) is interested in the potential of partnering with the County for their broadband needs in Louisa County.

Discussion – Steve Duren

Mr. Duren provided a brief update on the tower sites that are located on the County.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Doug Bigley, Mineral District, commented on the mild planning of the Broadband Authority and cautioned them to be aware of every decision that is made.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Mr. Hardy commented that he would make necessary updates to the intranet since the information provided is confidential and not ready for public review.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adjourn the November 4, 2015, regular meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

BY ORDER OF:

MELVIN BURRUSS, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY

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