

**LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY  
LOUISA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
1 WOOLFOLK AVENUE  
LOUISA, VIRGINIA  
October 2, 2019 7:00 P.M.**

---

**Present:** Melvin Burruss, Ed Jarvis, Paul Bradbury, Timothy Layne, Jim Ogg, Bernie Hill, Jeffrey Zivick, Fitzgerald Barnes, Duane Adams

**Absent:** Mary Johnson

**Others Present:** Bob Hardy, Louisa County Information Technology Director, Angela Daniels, County Attorney

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Jarvis called the October 2, 2019, regular meeting of the Broadband Authority (BBA) Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Jarvis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Layne, which carried by a vote of 4-0, the Authority voted to approve the October 2, 2019 agenda, as amended.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Jarvis stated the Authority did not have a quorum to vote on the approval of the September meeting minutes and would need to approve the minutes at the next meeting in November.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. David Hall, Mineral District,** stated he wanted to know more information on where the Authority was regarding internet. Mr. Hall said there are two fiber optic cables in his yard, but is unable to hook up to either one.

Mr. Jarvis asked if Mr. Hall used DSL or the cell tower.

Mr. Hall stated he is using the cell tower. Mr. Hall mention he was in the discussion of having Verizon build a tower on his property, but Verizon went with another property and he has not seen anything done with this tower except a balloon test.

Mr. Hardy stated the tower did get approved but they do not have a time frame of when Verizon is going to build the tower.

Mr. Hall said there were a couple companies trying to “piggyback” onto the fiber optics at the schools and asked the Authority to provide more information on this matter.

Mr. Hardy stated they are still talking to these companies but there has not been any specific interest at this point.

Mr. Adams said the fiber the schools have was installed through the e-funding grant. He said the County could not have access to the fiber because of how it was funded. The Board spent \$145,000 for additional fiber and to have it buried. Mr. Adams stated the reason this was done is for future residents, businesses along those routes, and as an economic development tool. He noted the plan is to finalize an internet service provider to lease the route.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the towers and internet services.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **Discussion -Trevilians Tower and Holly Grove Tower**

Mr. Hardy stated the Trevilians Tower is finished. He said there is backhaul and fiber service to it and SCS broadband equipment has been installed on the tower. Mr. Hardy said Mr. Stewart is uncertain if customers are being serviced from the Trevilians Tower. The supply of customer premise equipment has run out, but the company has received more supplies and are installing quickly at Jouett, Moss Nuckols, and Trevilians. Mr. Hardy said the Holly Grove Tower was delayed because of shipment and the lease agreement has not been finalized. Mr. Hardy stated the lease agreement has been drawn up and is going before the Board to be approved at the October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Mr. Hardy said Community Development will issue a permit and Mountain Valley can get started on the road and foundation, once the agreement is signed by both parties

#### **Discussion -Additional Location-Twin Oaks area and Buckner- Bumpass area**

Mr. Hardy stated there has been no action on the Twin Oaks Tower, the NCT Tower that will be built on Smith Family Road. He said there have been no update as to when the tower will be built. Mr. Hardy said the same goes for the Buckner-Bumpass Tower. Verizon is supposed to build a tower on Belcher’s Road, but still there is no communication as to when the tower will be built. Mr. Hardy stated he will follow up on both towers and see if there is an estimated date as to when the towers will be built.

#### **Discussion – Systems Operations (Towers, Backhaul, and Fiber)**

Mr. Hardy stated we are continuing to connect to towers, backhaul, and fiber. Wide-Open Networks is having an issue with Aviat Radios. He said all the radios were up and running on all of the towers on Thursday, but on Friday two of the links went down. Mr. Hardy said Wide-Open is working remotely with Aviat Radios to fix this issue as quick as possible.

### **Discussion – Co-location of Louisa County EMS Radio Towers**

Mr. Hardy said the towers are both built and the equipment and switches are on the towers. Mr. Hardy said they are having an issue with Zion's Crossroads not communicating with Moss Nuckols, and Porter Town Radio not communicating with Trevilians. Mr. Hardy noted it is the same issue with Aviat and they are working to resolve the problem. He stated SCS is aware they are allowed to put their equipment on the tower but would not be able serve customers until the issue with Aviat is resolved. He stated the next towers on the list to be served are Zion's, Plum Tree, and Apple Grove, and the completion date is within the next month and a half. Mr. Hardy stated Plum Tree and Apple Grove are private towers that are being paid for by some of the VATI grant that was applied for with SCS, this is included because the County pays the bills on these towers.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding service to the towers.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT /APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

Mr. Hardy stated there has not been a sufficient amount of change since the last report. Mr. Hardy said the Authority is now at a negative \$199,000 dollars after his estimation. Mr. Hardy stated this is an estimated amount of if/when they go onto the Yanceyville Tower and when the Holly Grove Tower is finished. He noted this includes electric, ground equipment, additional climbs, etc. Mr. Hardy said the Board was under the impression the Authority could build ten towers at \$1.09 million dollars because that is what was asked for and approved in the budget. Mr. Hardy said the plan is now to build five towers and to co-locate on three more towers and almost all of the \$1.09 million dollars will be spent.

Further discussion ensued regarding the tower budget.

Mr. Burruss asked if SCSbroadband.com is where you can get evaluated to see if you can receive service.

Mr. Hardy replied yes.

Mr. Burruss stated he feels they should be voicing their comments and concerns to the SCS website, that way they can make the appropriate changes to the website.

Mr. Jarvis said he would draft a letter with information of exactly what the Authority would like for him to provide.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**CHAIRMAN/GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Layne, which carried by a vote of 4-0, the Authority voted to adjourn the October 2, 2019, regular meeting at approximately 8:12p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Broadband Authority meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.