

**LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY  
LOUISA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
1 WOOLFOLK AVENUE  
LOUISA, VIRGINIA  
February 6, 2019 7:00 P.M.**

---

**Present:** Mary Johnson, Bernie Hill, Ed Jarvis, Melvin Burruss, Jeffrey Zivick, Duane Adams, Fitzgerald Barnes, Jim Ogg (non-voting)

**Absent:** Timothy Layne

**Others Present:** Bob Hardy, Louisa County Information Technology Director, Angela Daniels, County Attorney, Toni Williams, Chairman of Louisa County Board of Supervisors, Willie Gentry, Louisa County Board of Supervisors, Cuckoo District

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Johnson called the February 6, 2019, regular meeting of the Broadband Authority (BBA) Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On the motion of Mr. Jarvis, seconded by Mr. Zivick, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Authority voted to approve the February 6, 2019 agenda, as amended.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On the motion of Mr. Jarvis, seconded by Mr. Zivick, which carried by a vote of 4-0, with Mr. Hill abstaining. The Authority voted to approve the November 7, 2018, regular meeting minutes as amended.

Mr. Ogg stated on the January 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes the date reflects January 3, 2019 and needs to reflect the correct date of January 2, 2019.

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Jarvis, which carried by a vote of 4-0 with Mr. Zivick abstaining. The Authority voted to approve the January 2, 2019, regular meeting minutes as amended.

Ms. Johnson stated the December 5, 2018, minutes will be postponed until the March 6, 2019, meeting due to not have a quorum.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Tod Stuckey, Mountain Road District, said he is very interested in where we are in the process of getting high speed internet. Mr. Stuckey explained to the Authority how difficult he has found it to be without internet. Mr. Stuckey stated he would be interested in leasing land for a possible tower for the Broadband Authority.

Ms. Johnson instructed Mr. Stuckey to get with Mr. Hardy and exchange contact information in case further land is needed for a tower in Mr. Stuckey's area. Ms. Johnson asked Mr. Stuckey to stay for the meeting and hear the discussions to see if his questions are answered.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Discussion and Resolution- Rural Broadband**

Ms. Johnson stated in the LCBBA packet there is a draft resolution for the Rural Broadband. Ms. Johnson read the resolution out loud.

Mr. Adams said this has been brought to the attention of the House of Delegates and Senators, to inform them the Broadband Authority is considering a resolution in support and are in the middle of budgeting. Mr. Adams asked Ms. Johnson if Supervisor Gentry could address the Authority with his comment.

Mr. Gentry stated there is a lot of need for broadband in the County and some areas it will be very expensive. Mr. Gentry suggested putting affordable coverage into the resolution.

Further discussion regarding the Rural Broadband Resolution ensued.

Ms. Johnson stated the resolution will need to be amended to reflect Mr. Hill as Vice-Chairman.

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Jarvis, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Authority voted to approve the Rural Broadband Resolution as amended.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **Discussion – LCHS, Jouett Elementary School, and Moss-Nuckols Elementary School Tower Construction Update**

Ms. Johnson stated Dr. Cohill is ill and was unable to attend the meeting but has sent out an updated progress report. Ms. Johnson asked Mr. Hardy to brief the Authority with the update in Dr. Cohill's absence.

Mr. Hardy summarized Dr. Cohill status report stating:

- Foster Fuels is planning to install the propane tank tomorrow at LCHS – weather permitting

- Radios have been installed at LCHS and Jouett-did not have proper fiber to connect from the radios to the switch at the bottom ( now in Mr. Hardy’s office)
  - The schools donated four switches to LCBBA
  - Purchasing a bigger switch for the basement of the County Building and radio backhauls
- Waiting on radio links from the engineer analysis of the Chopping Rd. Tower

Mr. Hardy stated the Authority would need to approve a change orders proposed by Mountain Valley Tower Services, to put geotech fabric and 2 – 3 inch gravel down.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the request.

Ms. Johnson stated she wants to schedule a Special Meeting to discuss the construction and terms of the gravel road.

Questions and comments were addressed regarding the gravel road.

Mr. Burruss made a motion, to approve the 4 inches of 21 A contract, and the gate and chain as it is recommended by Mountain Valley. The motion failed unanimously.

Mr. Zivick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Burruss, which carried a vote of 2-3, to approve the contract change order with Mountain Valley, and to proceed with installing the road as proposed for Louisa County High School Site. The motion failed.

**Roll Call**

**Vote**

Mr. Melvin Burruss	Yes
Mr. Ed Jarvis	No
Mr. Bernie Hill	No
Mr. Jeffrey Zivick	Yes
Ms. Mary Johnson	No

**Discussion -Trevilians Tower Site Plan Update**

Ms. Johnson stated Trevilians Site Plan is still working on additional revisions and will submit to Community Development the week of January 14<sup>th</sup>. VDOT is requesting a culvert upgrade which Wide Open is recommending the Authority approve. Mr. Hardy said the tower has been ordered and is scheduled for delivery the end of February.

**Update on potential tower location for Holly Grove area**

Ms. Johnson said the Authority has a potential site secured for the Holly Grove area.

Mr. Hardy stated Wide Open has been to the potential site, and has started the process for the pre-application meeting for this tower. Mr. Hardy stated they are planning to have the site plan completed when the CUP application is submitted.

### **Buckner Bumpass Park**

Mr. Hardy said the County has an option agreement with NCT to put a tower up at Buckner Bumpass Park with a favorable ground lease for 5 years. Mr. Hardy stated a 172 ft. tower was to be installed and that would suffice for broadband and cell carriers. However, the Planning Commission and The Board of Supervisors recently approved a cell tower that Verizon has applied for, close to his area. He stated with this action, there is a high likelihood that NCT may withdraw their intent to construct a broadband tower on the Buckner Bumpass Park property.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the Buckner Bumpass Park tower site.

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

Mr. Hardy stated they are in the process of working on the system operations now. Mr. Hardy mentioned the School has donated four switches from their inventory. Mr. Hardy stated fiber is ready to be connected to Trevilians, LCHS, and Thomas Jefferson. Mr. Hardy said they are also working on the fiber connection to the Towers as they connect to the schools.

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

Mr. Hardy stated ground has been broken at both locations, Zion Crossroads and Quarter Town. Mr. Hardy said the tower has been delivered to Quarter Town, and they have started to dig at Zion's.

### **Website Updates**

Mr. Hardy said he did a new update to the Louisa County Broadband Website. Mr. Hardy gave a brief discussion on new updates to the website and how to navigate.

Ms. Johnson asked Mr. Hardy to put a link to the SCS Broadband website, and the FAQs. Ms. Johnson also mention to the Authority, if there are any suggestions please email Mr. Hardy.

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

Mr. Hardy stated at this time there are no bills to be paid.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Brandy Cornett, Jackson District, expressed her frustration with not having internet service. Ms. Cornett asked the Authority for more information on what is left to complete on the Jouett Tower, and who will be the provider for that tower.

Mr. Hardy instructed Ms. Cornett to contact SCS for more information regarding the Jouett Tower.

Mr. Tod Stuckey, Mountain Road District, asked the Authority what speed this system is providing.

Ms. Johnson asked Mr. Stuckey to contact SCS because they will be the provider on the towers.

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

### **CHAIRMAN/GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Ms. Johnson stated at this time she has no new information to report.

### **DIRECTOR AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Mr. Burruss stressed the fact that as an Authority, they need to listen to their consultant and if they ask for tools to complete the job, they need to listen and help provide the necessary tools.

Mr. Zivick said they hired a consultant because they have certain expertise. Mr. Zivick stated they will never be the County's advocate for this project, they will do what is stated in the contract. Mr. Zivick said what is missing from this project is a person to do day-to-day execution of a project.

Further discussion ensued regarding the execution of the Broadband project.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

None

### **CLOSED SESSION**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Jarvis, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to adjourn the February 6, 2019, regular meeting at approximately 8:56 p.m.

### **NEXT MEETING**

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