

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

Present: Mary Johnson, Bernie Hill, Melvin Burruss, Ed Jarvis, Paul Bradbury, Duane Adams, Jim Ogg

Absent: Timothy Layne, Jeffrey Zivick, Fitzgerald Barnes

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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Johnson called the May 1, 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. Hill, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Authority voted to approve the May 1, 2019 agenda, as amended, with the following changes :

- Add Discussion - June Officer Elections under New Business

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Bradbury, which carried by a vote of 4-0-1 with Mr. Jarvis abstaining, the Authority voted to approve the April 3, 2019, regular meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion- Plan for Fiber ISPs

Mr. Hardy stated the Schools and the County have purchased additional strands of fiber and there is a possibility of a source of income if some of the fiber can be leased to carriers. An offer has

been made to Comcast to extend their service where the fiber is located and Mr. Hardy said he has also spoken with CVEC to extend beyond their service area. Mr. Hardy said he has reached out to Mr. Wood in regards to the cost of leasing fiber and was told fiber is leasing for \$1,500 a month per mile in Nelson County.

Mr. Adams asked how many strands of fiber were put in.

Mr. Hardy stated 48 strands.

Mr. Adams asked if the Schools could lease what was funded from the E Grant.

Mr. Hardy stated the strands of fiber that were awarded in the grant cannot be used for leasing.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the fiber leasing.

June Officer Elections

Ms. Johnson stated after this meeting (May 1st) her term as Chairman, and Mr. Hill's term as Vice Chairman will expire. Ms. Johnson said she no longer wishes to serve as Chair and Mr. Hill does not wish to continue serving as Vice Chair. The Authority will meet June 5, 2019, for new officer elections.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

Mr. Boswell stated the radios have been received and are waiting to be installed onto the tower. The scheduled date to climb is May 14th. Mr. Boswell stated there are outstanding invoices for Mountain Valley that have not been approved because of some small details which have not been finalized. All three Fast Track Towers have been visited and noted of minor details that are incomplete.

Mr. Jarvis said from his understanding, the FCC license for Chopping Road is the only one completed.

Mr. Boswell said they have FCC frequency license for the link installed from LCHS to Jouett, as well as the three links to Chopping. The only licenses that are outstanding are Zions Crossroads, Holly Grove, ~~and Boarder~~ [PortertownTown Road](#).

Further discussion ensued regarding the licenses.

Discussion -Trevilians Tower

Mr. Boswell stated the culvert has been installed and all four anchor foundations are completed. He said the foundation for the cabinet, generator, and propane tank are currently being worked

on and the tower has been assembled on the ground, but has not been stacked. Mr. Boswell said he does not have a time frame for when the tower will be stacked.

Update - Potential Tower Location for Holly Grove Area

Mr. Boswell said they are under contract and moving forward with Bell Survey on the site plan. Mr. Boswell stated he does not anticipate a problem completing the CUP before the next Board meeting. He explained the CUP is going before the Planning Commission May 9th, then will be presented at the next Board meeting. He stated following the approval of the Board, they can submit for a building permit.

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

Mr. Hardy stated in the contract with Mountain Valley, Twins Oaks was an option. He explained the Authority did not move forward with this option because NCT had plans to build a tower on Mt. Airy Road. He said NCT indicated last week they are still interested in building the tower. He stated the Buckner- Bumpass Park was on the contract and NCT had plans to build a tower there, but Verizon is building a tower 1.7 miles away.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the Twin Oaks and Buckner-Bumpass area.

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

Mr. Hardy said the fiber ~~continuing to be connect~~ continues and is now connected to Moss-Nuckols, Trevilians, Thomas Jefferson, and three miles down from Jouett.

Mr. Hardy stated things are moving along very quickly and nicely.

Discussion – Co-location of Louisa County EMS Radio Towers

Mr. Hardy stated SCS and Wide Open have spoken with David Colclough on the height of where the backhaul equipment will be located. He said all the backhaul towers are erected and are at a point where they can start putting equipment on the towers for backhaul.

Mr. Jarvis asked if LCHS tower required any markings on the tower.

Mr. Hardy replied because of the height, it does not require any markings.

TREASURER’S REPORT /APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Mr. Hardy referenced his treasure’s report handout and gave a brief summary of the report. Ms. Johnson stated there are still funds available for the Authority to put a tower at Buckner Bumpass and possibly another location.

Ms. Johnson asked if there has been discussion in ~~relinquishing~~ reclaiming the unencumbered funds at the Board level.

Mr. Adams responded there has been no formal conversation regarding the funds.

Mr. Hardy stated the SCS has requested the Authority update the numbers for the VATI Grants. Mr. Hardy said they applied for this grant a while ago, but things have changed. He explained they have been challenged by Comcast and the High School was dropped out of the grant. Mr. Hardy stated he believes the County is are going to end of up losing some of the VATI Grant funds.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the VATI Grant.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CHAIRMAN/GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

None

DIRECTOR AND LIAISON REPORTS

None

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 May 1, 2019, regular meeting at approximately 8:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Broadband Authority meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.