

02.

**LOUISA COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY
LOUISA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
1 WOOLFOLK AVENUE
LOUISA, VIRGINIA
April 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.**

Present: Mary Johnson, Bernie Hill, Melvin Burruss, Timothy Layne, Paul Bradbury,

Absent: Duane Adams, Jim Ogg, Ed Jarvis, Jeffrey Zivick, Fitzgerald Barnes

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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Johnson called the April 3, 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. Hill, seconded by Mr. Bradbury, which carried by a vote of 4-0, the Authority voted to approve the April 3, 2019 agenda, as amended, with the following changes:

- Add Discussion - WideOpen Networks Contract and Deliverables under New Business

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On the motion of Mr. Layne, seconded by Mr. Hill, which carried by a vote of 4-0, the Authority voted to approve the March 6, 2019, regular meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion- WideOpen Networks Contract and Deliverables

Ms. Johnson referenced a series of emails from WideOpen and the Authority regarding the deliverables. The most recent email was a spreadsheet showing the deliverables and a target completion date. Ms. Johnson asked if the response was satisfactory and if that method can be used to keep up with tasks.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the deliverables and the spreadsheet.

Mr. Hardy stated he would like to add that SCS was awarded several grants through the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI). He said SCS made application for four towers in Virginia, two of which are Broadband Authority towers. He said SCS was awarded a \$233k grant for the towers in Louisa County.

Ms. Johnson asked which of our towers the funding will be applied to.

Mr. Hardy stated LCHS and Jouett Towers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion – Gravel Roads at Tower Sites

Mr. Hardy said all of the gravel roads have been completed. He stated Mountain Valley is preparing for the gravel road at Trevilians, but a change order needs approval since the road was not constructed at the original quote that was approved.

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

Mr. Boswell said Mountain Valley has installed safety cables to the fast track towers. He said with the roads in place, the tanks have been installed and the propane filled for the generators. He briefly reported on the generators. He noted there was a warning the batteries were low, but he believes the warning will clear during the exercise runs.

Mr. Hill asked how the exercise will improve the batteries charge.

Mr. Boswell stated since the generator runs on propane and generates its own power, it will charge the batteries while it is running.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the generator.

Discussion -Trevilians Tower

Mr. Hardy stated construction on the tower has begun. He noted the tower had to be moved 8ft. to the west, because it was located in the middle of a swell. He stated the new location is more beneficial because it moves two of the anchors further into the woods and away from the soccer field. Mr. Hardy stated the gravel road and foundation are being worked on.

Update - Potential Tower Location for Holly Grove Area

Mr. Boswell said the Neighborhood meeting for the Holly Grove tower is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10th. Mr. Boswell stated by May 20th he will be in a position to submit a site plan and get a building permit fairly quickly.

Ms. Johnson asked if the site plan will be ready for submittal at one of the June Board meetings.

Mr. Boswell confirmed he will have it prepared to be submitted for the June meetings.

Buckner-Bumpass Park

Ms. Johnson asked for the Buckner-Bumpass Park to be stricken from the Agenda.

After a brief discussion regarding Buckner Bumpass Park, Ms. Johnson asked for the Agenda to reflect the Bumpass-Buckner Area.

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

Mr. Hardy stated he has received four extreme switches that the Schools have donated. He said he is working on another switch for the County Building to connect fiber to more locations. Mr. Hardy stated the fiber that the County owns will be continuing through each school and will be available for backhaul or leasing. He added the fiber has been ran all the way down to Moss Nuckols, Jouett, and Thomas Jefferson Elementary. Mr. Hardy also added they have all the easements to go down Rt. 33.

Questions and comments were addressed by the Authority regarding the fiber, towers, and backhaul.

Discussion – Co-location of Louisa County EMS Radio Towers

Mr. Hardy said there was an issue regarding height for some of the towers. He stated some of the backhaul radios will be located and space will be reserved on some of the other legs.

Mr. Layne asked if the Authority has received an engineering report for the Chopping Road Tower.

Mr. Hardy stated engineering is done with all the equipment on the tower. He said SCS took some links off of the tower and moved the equipment into a better location. Further discussion ensued regarding the Co-location Towers.

TREASURER’S REPORT /APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Mr. Hardy stated he will have a full Treasurer’s report for the May 1st, meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CHAIRMAN/GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Johnson stated she is thrilled with the process and to see everything is on track at this time. Ms. Johnson said she would like to be in contact with SCS and do a press release when a tower is offering internet services.

DIRECTOR AND LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Burruss noted there was difficulty in receiving radios from Aviat, and asked for a status update on when the radios will be received.

Mr. Boswell stated Aviat has been much more cooperative, and he is in daily contact with them. Mr. Boswell said they are on track to make the dates that are in the plan. Mr. Boswell stated he doesn't have a ship date for the radios for the fast track towers. He noted once the PCN is finished and submitted.

CONSENT AGENDA

None

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Bradbury, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to adjourn the April 3, 2019, regular meeting at approximately 7:56 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Broadband Authority meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.