

## MINUTES

### Work Session Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority

November 29, 2017

Board members in attendance were: Pete Lalor (remotely attending from Pinehurst, NC due to a temporary medical condition), Elaine Meil, Mike Mason, John Reiter, and Charles Kolakowski

ESVBA management participating in the meeting who were in attendance: Robert Bridgham and Leah Hoopes (Secretary)

Members of the public attending were:

Elaine Meil called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.

#### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

*Mr. Reiter moved to amend the Agenda to add comments on CTC and another Closed Session. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. Motion passed unopposed*

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to enter into closed session according to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended; ) Paragraph 1: Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body. Paragraph 7: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, consultants, or attorneys pertaining to actual or probably litigation, and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Authority regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by counsel made by Mr. Reiter, seconded by Mr. Mason. The following board members were present Mr. Lalor, Ms. Meil,

Mr. Reiter, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Kolakowski and voted affirmative.

After closed session, the Chair reconvened the meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Reiter, seconded by Mr. Mason that the Board had entered the closed session for that purpose as set out in Paragraph 1 and Paragraph 7 of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Roll call vote taken Vote was that no other business discussed than as advised in Paragraph 1 and Paragraph 7. The following board members were present Mr. Kolakowski, Mr. Reiter, Ms. Meil, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Lalor and voted affirmative.

**CTC Comments:**

Ms. Meil stated that CTC used an incorrect scope of work and failed to communicate. She also added that Joann was invited to the August work session, September BOD meeting, October work session, November special meeting, November BOD meeting, and November work session and has yet to meet with the board as a whole.

Mr. Mason suggested that CTC come back with a response on how they're going to remedy the plan.

Mr. Bridgham said that Joann recommended adding someone else to contact at CTC and that she would be available for the December meeting.

Mr. Kolakowski requested that the new contact attend the meeting in December.

Mr. Mason asked that Robert request a consultant change in the response back to CTC.

Ms. Meil asked what additional info CTC asked for in August,

Mr. Bridgham spoke with Andrew about models for costing, general network questions, and unit prices.

Mr. Reiter recommended putting together a letter with everyone's comments.

Mr. Mason's main issues with the plan were the scope of work, innovative options, financial modeling options, examples of engaging private sector, mention of public feedback from meetings, and options need to be vetted beforehand.

Mr. Lalor asked that CTC update Steve Miner's scope of work.

Mr. Mason asked that Pete Lalor's document be addressed in the plan.

Mr. Bridgham spoke about his issue with the document allowing one ISP to have visibility over others.

Ms. Meil requested CTC to provide a document or a stakeholder report

with communication from Nasa, Town Hall meetings, ISPs, etc.

Mr. Bridgham also talked about CTC pulling numbers from other areas instead of using actual numbers from ESVBA.

Ms. Meil listed the items that need to be resolved by CTC

1. Scope of work needs to be updated
2. Provide innovative ideas and options
3. Financial model for residential
4. Examples on how to engage private sectors business
5. More mention of public feedback
6. More details on credits proposed and options vetted
7. Model costs compared to ESVBA's costs and explain the difference
8. Recommend things that are doable
9. More communication needed
10. Update board comments
11. Pete Lalor's revised document
12. Stakeholder report
13. Need better confidence on numbers
14. Threshold metrics for scope of work in advance before work is done

Mr. Kolakowski started a discussion of the buildout time frame and stated 15 or 20 years is not acceptable.

Mr. Reiter replied that the issue is the lack of funds.

Ms. Meil stated that business models that rely on wireless are not the answer because of all the residents that are affected by trees. More and more people will use it and it will get crowded.

Mr. Bridgham stated that with enough resources and funds the 1500 miles could be built out in 2 or 3 years. Wireless is not consistent and will need upgrades every couple years. The Authority can't cover 100% in the short term.

Mr. Kolakowski stated that the ESVBA needs a model that's more aggressive to get to the 80% coverage.

Ms. Meil suggested asking CTC to add threshold metrics that include time frames less than 20 years.

Mr. Kolakowski asked how do we look at partnering with people for mobile service. People aren't going to want to move here or vacation here without service.

Mr. Bridgham explained that we provide a lot of the wireless providers on the shore indirectly and every time we expand we create more access points for the providers to serve the shore.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Kolakowski motioned to adjourn at 12:09pm. Mr. Reiter seconded.  
Motion passed unopposed.*

These minutes were approved at the Jan 18, 2018 meeting of  
the Board of Directors of ESVBA.

Hainek Miel  
Presiding Officer

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Leah Hoopes, Secretary