

MINUTES

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority

October 25, 2018

Board members in attendance were: Elaine Meil, Charles Kolakowski, and Pete Lalor.

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

Members of the public attending were: Kim Denny, Mike Zodun

Ms. Meil called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mr. Kolakowski moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Lalor seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Denny manages the museum and welcome center in Cape Charles. She's also a customer of ESVBA. Ms. Denny gave some info about the welcome center and spoke about the communities need for WiFi.

Mr. Zodun was hoping to get FTTH in Belle Haven but has decided not to because of build costs. Mr. Zodun would like the option to split costs with his neighbors.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Mr. Lalor motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from September and the Special Meeting Minutes from October.

Mr. Kolakowski seconded. Motion passed.

STATUS REPORT

1. Residential Broadband- Mr. Bridgham reported that there are 35 customers in service in Harborton, 16 in Bobtown, 10 in Church Neck, 15 in Sanford, 2 on Cheapside, 1 on Cobbs Station,

21 in Accomac, 1 in Townsend, 2 in Greenbackville, 4 in Atlantic, 4 in Wattsville/Horntown, 1 in Oak Hall, 2 in Hallwood, 0 in Painter/Quinby, and 2 in Eastville. Nassawadox, Oyster, Exmore, and Belle Haven have recently been opened.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Formation of selection committee to review engineering RFP-**Mr. Bridgham asked the board to consider either an additional Work Session Meeting or a Special Meeting in order to make the selection for the Engineering RFP. Mr. Bridgham also asked that the committee be made up of himself, Scott Webb, and Mike Zodun.
- Mr. Lalor asked if the By Laws allow a non-board member to be on a selection committee.
- Mr. Kolakowski stated that it's more of an advisory committee.
- After looking at the By Laws, the board authorized the committee review and rank the engineering proposals.
- Ms. Meil asked if the meeting for November should be rescheduled or if the board should hold a Special Meeting.
- Mr. Kolakowski suggested a Special Meeting.
- Mr. Bridgham stated that he would email the board to determine a date for the Special Meeting.
- Mr. Bridgham stated that both the RFP and IFB were well attended and he's anticipating a good response for both.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Confirm prioritization of town and network extensions-** Mr. Bridgham asked the board to approve the prioritization schedule with some flexibility if needed. Mr. Bridgham anticipates that the build out should take about 24 months to complete.
- Mr. Lalor asked if an extension would start before the towns if it has a higher rating.
- Mr. Bridgham stated that the towns would be done first and then the extensions.
- Mr. Lalor moved to approve the prioritization list. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. After discussion, Mr. Lalor amended his motion to allow Mr. Bridgham to use the schedule as guidance, with the ability to make changes as needed. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*
- b. Review of WISP pricing models-** Mr. Bridgham provided models to show the potential payback depending on the number of WISP sites and

what the potential revenue reduction would be depending on the number of WISP sites on a particular path.

Mr. Bridgham stated that this was reviewed last August and nothing has changed since then so he suggests to keep the program as is for now and review it at a later date.

Ms. Meil stated her concerns for the commercial side and the possibility of existing commercial customers getting the WISP service and as a result, undercutting the revenues we're using to pay back the loan.

Board Comment

Mr. Lalor congratulated Mr. Bridgham and Ms. Meil on doing an excellent job on the analysis.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm.

These minutes were approved at the Nov. 29 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors of ESVBA.

Frank Meil
Presiding Officer

Copy teste:
Leah Hoopes
Leah Hoopes, Secretary