

MINUTES

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

November 29, 2018

Board members in attendance were: Mike Mason, Pete Lalor, Elaine Meil, Scott Webb, 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:
Pat Coady, Warren Brasselle, Glen Salmon, Ben Fox, Mike Zodun, and John Reiter

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

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mr. Kolakowski moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Mason seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to enter into closed session according to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended;) Paragraph 7: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, consultants, or attorneys pertaining to actual or probable litigation, and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Authority regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by counsel. Paragraph 33: Discussion or consideration by a local authority created in accordance with the Virginia Wireless Service Authorities Act (§ 15.2-5431.1 et seq.) of confidential proprietary records and trade secrets excluded from this chapter pursuant to subdivision 19 of § 2.2-3705.6 was made by Mr. Lalor, seconded by Mr. Mason. The following board members were present Mr. Kolakowski, Mr. Mason, Mr. Webb, Ms. Meil, and Mr. Lalor and voted affirmative.

After closed session, the Chair reconvened the meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Lalor, seconded by Mr. Mason that the Board had entered the closed session for that purpose as set out in Paragraph 7 and 33 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 7 and 33. The following board members were present Mr. Kolakowski, Mr. Mason, Ms. Meil, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Lalor and voted affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Mr. Kolakowski motioned to approve both October's and November's Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Lalor seconded. Motion passed.

STATUS REPORT

1. WiFi Hotspots- Mr. Bridgham gave an update that there are currently 12 hotspots in service and provided a WiFi statistics report. Cape Charles has requested a WiFi hotspot at the Museum and Accomack has asked to relocate or enhance the WiFi at the park.
2. 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, 24 in Accomac, 2 in Townsend, 3 in Greenbackville, 3 in Atlantic, 5 in Wattsville/Horntown, 3 in Oak Hall, 4 in Hallwood, 0 in Painter/Quinby, 3 in Eastville and 1 in Nassawadox. Oyster, Exmore, Belle Haven, Cheriton, and Wachapreague have recently been opened.
3. WISP EVPL Program- Mr. Bridgham informed the BOD that 34 sites are in service and bandwidth upgrades continue.
4. Microcommunity Program-Mr. Bridgham stated that 5 homes in Watts Bay have been approved for the Microcommunity policy. A few other communities have applied but would be too expensive to build.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **FY2019 Budget Amendment for buildout-** Mr. Bridgham explained that he put in the actuals for expenses for July-Oct. Also, on the capital side he took out all of the extensions, since they are part of the \$5 million bond. By the end of 2019, he expects to spend about \$1.1 million on construction and engineering of the towns. Two part-time flaggers were added to the budget as employees instead of contractors, as well as a Junior Lineman.
Mr. Mason stated that for the counties when you have a budget amendment over an x percentage, it requires an advertisement and public hearing.
Ms. Mason suggested checking with the attorney and bringing it up at a later meeting.
- b. **Authorization to open new areas as we expand-** Item was deferred.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Review adoption of ESVBA org chart-**
*Mr. Lalor moved to approve the chart. Mr. Mason seconded.
After discussion, Junior lineman was changed to Apprentice Lineman and a spelling error was fixed. Motion passed unopposed.*

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Mason stated that because of the bond, the revenue has increased substantially.

Mr. Bridgham stated that the staff prepared 2 charts, one with the \$5 million bond and one without.

BOARD COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was recessed until December 6, 2018 at 5pm.

These minutes were approved at the January 24, 2019 meeting of the Board of Directors of ESVBA.

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Presiding Officer

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Leah Hoopes

Leah Hoopes, Secretary