

MINUTES

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

April 22, 2021

Board members in attendance were: John Reiter, Elaine Meil, Charles Kolakowski, and Mike Mason

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

Mr. Meil called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mr. Reiter moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Mason seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

WORK SESSION

- a. **Discuss remaining funds from bond proceeds-** Mr. Bridgham announced that there will be about \$350k left over from the bond proceeds and he presented the different options. Ms. Meil asked if the Captain's Cove job would have to be contracted out or could it be done internally. Mr. Bridgham explained that the cove could potentially be willing to do the underground portion and Authority would be responsible for the connection from the access point to the customer. Mr. Mason asked if any cost comparisons have been done on internal cost versus using a third party. Ms. Meil asked how many people are needed to operate the crew. Mr. Bridgham estimated between 2 to 4 people. Ms. Meil asked what the annual budget for the crew would be. Mr. Bridgham stated that with benefits, it's an estimated \$86k. Ms. Meil asked if this would complete full capability for the

Authority to do all of its jobs.

Mr. Bridgham replied that it would and the only issue would be the volume.

Mr. Reiter asked if the funds could be used to cover some of the negative cash flow for adding additional customers.

Ms. Meil asked if the board disagrees with purchasing the equipment.

The board decided to bring the topic of purchasing equipment back at the May Meeting.

Ms. Meil asked about the VATI grant and the match requirements.

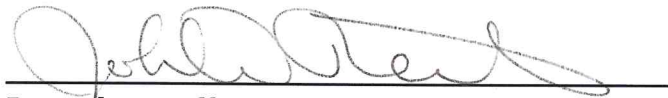
Mr. Mason asked Mr. Bridgham to put the grant as a topic on the next agenda.

The board agreed that getting underground caught up is the top priority.

ADJOURNMENT

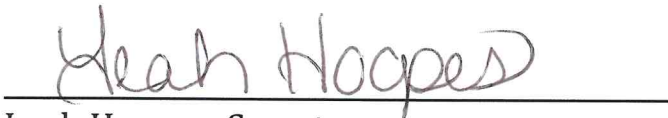
The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 pm.

These minutes were approved at the May 27, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors of ESVBA.



Presiding Officer

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Leah Hoopes, Secretary