

MINUTES

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

July 27, 2023

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

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

Members of the public attending were: Pat Coady

Mr. Reiter called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

AGENDA ADOPTION

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Mr. Kolakowski moved to approve the Annual Board Meeting Minutes from May.

Ms. Meil seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

Mr. Kolakowski moved to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from May.

Ms. Meil seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

SYSTEM STATUS & BUILD REPORT

1. WiFi Hotspots- There are currently 27 of the 28 hotspots in service. Ebenezer Church is still offline.
2. Residential Broadband- Mr. Bridgham reported that the

Authority has 3198 active residential customers. He stated that there are 75 customers in service in Harborton, 35 in Bobtown, 181 in Church Neck, 67 in Sanford, 44 on Cheapside, 4 on Cobbs Station, 107 in Accomac, 9 in Townsend, 331 in Greenbackville, 73 in Atlantic, 83 in Wattsville/Horntown, 103 in Oak Hall, 114 in Hallwood, 82 in Painter/Quinby, 111 in Eastville, 123 in Nassawadox, 8 in Oyster, 297 in Exmore, 105 in Belle Haven, 42 in Cheriton, 46 in Wachapreague, 434 in Onancock, 334 in Cape Charles, 183 in Parksley, 4 in Nocks Landing, 43 in Saxis, 27 on Chincoteague, and 133 on Tangier.

3. WISP EVPL Program- Mr. Bridgham informed the BOD that there are still 59 sites are in service.
4. Microcommunity Program- There are 42 communities that are in service.
5. USDA Bailey Neck & Mt Nebo CDF- The final trainings and initial documents are being completed. Initial filings are due to USDA by 9/30/23.
6. Assistance Programs- Mr. Bridgham presented a report showing details for all of the assistance programs. The ACP had 123 subscribers in the month of July.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. VATI FY22 Report – Mr. Bridgham provided a report for the board on the VATI update.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Mr. Mason presented a treasurer’s report to the board.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Reiter reminded everyone that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21st.

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; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board. Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be construed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or board collectively. Paragraph 33: Discussion or consideration by a local authority created in accordance with the Virginia Wireless Service Authorities Act (§ et seq.) of confidential proprietary information and trade secrets subject to the exclusion in subdivision 19 of § , made by Mr. Mason, seconded by Ms. Kolakowski. The following board members were present: Mr. Reiter, Ms. Meil, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Kolakowski, and voted affirmative.


After closed session, the Chair reconvened the meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Kolakowski, seconded by Ms. Meil that the Board had entered the closed session for that purpose as set out in Paragraph 1 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 1 and 33. The following board members were present: Mr. Reiter, Ms. Meil, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Kolakowski, and voted affirmative.

Ms. Meil motioned to increase the Executive Director's salary as discussed in Closed Session. Mr Kolakowski seconded. After discussion, the motion was amended to increase the Executive Director's salary by \$9,000.00. Motion passed unopposed.

ADJOURNMENT

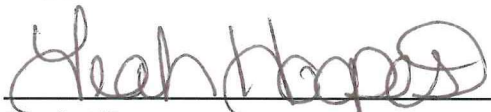
The meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm.

These minutes were approved at the Sept 21, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors of ESVBA.



Presiding Officer

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Leah Hoopes, Secretary