

# MINUTES

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

May 23, 2024

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

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

Members of the public attending were: None

Mr. Reiter called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

*Ms. Meil moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

*Ms. Meil moved to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from March. Mr. Kolakowski 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 3987 active residential customers. He stated that there are 84 customers in service in Harborton, 33 in Bobtown,

- 218 in Church Neck, 68 in Sanford, 48 on Cheapside, 4 on Cobbs Station, 107 in Accomac, 12 in Townsend, 668 in Greenbackville, 84 in Atlantic, 82 in Wattsville/Horntown, 154 in Oak Hall, 118 in Hallwood, 88 in Painter/Quinby, 116 in Eastville, 163 in Nassawadox, 9 in Oyster, 363 in Exmore, 126 in Belle Haven, 41 in Cheriton, 49 in Wachapreague, 502 in Onancock, 416 in Cape Charles, 200 in Parksley, 4 in Nocks Landing, 49 in Saxis, 42 on Chincoteague, and 139 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 Grants-
    - a. Bailey Neck & Mt Nebo CDF- As of 5/16, the ESVBA is clear of their part 106 review and expect to move to the final review and contract phase.
    - b. Custis Neck & Locustville- The ESVBA was awarded \$286K to help provide service to Custis Neck and Locustville. As of 5/13, the ESVBA had provided point of contact info to the Congresswoman's office to supply to USDA.
  6. Assistance Programs- Mr. Bridgham presented a report showing details for all of the assistance programs.
  7. Marketing Activity- Mr. Bridgham stated that the ESVBA has increased marketing efforts over the last several months, including multiple billboards.

Trevon Matthew presented a demonstration on the new Adtran ALM system.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. VATI FY22 Report – Mr. Bridgham provided a report for the board on the VATI update. He stated that all but 5 areas are fully complete.
- b. Cyber Assessment Status– Mr. Bridgham gave a report on the Cyber Assessment this far. The company has done internal and external testing and have not found any major issues. They are

- expecting a draft report in July and a final report soon after.
- c. BEAD Status- Mr. Bridgham gave an update on the status for BEAD and reviewed the requirements.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Review FY25 Budget- Mr. Bridgham gave an overview of the FY25 budget and all revisions from last year.  
*Ms. Meil moved to authorize a step increase and a 3% CPI increase for staff. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*  
*Ms. Meil moved to adopt the FY25 Budget. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. After discussion, the motion remains. Motion passed.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

None

*Ms. Meil motioned to amend the agenda to remove the Closed Session. Mr. Kolakowski seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Ms. Meil moved to adjourn at 4:00pm.*

These minutes were approved at the July 25, 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors of ESVBA.



Presiding Officer

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Leah Hoopes, Secretary