

# MINUTES

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

July 24, 2025

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

ESVBA management participating in the meeting who were in attendance: Matt Ertle 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 approve the agenda. Mr. Mason seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

*Ms. Meil moved to approve the Annual Board Meeting Minutes from May. Mr. Mason seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*

*Mr. Kolakowski moved to approve the revised Regular Board Meeting Minutes from May. Ms. Meil seconded. Motion passed unopposed.*

### **SYSTEM STATUS & BUILD REPORT**

1. WiFi Hotspots- There are currently 26 of the 28 hotspots in

- service. Ebenezer Church is still offline. Johnson Court had to have some repairs and should be back online soon.
2. Residential Broadband- Mr. Bridgham reported that the Authority has 4496 active residential customers. He stated that there are 88 customers in service in Harborton, 29 in Bobtown, 241 in Church Neck, 64 in Sanford, 49 on Cheapside, 4 on Cobbs Station, 108 in Accomac, 15 in Townsend, 797 in Greenbackville, 100 in Atlantic, 78 in Wattsville/Horntown, 172 in Oak Hall, 111 in Hallwood, 100 in Painter/Quinby, 124 in Eastville, 191 in Nassawadox, 8 in Oyster, 403 in Exmore, 152 in Belle Haven, 47 in Cheriton, 55 in Wachapreague, 558 in Onancock, 474 in Cape Charles, 221 in Parksley, 4 in Nocks Landing, 49 in Saxis, 108 on Chincoteague, and 146 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- Project has been started and cable placing will begin soon. Construction is expected to be completed by September.
    - b. Custis Neck & Locustville- USDA requested modification to remove one segment. They are continuing with environmental review and approvals shortly.
  6. Assistance Programs- Mr. Bridgham presented a report showing details for all of the assistance programs.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. VATI FY22 Report- Audit has been completed and ESVBA should be receiving the additional 10% reimbursement in November.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Mason stated that some underlying issues are getting cleaned up.

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

None

### **CLOSED SESSION**

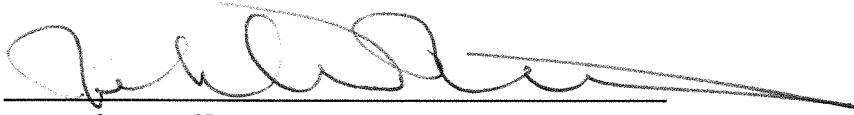
Motion to enter into closed session according to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended;) Paragraph 1: Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation 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 (§ 15.2-5431.1 et seq.) of confidential proprietary information and trade secrets subject to the exclusion in subdivision 19 of § 2.2-3705.6, made by Ms. Meil, seconded by Mr. Mason. 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 Mr. Mason 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.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Kolakowski moved to adjourn at 3:27pm.*

These minutes were approved at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Board of Directors of ESVBA.



Presiding Officer

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Leah Hoopes, Secretary