



Lancaster County Broadband Authority

Minutes of Board Meeting

August 19, 2020

August 19, 2020

1. Call to Order & Approval of Minutes: Cassie Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the public meeting room of the County Administration Building. Cassie Thompson, Margie Armen, Kevin Bean and Mark McKercher were present. Don Gill also participated as a guest. Revisions to the minutes of the July 1 and 15 meetings were approved as presented.

2. Discussions:

- a. Cassie congratulated everyone for the timely completion and submission of the VATI grant application on Monday, August 17. Margie reported that she had recommended to defer signing a proposed Memorandum of Agreement for the four counties and Atlantic Broadband. Atlantic Broadband requested changes at the last minute that are not consistent with the County's interests. The MOA does not have to be signed until an award is made, and the issue causing concern will be resolved by the award itself. An earlier draft that was agreeable to all four counties was submitted as evidence that an agreement is being negotiated.
- b. Don Gill joined us for a discussion of a CARES Act proposal to install 11 smart poles and either install transmission equipment on the existing, privately-owned tower located behind the County Administration Building or to construct a new tower with transmission equipment on county land behind the Courthouse. This project would be designated for emergency use during storms and also for other emergency communication, including the current period of school closures. It was agreed we would discuss this project further with our telecommunications consultant and we would investigate the best pricing for the various components.
- c. Margie reported that she is still tracking down more items required for submission to the Telecommunications Planning Grant and that we still do not have a copy of the final Grant Agreement from DHCD. She will continue to follow up. She also noted that Gary Silverman will be helping us upload various documents into CAMS.
- d. Cassie noted that we have had an inquiry from the USDA concerning whether there are known to be any endangered species in the ReConnect project area.

- g. Margie asked about following up with Supervisor Larson about his concerns with the VATI choice, and it was agreed that we would do this informally.
- i. Kevin Bean will deliver the monthly report to the Board of Supervisors.

3. Schedule next meeting and Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m. The next meeting is the regularly scheduled meeting for September 2, 2020. It will be held in the public meeting room of the County Administration Building at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margie Arman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Secretary