



## Lancaster County Broadband Authority

### Minutes of Board Meetings

September 16 and 17, 2020

**September 16, 2020**

**1. Call to Order & Approval of Minutes:** Cassie Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. in the public meeting room of the County Administration Building. Cassie Thompson, Margie Armen, Kevin Bean and Mark McKercher were present. No minutes were presented.

**2. Discussions:**

- a. Cassie described a call in which the other VATI participants expressed concerns that Lancaster would not agree to an MOU if our joint application was approved for a VATI grant. Cassie stated unequivocally that Lancaster is fully committed to the project, that we had in fact signed the originally proposed MOU, and deferred only when last minute changes (at noon on the day of submission) were insisted on by Atlantic Broadband's counsel. Those proposed changes were not pertinent to the substance of the project and could well have impaired the outcome for all 4 Counties. She also reiterated that it is not required to submit a signed MOU with the application, that the earlier draft which all parties had approved – including a verbal agreement from ABB -- fully met the submission requirement to show that an MOU was in progress. She reminded everyone that Jeff Beekhoo had confirmed this with Tamarah Holmes before submitting and notified everyone of the status on that same day. Cassie reported that this seemed to satisfy the callers, who accepted "her word."
- b. Cassie also reported that our article summarizing the VATI project and reporting on the status of RUS had appeared in the Rappahannock Record and that it included an invitation to anyone interested in serving on the Board to send a resume. She indicated that Michele Craddock had indicated an interest. We will schedule an interview by phone tomorrow at 3 p.m. Cassie asked for everyone to be prepared for the interview. Margie will send the "Tell Our Story" piece she prepared recently for Rep. Wittman.
- c. Mark reported that Gary is checking with John Clafferty on our status with RUS. Cassie will also follow up with Chris Hall of Rep. Wittman's staff.
- d. Margie reported that she had spoken with Tammy Breski who indicated that our planning grant submissions were complete and had been accepted. It will take 30 to 45 days to make the payment to the County.

- e. Margie will prepare the monthly report for the Board of Supervisors and Cassie will deliver it.
- f. Mike Kirk contacted us some time ago to express interest in making a presentation to the Authority. We had deferred it until after the VATI submission was complete, and Cassie will now schedule it for the October 7 meeting.

**3. Schedule next meeting and Recess:** The meeting recessed until 3:00 p.m. September 17. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be October 7, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the public meeting room of the County Administration Building.

### **September 17, 2020**

**1. Call to order:** Cassie Thompson called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. Margie Armen, Kevin Bean and Mark McKercher were present. Michele Craddock participated by telephone. No minutes were presented.

### **2. Discussions:**

- a. Margie reviewed the requirements in the Articles of Incorporation and the ByLaws regarding appointments. Michele will replace Gary Silverman and she will serve the remainder of his term.
- b. Members of the Authority fully briefed Michele on the status of the Authority's activities, and on the expectations from a new member. A question and answer session followed, at the conclusion of which, the members unanimously agreed to recommend Michele to the Board of Supervisors and request her appointment.

**3. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary