

At a Regular Meeting of the Orange County Broadband Authority held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, beginning at 4:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Gordon Building, 112 West Main Street, Orange, Virginia. Present: James K. White, Chair; R. Mark Johnson, Vice Chair; S. Teel Goodwin*; James P. Crozier, and Lee H. Frame. Also present: R. Bryan David, County Administrator; Thomas E. Lacheney, County Attorney; S. Lewis Foster, Broadband Program Manager; and Susan M. Turner, Deputy Clerk.

* Mr. Goodwin arrived at 4:21 p.m.

RE: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Frame, seconded by Mr. Crozier, which carried by a vote of 4-0, with Mr. Goodwin being absent, the Authority adopted the agenda, as presented. Ayes: Johnson, White, Crozier, Frame. Nays: None. Absent: Goodwin.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Frame, seconded by Mr. Crozier, which carried by a vote of 4-0, with Mr. Goodwin being absent, the Authority adopted the Consent Agenda, as presented.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

As part of the Consent Agenda, the Authority approved the May 14, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes, as presented.

RE: NEW BUSINESS

RE: PROPOSED REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

R. Bryan David, County Administrator, provided the Authority with a draft Request for Information (RFI) and explained that responses were requested from potential Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to partner for the submission of an application to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant opportunities.

* Mr. Goodwin arrived at 4:21 p.m.

Discussion ensued among the Authority regarding: application submission criteria and guidelines; the proposed tower site at the Public Safety facility; key dates; the schedule and locations of tower sites; considerations for prospective partners; expectations regarding connectivity; and the longevity of telecommunications systems.

On the motion of Mr. Frame, seconded by Mr. Crozier, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Authority authorized staff to release Request for Information (RFI# 2019-03; OCBbA FY20 Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant Opportunity) on Thursday, May 30, 2019.

Ayes: Johnson, White, Goodwin, Crozier, Frame. Nays: None.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

There were no matters for Old Business at this time.

RE: OTHER BUSINESS

RE: VATI GRANT UPDATE

S. Lewis Foster, Broadband Program Manager, updated the Authority on the progress of the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant application process. He offered

recommendations on best practices for the application and provided materials and details regarding the 2020 VATI Input Session, offered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), which he had recently attended.

Discussion ensued among the Authority regarding: the reliability of the broadband speed survey; potential ISP partners; a brief review of the survey responses received to-date; a review of coverage needs; traits of a viable ISP partner; and ways in which the survey can be submitted.

The Authority thanked Mr. Foster for his update.

RE: BROADBAND PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT

S. Lewis Foster, Broadband Program Manager, provided a report to the Authority, which included information on the following topics:

- Accomplishments to-date;
- Upcoming meetings; and
- A summary of current projects.

Discussion ensued among the Authority regarding: matters hindering progress on the fiber optics installation; the importance of meeting deadlines by the contractor; and discussions with the Town of Orange regarding alternate installation routes.

The Authority thanked Mr. Foster for his report.

RE: ADJOURN

On the motion of Mr. Frame, seconded by Mr. Johnson, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Authority adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

James K. White, Chairman

R. Bryan David, County Administrator