

A regular meeting of the Albemarle County Broadband Authority was held on July 25, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., in Room 241 of the County Office Building, McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia.

PRESENT: Mr. Bucky Walsh, Mr. Mike Culp, Ms. Liz Palmer, Mr. Bill Fritz

ABSENT: Mr. Landon McDowell, Mr. Rick Randolph

Also Present: Mr. Richard DeLoria (Senior Assistant County Attorney),

Agenda Item No. 1. Establish Quorum and Call to Order.

Mr. Walsh established a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item No. 2 Approval of Agenda

Ms. Palmer **moved** to accept the agenda.

The agenda was **approved** by a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item No. 3 Approval of May 16, 2018 and June 20, 2018 Minutes

Mr. Culp **moved** to approve the minutes.

The minutes were **approved** by a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item No. 4 Public Comment

Mr. Walsh opened the Public Comment period.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Walsh closed the Public Comment period.

Agenda Item No. 5 Old Business

Agenda Item No. 5a. Green Creek Road Update

Mr. Culp stated he had spoken with CenturyLink and they were not interested in being involved in any aid to construction. Mr. Culp will follow up with CenturyLink on this issue.

Mr. Walsh stated he may also contact CenturyLink.

Mr. Culp noted that CenturyLink does have Connect America Funding but does not know where they may be using it. Mr. Culp will follow up with CenturyLink on this issue.

Agenda Item No. 5b. Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Update

Mr. Culp reported that Comcast is ahead of schedule on the Greenwood project. Newtown Road may have service as early as August.

Mr. Culp asked if the Broadband Authority or the County should be the applicant for VATI funding. By consensus it was decided to apply as an Authority. The VATI deadlines have not been announced. Mr. Culp noted that a seminar would be held in August.

Mr. Fritz noted that Norfolk Southern submitted information indicating they planned to build a large tower in the railroad right-of-way near east Rio Road. This tower would be used by the railroad, however it may have capacity to serve other providers.

Agenda Item No. 6 New Business

Agenda Item No. 6a. Albemarle Broadband Authority (ABBA) Project Sites Display

Mr. Culp provided an update on the Authority's website. It can be used to both display and gather information. The site will collect data from people that are interested in a project and allow them to provide information about their location and the service they have or are interested in.

Interest has been expressed about installing tower that would serve to either provide fixed wireless transmission or reception. If ABBA is installing the tower it may be considered public uses triggering a review for compliance with the Comprehensive Plan instead of requiring a special use permit. Mr. Fritz stated he would look into the issue of compliance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Agenda Item No. 6b. ABBA Project Site(s) Selection Process

Mr. Culp stated that ABBA has received enough information to identify some areas that have limited service.

Mr. Culp asked if ABBA should put out a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP would identify areas that ABBA is interesting in potentially providing funding to facilitate service and request that service providers make a proposal.

Mr. Fritz encouraged the RFP approach.

Mr. Fritz and Mr. Culp will meet to prepare some language for the RFP and bring that information back to the Authority.

Agenda Item No. 7 Other Matters

Mr. Fritz provided an update on s. 3157 "Streamlining the Rapid Evolution and Modernization of Leading-edge Infrastructure Necessary to Enhance Small Cell Deployment Act" or the "STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act" introduced into the United States Senate. This bill may have some impacts on the review of Small Cell facilities. At this time, it appears to be similar to legislation recently passed by the General Assembly.

Ms. Palmer played a message from Mr. Randolph stating that legislation may be introduced in the General Assembly that allows for funding of broadband using impact fees.

Agenda Item No. 8. Adjourn

With no other business before the Authority, Mr. Walsh adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM.