



County of Augusta
Internet Initiative (Broadband Committee)
PO Box 590
Verona, VA 24482

Thursday November 29, 2018 7:00 pm
Augusta County Government Center
Smith East Room

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mr. John Bowers, North River District
Mr. Journell, Beverly Manor District
Mr. Lawhorne, Riverheads District
Mr. Powell, Middle River District
Ms. Carter, Board of Supervisors Liaison
Dr. Pattie, Board of Supervisors Liaison

ABSENT: Mr. Craig, Wayne District
Mr. Henderson, Pastures District
Mr. McHaffa, South River District
Ms. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator

VIRGINIA: At the regular meeting of the Augusta County Internet Initiative (Broadband Committee) held on Thursday November 29th, 2018 at 7:00pm in the Smith East Room at the Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

Call to Order

Chairman Lawhorne called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Adoption of the Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting were not available for approval. Those minutes will need to be approved in the next business meeting in January.

Comments by the Public

Chairman Lawhorne briefly explained the committee policy on public comments and asked if any members of the public would like to make comments.

Mr. Bill Rodgers responded that he wished to make comments.

Mr. Rodgers suggested the committee should consider more wireless technologies in addition to fiberoptic based service. He also suggested the committee invite service providers to attend committee meetings to better understand their challenges in delivering services.

Special Presentations

Mr. Lee Kello and Ms. Jackie Zetwick from the Augusta County GIS department presented samples of their capabilities to plot broadband survey data of project areas on digital maps.

Additionally, they fielded questions from the committee on available data that could be used to further characterize the broadband needs in Augusta county.

During the presentation and discussion about acquiring better data on the current and continuing status of broadband coverage, Mr. Rodgers asked to propose a suggestion. He was permitted and suggested the Augusta County Administrator make a formal request for service coverage data to each broadband



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provider offering service in Augusta County. Chairman Lawhorne asked Mr. Rodgers what he thought would compel the private companies to divulge their detailed coverage data to the County Administrator when those providers do not currently require any approvals by the county to extend their service areas or offerings. Mr. Rodgers then suggested the County establish policy requiring broadband providers to comply with in order to extend their service coverage areas.

Chairman Lawhorne disagreed with Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Rodgers, visibly upset, abruptly left the meeting.

Matters to be Presented by Sub-Committees

Sub-committees have not yet been formed so no matters were discussed.

Matters to be Presented by Staff

There being none, Mr. Lawhorne asked for any 'Old Business'.

Old Business

There being none, Mr. Lawhorne moved to 'New Business' on the Agenda.

New Business

Chairman Lawhorne discussed the possibility of forming sub-committees, specifically defined on the agenda, to accomplish specific parts of the committee Purpose outlined in the bylaws. Committee members present expressed support to move forward in forming these sub-committees.

Adjournment

With no further discussion by the committee, Chairman Lawhorne adjourned the meeting.