



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

**Thursday November 8, 2018 7:00 pm**  
Augusta County Government Center  
Smith East Room

## **MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Bowers, North River District  
Mr. McHaffa, South River District  
Mr. Lawhorne, Riverheads District  
Mr. Powell, Middle River District  
Ms. Carter, Board of Supervisors Liaison  
Dr. Pattie, Board of Supervisors Liaison  
Ms. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator

**ABSENT:** Mr. Craig, Wayne District  
Mr. Henderson, Pastures District  
Mr. Journell, Beverly Manor District

VIRGINIA: At the regular meeting of the Augusta County Internet Initiative (Broadband Committee) held on Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00pm in the Smith East Room at the Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

### **Call to Order**

Ms. Carter opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

### **Organizational Items**

The committee approved the draft bylaws with revisions.

The mission of the committee was incorporated into the bylaws.

Monthly meeting dates are established for 2019, with adjustments for holidays pending.

Topics for future meetings were discussed, including impact of legislation, zoning, school IT, 2016 Plan, updating survey, GIS, funding opportunities.

Election for officers was held: Mr. Lawhorne as Chairman and Mr. McHaffa as Vice-Chairman.

### **Adoption of the Minutes**

Minutes from the October 3, 2018 meeting were adopted.

### **Comments by the Public**

Mr. Rodgers suggested the committee should consider holding the providers accountable for expansion, utilizing franchise agreements or incentives to improve services to rural areas.

Mr. Wilson spoke of the limited options available for rural users and that the committee could request legislative action to hold providers accountable for meeting contractual obligations.

### **Matters to be Presented by Committees**

Mr. Lawhorne reviewed draft sub-committees structure. Committee to consider at a future meeting.



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**Matters to be Presented by Staff**

Ms. Whetzel gave an overview of the two proposals received for the 2019 VATI grant. The projects were for fiber extensions in the Middlebrook and Deerfield areas. Committee recommended approaching Board of Supervisors for local match encumbrance for both projects. Staff will work with GIS to mail survey letter to project areas. Public comment period will be posted and advertised. Grant application is due December 14, 2018.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Adjournment**

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