

VIRGINIA: A MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY HELD ON MARCH 4, 2010 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER.

PRESENT: JUDY S. LYTTLE, CHAIR
JOHN M. SEWARD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
REGINALD O. HARRISON
ERNEST L. BLOUNT
M. SHERLOCK HOLMES
TYRONE W. FRANKLIN

ALSO

PRESENT: MRS. MELISSA D. ROLLINS, FINANCE & TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
RHONDA MACK, PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
WILLIAM HEFTY, HEFTY & WILEY

I. Call To Order

The meeting of the Surry County Broadband Authority was called to order by Mrs. Judy Lyttle.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Approval of Minutes.** Supervisor Harrison moved to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2010 meeting. Supervisor Seward seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

B. **Status Update: State Grant Applications.** Ms. Rhonda Mack appeared before the Authority to provide a status update on the County's Community Innovation Grant (CIG) opportunity with the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development (VDHCD). Ms. Mack offered the following for discussion:

- Members of the business community and county staff public representing public safety, emergency services, education and county administration met on March 3, 2010 with representatives from VDHCD to engage in dialogue relative to the dire need for broadband in Surry County and advised the Board that the County had since received positive feedback from DCHD staff.
- Old Dominion Electric Cooperative, a catalyst of the entity that created Mid Atlantic Broadband Communications (MBC) to provide broadband in rural areas to serve its constituents, was not aware of the County's effort

to implement a broadband project. Further discussions regarding this initiative revealed ODEC and MBC's interest in assisting Surry County. MBC was successful in getting BTOP stimulus funds under Round I. In their initial application for Round 2 funding, the fiber connection bypassed Surry. However, the route was redirected to Route 31 through Dendron, Surry and Isle of Wight County. The good news is MBC's willingness to incur debt to reroute the fiber through Surry in the event they are unsuccessful in obtaining additional BTOP funds.

- A map of the Proposed Mid-Atlantic Broadband Fiber Route was presented.
- The proposed three tower sites are located at the Claremont fire station, the County's public works operations site (animal pound facility area) and on Holly Bush Road.
- VDHCDC will only fund \$700,000 in grant funds for Broadband; the cost of the project would be less based on the elimination of 4.4 miles of fiber.
- An update was provided on the required action items (i.e. the required surety bond, public hearing notice and resolution).

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE PRESENTATION FROM MS. MACK WHICH IS INCLUDED AS AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF THESE MINUTUES

Mrs. Lyttle and other members of the Authority thanked Ms. Mack for her presentation.

IV. NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT

Reginald Harrison moved that the meeting be adjourned; John Seward seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.