## MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

# February 3, 2020 10:00 a.m. Mathews Memorial Library

Present: Judy Rowe, Nancy Welch, William Vrooman, Chuck Huntley, Betsy Burkhard, Bal Over, Willie Love, Hal Bourque, Amy Dubois, Greg Lewis, Joe Syslo, Emily Allen, and Cynthia Hayes.

## **MINUTES**

#### I. OPENING:

Chairperson Judy Rowe called the meeting to order.

#### II. MINUTES:

Minutes from the January 6, 2020 meeting were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved.

#### III. STAFF UPDATE:

- a. Judy reported we did not get the grant we pursued jointly with other counties, and Gloucester did not receive their grant. King and Queen has been more successful.
- b. New request for grant proposals are for 2020 are being released. The USDA grant is open.
- c. Judy talked about the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI).
- d. Judy informed members she went to the Board of Supervisors to request \$60,000 for 2020.
- e. County administrator Mindy Conner said that she agreed with the hybrid approach and that there was no word from the dominion energy pilot program.

#### IV. Kudos & Thanks:

Judy acknowledge the following for their contributions to the Broadband Survey efforts: Barbara Bergman, Barbara Van Over, Amy Dubois, Dee Russel, Chuck Huntley, and Jay Bass.

#### V. OLD BUSINESSS:

- a. **Survey** Judy reported the surveys are all entered, thanks to Bill for the computers and Chuck for his expertise. Chuck discussed the CIT preliminary assessment. He extracted survey data and sent to CIT. In the next week or so, they will be cleaning up the data. A total of 1,413 surveys were entered.
- b. **Broadband Moments** the newest featured Buzz Lambert.
- c. Amy reported that PamunkeyNet efforts are going slower than anticipated, but encouraged Mathews to continue to monitor what they are doing, as they are in the process of putting together their business plan.

#### VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **2020** Calendar Judy reviewed the 2020 Board of Supervisors and Mathews Broadband Advisory Board Meeting Schedules (printed on the back of the agenda).
- b. **Budget** Judy attended the regular meeting (January 28, 2020) of the Mathews Board of Supervisors, requesting the \$60,000 during the Public Comment period.
- c. **General Assembly** Judy noted Pending Legislation HB 1332 (see website Commonwealth Connect for other pending legislation). Judy stated that Supervisor Melissa Mason suggested we write our legislators (Hodges and Lewis). Nancy Welch suggested we include the names of grants we did not receive. Judy suggested a letter be drafted and shared with our representatives, inviting them to visit us (attend a BBAB meeting).
- d. Letters Judy advised that Board contact Wittman, Kaine, and Warner.

- e. **Policy Team** Judy noted we were supposed to appoint the Policy Team last month, but did not. Mindy suggested county employees be on the Policy Team. The following names were presented: Mindy Conner, Thomas Jenkins, Julie Kaylor, Chuck Huntley, Amy Dubois, and Jackie Ingram.
- f. Management Team The Management Team oversees grants applied for by the BBAB. The names presented were: Rob Quartel, Nancy Welch, Willie Love, Hal Bourque, Greg Lewis, and Joe Syslo. A motion was made and seconded to accept the suggested names for the Policy and Management Teams. The motion carried. Judy shared she would like to setup a small-group meeting before the February 25<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors Meeting to pull together some goals to start talking about and present to Supervisors. Judy suggested meeting February 24, and Willie and Betsy will join her.
- g. **Decision Points** Judy presented members with Mathews County Decision Points (prepared by Jean Plymale of CIT and edited by Judy). These decisions and information from the assessment can be used as the County's "broadband requirements" to be included in a draft conceptual phase of the RFP. This included three steps: 1) determine the County's desired role in partnerships, 2) adopt and prioritize broadband goals, and 3) Specify what the County will share/invest. In response to Step 1, there were three options presented: locality shares assets only, locality covers capital investment, and hybrid approach (locality shares assets and invests some capital). Nancy Welch made a motion that we adopt the Hybrid Approach, Barbara Van Over second the motion, and the motion carried.

### VII. OTHER BUSINESS:

SAVE THESE DATES:

Supervisors Meeting Tuesday, February 25, 2020

1:00 pm Historic Courthouse

BAB Meeting Monday, March 2, 2020

7:00 pm Rescue Squad Building

VIII. Adjourned