

MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
15 September 2020 9AM - 10AM on ZOOM
Hosted by Rob Quartel



MINUTES

OLD BUSINESS

POMS: Greg reported on the progress of the Parents Of Mathews Students program at the Library. Students are able to do work online while parents get some training in the technology involved with virtual classes for their children. They will expand as necessary.

Smart Poles: Questions have been raised about our use of these not qualifying for CARES Act Funding. So we are putting them on hold for now and looking for other ways to temporarily get access for our students who are unserved or undeserved. Nancy Welch and Bill Vrooman have reported that even one bar of cell service is not adequate to run video or face to face interaction for virtual classes.

NEW BUSINESS

Donna Givens talked to us about telehealth and the need for it in Mathews. Having previously worked with the Department of Health and Human Services, she has a second home on Gwynn's Island and works with Bay Aging locally.

Consultant, Jeff Beekhoo, talked about the presentation he and his staff will make in a public information session. He also reported on the search for tower sites. The Rescue Squad property looks promising and would help the area of Hudgins which is an area that has dead spots.

Willie Love reported about the Emergency Services stakeholders that met with Jeff and his staff. They had an opportunity to talk with Verizon and AT&T representatives about how Mathews could get Firstnet.

Thomas Jenkins talked about mapping any Hot Spots in the county. We are hoping to have more available soon.

Other topics brought up were what to do with any revenue or fund raising and how would future homes get connected after we get this job done by December 2025.

With no further questions comments or discussion, the meeting was adjourned. Judy Rowe, filling in for Cynthia Hayes, Secretary