



MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
13 September 2022 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
In-person at Library or on ZOOM
MINUTES

OPENING: Please introduce yourselves.

Attendees: Phil Dunn, Sydney Nancy Welch, Judy Rowe, Rob Quartel, Greg Lewis, Marshall Ruffin, Donnie Lewis, George Sisel, Noah Davila (Open Broadband), Ramona Wilson, S. Rick, Judi G, Page Herbert, Joe Syslo, Willie, Lisa B, Karen Jacob Schwartz,

Approval of 8/9/22 minutes: emailed

OLD BUSINESS:

FCC: Affordable Connectivity Program (Go to: FCC/ACP)

Tele-stroke Technology program w/Riverside: Willie
Still having an issue with the school program. All students are eligible for the \$30 per month reduced fee for high-speed broadband. The FCC did not list Mathews County properly, so we are working on a work around. Nancy –FCC reviewers not looking at correspondence, so we advise challenging if you are denied. Congressman Wittman’s office should be able to help.

VATI Grant with Breezeline: Willie, Tyler
About 5 or 6 projects on the cusp of being complete. MATHEWS 1 and 7 have been completed. Should have infrastructure complete by end of October.

Site visit from DHCD - Grantors will be conducting a site visit 9:13-19

Light up celebration

Link for people with VATI address:

www.breezeline.com/VA-expansion

VATI Grant with OBB: contact with 180 households

Installer Training: Joe Noah – North end tower. Dominion energy has done it's part. We have all the equipment to power the enclosures. Waiting to get 220 at the water tower. Looking for tower climbers to climb the water tower (backhaul) and north end tower.

Joe – The recruiting process has not done its job. So ,it's been pushed off from Oct 19 to Nov. We need eight students for the installer training program to commence. Marketing issues persist. We need to work up a job description and note pay, benefits, etc.

Mi-Fi's To Go/Digital Literacy Launch: Greg – MIFIs to go 47/50 are checked out. We passed out brochures during Market Days. The Library will host a series of classes starting in Oct. One class per week starting with basic technical literacy. 2-hour sessions. Schedule of in-person classes will be published in the Gazette. Received 4k grant from PLA and AT&T will cover additional equipment. Classes limited to 12. Library staff also helping with connectivity program.

Monopole Towers, Conditional Use Permit Public Hearing: - Jeff
Permits were approved last evening now we are told we may need to get a 20k permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. Was not mentioned initially.

Earth Stations (middle mile back haul): Jeff (No report)

Policy Committee: James Knighton, Nancy Welch, Joe Syslo, Donnie Lewis, Greg Lewis Committee was set up initially to deal with permitting issues. CDP's have been recommended for approval. James was on the phone with the Army Corp of engineers. We will need to submit to the Corps for permits. Mitigation permits will be required. Judy wants to see the math. James will review plan on Thursday and submit to the Corps. Non tidal Wetlands. Estimate 30 days for the review. Can payment for mitigation revert back to the municipality? James will explore options.

Public Information:

Podcast: Judy & Melissa Mason (Website)

Saturday Markets - 8/13, September 9/3; Market Days - 9/9,9/10
9/17? 9/24?

MCPS Book Day – NA **(No report)**

NEW BUSINESS:

Telehealth: Marshall Ruffin, Rob Quartel, Donna Givens

What are we going to do with it once we get it? Marshall, BB is a means to an end. What telehealth services do you want? Tele-medicine in general depends on docs and NPs being in communication with a patient. Can be as simple as bi-directional communication between doc and patient. Physicians don't find these sessions particularly useful. Docs want to lay hands on their patients. What services do we want? Karen Ruband runs a center. Her first question was who will participate? Who will recruit patients? Train them to use devices? Video is not all that imp to docs. They want to converse with patients. Evolving tech called predictive monitoring. UA has a great site for predictive monitoring using AI to interpret signals involving heart disease. If we team with UVA we could get grants to institute this system. Local docs would be interested in receiving reports. Docs in Mathews County would identify patients that could benefit from this kind of program. One of the biggest fears docs will have concerns false positives. Place an automated monitor that can weed out the false positives. Several area health systems could become part of this project. We can talk about potential federal grants that can fund these initiatives. Tele-health can also be used with school nurses in schools.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05

ADJOURN

FYI: Public Info: Mathews School Board Meeting 9/20;

Bay Rivers Realtors Association, 9/29; Mathews Rotary 12/8

Calendar:

BOS Meeting: **Wednesday**, 21 September 2022 6:00 PM Historic CH **NOTE change**

BAB Meeting: Tuesday, 11 October 2022, 9:00 AM hybrid on Zoom
& in-person at Mathews Memorial Libr