



## MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

12 November 2024

### MINUTES

\*Judy Rowe: \*Willie Love: \*Greg Lewis: Judi Green; \*\*Deb Falco; \*\*David Walsh; Jeff Beekhoo; Tyler Beekhoo; Tim Doss; Adam Beck, Joni Close \*Voting Member; \*\*Appointed to vote

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and asked for introductions.

**Minutes:** Willie Made a motion to approve 10/8/24 BAB Minutes that were emailed. It was seconded by Greg. Without aquarium the Chair appointed Deb and David as voting members, Vote was unanimous.

**Verizon Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Proposal:** Jeff reported that Chris Debosier was planning to attend the 11/21 BOS meeting to give a presentation of the updated proposal from Verizon.

**BEAD Funding Timeline:** Tyler presented possible dates: Letter of Intent window closed 30 November. Application window opens 1 December with 90-day window. We are hoping they will be able to stay on schedule.

#### **Verizon Wireless & Monopole Towers:**

**Hudgins:** Jeff salad VW Attorney has the lease now and are awaiting the redline version to come back to the county attorney. It will require a public hearing which will take at least 39 days.

**Bohannon:** Ramona reported the need to use Firs Station generator for the light. Do they need a building permit to put the cabinet in the compound? Ramona will check into that.

**Gwynn's Island:** Ramona said she had put it in the hands of the planning director. Ramona will bring it up tonight. It will require a public hearing. It should not be q problem since R! Zoning is more restrictive and towns are allowed in R!. \*The location at the GI Baptist Church is in R2.

**Planning Grant:** Tyler not getting much response. He is putting information in an online portal. He is reaching out to many organizations. Judy suggested they look at other ways to reach out.

**Public Safety:** Jeff is waiting for more information from Sheriff April Edwards.

**Website:** [broadband4mathews.info](http://broadband4mathews.info)

Greg reported that Page is working on the special paced that he had suggested last month.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Article:** Where Mathews is as per Wall Street Journal. Judy and tyler have decided not torte a letter to the paper.  
sent to us by Marshall Ruffin.

**Smart Poles:** Judy is working to get signs designed. It will be a street type sign: metal pole with rectangular sign that reads Connect Here, Free Wifi, No Password, Phone Number for service. Needs to be high enough and large enough to be legible from a car or truck.

### **BAB/ Verizon Presentation to BOS:**

Judy said the BAB was waiting to se what the numbers would need to. They have gone down after all this time. It is a moving target. BOS has to accept the easement. Ramona will present it.

### **Capacity Grant:**

Judy expanded her vision of a ComiCon kind of event as an enormous presentation to show what is possible with our 100% coverage. Invite tech vendors, Marshall Ruffin, MD on telehealth, Rescue Squad Sheriff, our own Phil Dunn, Riverside telehealth, smart light bulbs, Rembrandt program for possible stroke patients, etc. The need and capability of what we can do. Have entertainment, food trucks. To show what is possible - the GPS dog collar. Invite surrounding counties. Rob Quartel noted this should be called a BHAG (Big Hairy Audacious Goal)!

Willie and David Walsh discussed the development of Mathews Insurance with Business Internet, 1 Gig synchronous by fiber.

**ADJOURNED 9:40 AM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Rowe