



MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

10 December 2024

MINUTES

*Judy Rowe: *Willie Love: *Greg Lewis: *Page Herbert,
*Pearl Foster: *Rob Quartel; Deb Falco; Dr. David Daniel;
Tyler Beekhoo; Tim Doss; Adam Beck
*Voting Member; Quorum = 5 voting members

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

Minutes: Approved as corrected. Willie moved; Greg seconded.

OLD BUSINESS

Verizon Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Proposal:

The PowerPoint from the November BOS meeting Chris Debosier presented was available to everyone. Judy focused on the two maps: the first being the un- and underserved locations in Mathews; the second one showed Verizon's pull through targets that will make available their service to even more of the county. The FIOS Internet package is exciting with a minimum speed of 300 Mbps synchronous, nationwide pricing and a low cost package. The County has sent a letter of support for this BEAD Grant Application. We are now in the Timeline for the BEAD projects.

Willie explained the difference between the Verizon FTTH project and the Verizon Wireless projects on our towers. Tyler and Judy asked Deb Falco to send her location information to send to Verizon about her islanded situation.

Dr. Daniel asked clarification on map open space as to future proofing for possible expansion. Willie explained how this is handled with fiber. Adam Beck also had questions. Tyler answered his questions..

Verizon Wireless & Monopole Towers:

Hudgins: Jeff had sent email that County Attorney has lease/license agreement now. We are waiting on her approval.

Bohannon: Verizon Wireless is planning to duplicate the Hudgins paperwork to speed up moving forward with service on the Bohannon Tower. Environmental study being done by a team tomorrow.

Gwynn's Island: Environmental study to be done there as well. Awaiting the public hearing to get the text amendment to allow a tower in R2 zoning at the GI Baptist Church.

Cobbs Creek: We do not have anything to do with this one but it will help us.

Public Safety: No further information on the callboxes.

Website: broadband4mathews.info

Page has created the pages for our partners: Open Broadband, Breezeline, Verizon, Verizon Wireless. Page asked for a timeline of what we have done over the past five years. Please send any additional information.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning Grant: Devices and digital literacy are the focus. Tyler reported survey is live but not publicly shared. Everyone on meeting please fill out. Greg said the survey covered needs of the county. Digital Opportunity page for the website. Tyler is working with Page on this. Tyler going to the Mathews Resource Council to share the information on all this.

Dr. Daniel offered to push out surveys on MCPS parent/guardian list. Greg will do the same. must be 18 or over to answer. Paper copies will also be available and could be collected at the schools. Are churches willing to get this out, possibly the Ministerial Association.

Capacity Grant:

Expand library's Digital Literacy

A room equipped with telehealth access

A local tech convention

A bus or school buses equipped with access

Feld trips would conflict with cell phone policy
Might have situation to use Chrome books. Erate qualified.
How are school buses tracked? Some so old they track the bus driver.
Demonstrate what businesses could do, ie Mathews Insurance Agency.
Search for projects for April next year.

Public Information:

Judy proposed Broadband Moment videos with David Walsh and Adam Beck.

BHAG Event (Big Hairy Audacious Goal): TECH CONVENTION?

Device demonstrations

Telehealth tablet in ambulance for possible stroke patients

Vendors

Key note speakers: ex. Marshall Ruffin, MD

Dr. Daniel: Monthly sessions for adults? Some at the Library. What do we need to do in the schools? How to educate the capacity with students and the adults?

Smart Home section.

Need for school nurse through grant Middle Peninsula Northern Neck
Telehealth Consortium (Donna

Dr. Daniel: What if we built a tiny house that was mobile and could travel around to educate citizens. Tyler was excited to hear this!

ADJOURNED 9:59

*Respectfully submitted,
Judy Rowe*