



**MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
15 JUNE 2021 9AM - 10AM on ZOOM  
MINUTES**

Present: Rob Quartel, Judy Rowe, Jeff Beekhoo, Joe Syslo, Dee Russell, Greg Lewis, Willie Love, Michael Anthony, Amy Dubois, Debbie Falco, Sherry Hamilton, Page Herbert, Tyler Beekhoo, Donnie Lewis, Michael Anthony., and Cynthia Hayes.

**MINUTES:**

Judy noted the May 5<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, and June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 Meeting Minutes were emailed to members for review. Judy asked for a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Rob Quartel made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented, and Greg Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Updates

**VATI Grant with ABB** – Willie Love reported that ABB has the project schedules completed. Jeff Beekhoo added the VATI ABB meeting was held yesterday and there is a work process that was reviewed. This is required by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). He shared that Broadband Telecom Services will be managing the final documentation that comes in from each county before it is submitted by Judy. Judy shared that ABB is tracking 153 columns of data on 53 projects within this project.

**VATI Grant with OBB** - Joe Syslo shared that he and Judy met with three guys from OBB went out to find poles and discovered five towers of varying sizes. All towers appeared to be okay with OBB reps but there will need to be a structural analysis done of each and a RF analysis will need to be determined. Joe was informed by Allan Fitzpatrick (OBB CEO) they will come back out to look at additional towers. Judy shared a couple photos of the tower at James Store across from Fort Nonsense (owned by American Tower), Joe Syslo, and OBB staff.

**Radio System** - Willie Love reported contractually all the paperwork is done and Harris has applied for reserving the frequency for the system and are procuring sub contractor and materials.

**Signs and Website** - Dee Russell shared that she has not reached Mark. Caroline is now managing the website and Dee has some updates to share with Caroline. Dee will add some links and start pushing the Facebook page to other social media sites this week.

**MiFis-to-Go** - Greg Lewis reported he has received 20 units from the schools. These will be made immediately available for checkout. The additional MiFis will be targeted specifically to families of students who are without Internet for the summer. Thanks to Michael Anthony and Nancy Welch for making this happen.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Broadband Telecom Services - Presentation of RF Analysis and Cost Projection** – Jeff Beekhoo Please refer to the *Mathews County Fiber/Wireless Study Radio Frequency Analysis* document.

Judy asked for a motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors adopt this plan. Joe Syslo made the motion to recommend the BOS adopt Broadband Telecom Services plan for funding the two towers. Rob Quartel seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

Judy noted Jeff Beekhoo will present the *Mathews County Fiber/Wireless Study Radio Frequency Analysis* plan to the BOS at the June 22, 2021 meeting.

**Contract with Broadband Telecom Services** – Judy reminded members the request for extending the contract with Broadband Telecom Services will be presented at the June 22, 2021 BOS meeting.

**ADJOURN** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**CALENDAR:**

BOS Meeting: 22 JUNE 2021 6:00 PM at Harry Ward Auditorium in person

***THERE ARE 5 TUESDAYS IN JUNE: no meeting 29 June!***

BAB Meeting: 6 JULY 2021 9:00 AM on Zoom

BAB Meeting: 20 JULY 2021 9:00 AM on Zoom