

Campbell County Broadband Authority

AGENDA

January 5, 2021 | 5:00 PM | Haberer Building Boardroom
AVAILABLE VIA [ZOOM](#); Session Password: 189172

1. Call To Order - 5:00 P.m.
2. Election Of Officers, Establishment Of Meeting Schedule
3. Approval Of Minutes

Documents:

[10-06-20.BBAUTHORITY.PDF](#)

4. B2X Online Discussion – Warren Kane
5. Adjourn To Regular Business Meeting - 6:00 PM

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CAMPBELL COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY

October 6, 2020

A meeting of the Campbell County Broadband Authority was held on the 6th day of October 2020 in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room of the Walter J. Haberer Building, Rustburg, Virginia. The members present were:

Charlie A. Watts II, Chairman, Presiding	Brookneal Election District
Kenneth R. Brown	Spring Hill Election District
Matt W. Cline	Concord Election District
Jon R. Hardie	Rustburg Election District
A. Dale Moore	Altavista Election District
Steve W. Shockley	Sunburst Election District

Absent was:

Susan R. Hogg	Timberlake Election District
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Also present were:

Frank J. Rogers, County Administrator
Clifton M. Tweedy, Deputy County Administrator
Catherine H. Moore, Clerk

Chairman Watts called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to a meeting of the Campbell County Broadband Authority (CCBA).

// APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Supervisor Shockley, it was resolved the Campbell County Broadband Authority approves the minutes of the July 21, 2020 meeting.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: Hogg

// UPDATE FROM SHENTEL

Bryan Byrd of Shentel provided an update on the New Chapel project via Zoom that would provide broadband internet to 309 homes. Construction was 99% complete, and they were currently testing the system. Over 100 customers had already signed up for service. Mr. Byrd anticipated Shentel would start installations within the next two weeks and by the beginning of December would have the New Chapel project up and running. They were very

pleased with the progress of the project and partnering with the County to have accomplished a lot in a short amount of time.

Shentel has submitted an application for a Virginia Telecommunication Initiative grant (VATI), and they should know by the end of the year if they would receive a grant. This would allow them to extend service in areas to include Arrington Drive, Lawyers Road, London Terrace and Mansion Bridge and serve 207 homes and 20 lots. Shentel projects 18 months to complete those projects.

For the future, Mr. Byrd indicated Shentel would continue to explore new partnership opportunities, and they were getting ready to launch their own fixed wireless beam internet which would provide a good choice in the more rural areas. Shentel plans to utilize some of the infrastructure acquired through the Sprint acquisition, and construct new towers.

// UPDATE FROM ADMINISTRATOR ROGERS

Administrator Rogers indicated it was expected that the State would be offering another round of VATI grants. He asked the Board to give some thought and consideration to other areas to explore for broadband service.

In addition, Wilkes Communication/River Street was making progress on the engineering plan that would provide information on how the County might be able to deliver fiber for high speed internet. It was anticipated the draft report would be available within 30 days.

Administrator Hardie requested updated maps and information on the location of broadband service. Administrator Rogers indicated he would continue to pursue the map data, but he was not certain the data would be accurately reported. Some of the service providers hold that information as proprietary information.

In answer to a question about the SCS project for the Gladys area has been at a standstill due to the inability to procure the hardware. Staff has learned that SCS has been acquired by River Street so the company was in a state of transition, and it was apparent they may not be able to complete the project. Chairman Watts asked staff to determine if the funding from the Tobacco Commission (approximately \$150,000) could be redirected to another company.

Russell Thurston, Town Manager for the Town of Brookneal, indicated the Town had entered into a relationship with the Town of Brookneal a couple of years ago and was a partner with Halifax County. They had a written agreement with SCS to allow them to use the Town's vertical assets, namely the two water towers, and the Town would receive free internet service which they had provided. To his knowledge, there was very limited use of their service in the Town, and many citizens were not successful getting service to their homes. The Town Council was very disappointed with SCS and had asked the Town Manager to terminate the relationship with SCS. Comcast had been active recently in the Town, and many citizens have subscribed to their service.

// ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Cline, the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: Hogg

CHARLIE A. WATTS, II, CHAIRMAN

Approved: _____