



County of Augusta  
Internet Initiative (Broadband Committee)  
PO Box 590  
Verona, VA 24482

**Thursday, July 25, 2019 7:00 pm**  
Augusta County Government Center  
Smith West Room

## **MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Lawhorne, Riverheads District  
Mr. Powell, Middle River District  
Ms. Thornton, North River District  
Mr. Henderson, Pastures District  
Ms. Carter, Board of Supervisors Liaison  
Ms. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator

**ABSENT:** Mr. McHaffa, South River District  
Mr. Journell, Beverly Manor District  
Mr. Craig, Wayne District  
Ms. Susie Miller, Sub-Committee  
Dr. Pattie, Board of Supervisors Liaison

VIRGINIA: At the regular meeting of the Augusta County Internet Initiative (Broadband Committee) held on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00pm in the Smith West Room at the Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Lawhorne called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. A quorum was present.

### **Adoption of the Minutes**

Minutes from the March 28, 2019, April 25, 2019 and June 27, 2019 were approved.

### **Comments by the Public**

None

### **Special Presentations**

None

### **Matters to be Presented by Sub-Committees**

Mr. Henderson is finalizing a meeting with legislators regarding Broadband.

### **Matters to be Presented by Staff**

Ms. Whetzel reviewed the Request for Information for the VATI 2020 grant with the Committee. The RFI included the project areas identified by the Sub-Committees. The RFI allowed the providers to focus on the project specific requirements, and the County would assist with vetting other provider criteria and mapping required by the grant. The RFI is due August 5, 2019 and the grant is due September 3, 2019.

Ms. Whetzel reviewed the surveys completed to date (1,142).



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### **Old Business**

The Committee continued discussions about the possibility of putting out an RFI that would remain active for a longer period of time, allowing area providers to submit a proposal for a project that may not suit a grant application. The County has small areas where service is needed that may be better suited for a local project. Providers would note what project they would like to do, the financial margin needed and market the project to the County. Local homeowner's associations could see if this would be an option to them also, if they can partner with a provider and fund a portion of the project. Consideration of speed provided, project readiness and citizen input would be reviewed. Ms. Whetzel will check on the formalities of procurement for this type of solicitation. The Committee can broach this idea with the Board of Supervisors and request a budget be funded for the local match.

### **New Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held on August 22, 2019 at 7 pm in the Smith West Room. With no further discussion by the committee, Chairman Lawhorne adjourned the meeting.