

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX BROADBAND AUTHORITY HELD ON
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023, AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

Present: John Koontz
Carrie Dos Santos
Greg Grichtmeier
Kevin Gentry, Executive Director
Ann Marie Ricardi, Treasurer
Peggy Jordan, Secretary
Heather Lewis, County Attorney
Dr. Liz Young, Consultant

Absent: Steve Barnette
Casey Mewborn
Peter Martin, Consultant

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Koontz, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

A Roll Call was taken to determine if there was a quorum: Mr. Koontz, Present; Mrs. Dos Santos, Present; Mr. Grichtmeier, Present. Note Mr. Mewborn and Mr. Barnette were not present. We have a quorum to proceed.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no statements from the public.

MINUTES

Mr. Koontz asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 16, meeting minutes. There were none.

A Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by Mr. Grichtmeier; seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos. The Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Koontz asked if there were any additions, changes or questions on the Treasurer's Reports for March. There were none.

A Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented by Mr. Grichtmeier; seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos. The Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND STAFF

Mr. Gentry shared information on the VATI celebration in Richmond last month.

Mr. Gentry shared that just today that at the Broadband conference Middlesex County was awarded Best Private Sector Build of the Year along with Mathews and Lancaster. Crystal Duke accepted on our behalf.

There have been questions regarding a tower that is being erected across from the Rescue Squad in Deltaville, but that is not part of the VATI project.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. 2023 VATI

Mr. Gentry has reached out to Crystal regarding small broadband deserts and we are trying to identify those in order to possibly get them funded possibly with another grant. If we are successful, that would be nearly 100%.

There was discussion as to whether we still have a need for a broadband authority and before that happens we need to know our percentage of unserved and where those pockets are. Also, if dissolved, what are the specific job descriptions of those paid positions on the board so that it can possibly be folded into another committee.

B. All Points Update

Mr. Gentry reported that Tom was not able to join the meeting. Construction has not begun yet but should be started soon with an estimated completion in the first quarter of next year.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

In discussion of wrapping up the authority, Mrs. Dos Santos suggested that Newport News had folded theirs into the planning district. Possibly we could do the same into the Middle Peninsula Planning District.

Mr. Grichtmeier suggested that we should champion or assist businesses and with the possibility that federal funding may become available, we need to look at a potential plan so we don't lose out on any additional funding.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting set for July 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., by motion of Mr. Grichtmeier, seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos. Motion was carried unanimously.

John Koontz, Chairman