



April 8, 2021

ELECTRONIC MEETING

MODERATOR: KEVIN GENTRY, IT DIRECTOR

Pursuant to the Ordinance adopted by the Middlesex County Board of Supervisors on May 5, 2020 to implement emergency procedures to ensure continuity of County government, the following notices are given:

1. All Middlesex Broadband Authority members, staff, and public are attending via electronic communications.
2. All public comments:
 - a. Prior to the meeting, public comments can be:
 1. Emailed to Peggy Jordan, pjordan@mcps.k12.va.us
 2. Mailed to County Administration, PO Box 428, Saluda, VA 23149
 3. Delivered to the County Administration Building (drop box by front door) at 877 General Puller Highway, Saluda, VA 23149
 - b. During the meeting, public comments will be addressed by the Chairman or his designee
3. The public may participate and access the 5:00 p.m. regular meeting by the following:

When: April 8, 2021, 5:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Middlesex Broadband Authority

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to

join. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85896474869?pwd=YkJCUnQraGJJUDRjUFVxTDQ1WmFaUT09>

Passcode: 7584330

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or

+1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 858 9647 4869

Passcode: 7584330

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/ky5KF0dBz>

CALL TO ORDER

5:00 P.M

1. Statements from the Public
2. Approval of the Minutes – March 18, 2021 (*pages 3-5*)
3. Approval of Treasurer’s Report (*page 6*)
4. Report of Officers and Staff
5. Information Items:
 - A. VATI Update—Kevin Gentry
 - B. Hill Crest Project Update—Chris Henley and Greg Grichtmeier
6. Old Business
7. New Business
 - A. Presentation from Dominion Energy and All Points Broadband
8. Adjourn

Next Meeting Date: May 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. (meetings to be held electronically)

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX BROADBAND AUTHORITY HELD ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021, AT 5:00 P.M. ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH ZOOM

Present: John Koontz, Chairman
Carrie Dos Santos, Vice Chairman
Greg Grichtmeier
Steve Barnette
Kevin Gentry, Executive Director
Peggy Jordan, Secretary/Treasurer
Heather Lewis, County Attorney

Absent: Elizabeth Young, Consultant
Peter Martin, Consultant-Absent

CALL TO ORDER

John Koontz, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no statements from the public.

MINUTES

Mr. Koontz asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February 18, 2021, minutes. There were none.

A Motion was made to approve the minutes by Mrs. Dos Santos; seconded by Mr. Barnette and carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Koontz asked if there were any additions to the Treasurer's Report presented; there was nothing new to report.

A Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Mrs. Dos Santos, seconded by Mr. Henley and carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STAFF

Mr. Gentry reported we had received the VATI 4 counties regional grant due to the hard work and time from all of you that went into the grant application. It is bittersweet because the Mathews/Gloucester grant was also approved but because of the RDOF

impact, Middlesex was unable to participate. If RDOF had not become a last minute issue, we would have won two grants.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. RFP Interviewees

Mr. Gentry reported there were five respondents to the advertised RFP. Out of the five; Mr. Grichtmeier, Mr. Gentry and Mr. Barnette chose Design 9 and Broadband Telecom for interviews. It is hoped that the interviews will be held around the end of March thru April 2nd if possible. Mr. Koontz asked if there would be a need for Mr. Lockaby to be included in the interview panel as well as Mrs. Lewis. Mrs. Lewis stated it would be best if Mr. Lockaby were a participant because of his expertise in these matters. Mr. Gentry stated he or Mrs. Lewis will be in contact with Mr. Lockaby to set up those interviews.

B. All Points Broadband and Dominion

Mr. Gentry reported he had a meeting with All Points Broadband and Dominion regarding working to provide broadband to the home. Mr. Jimmy Carr, with All Points Broad and also Dominion are wanting to roll in and deliver the fiber to homes. The want to blanket the county, covering the area. Dominion is extending their fiber to be more safe and secure and because using their instrumentation because want to control their own fiber. Mr. Gentry showed them a map of Jamaica with the houses far distanced apart. Before they was not considered because financially it was not something they wanted to do. Now they are very interested in providing this opportunity to homes. At this point, Mr. Gentry doesn't know specifics of funding but it is a conversation that needs to continue to get this for our part of the county that is currently not covered.

Mr. Grichtmeier stated the hardware for the unify access point that is bleeding edge, that we are going to test, is starting to ship.

Mr. Koontz asked if there was anything to update on SpaceX. Mr. Grichtmeier stated he had not heard anything yet. Mr. Barnette stated they had put up a new satellite launched from Wallops Island.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Gentry had Mickey Daniels reach out to him to possibly do some micro pops through his own company. He is not up and running yet, but will be eventually, and wanted to make sure we had his resource to consider in the future. Mr. Koontz wanted to see if he could either come to a monthly meeting or reach out to Mr. Grichtmeier and Mr. Henley to discuss the possibilities.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Grichtmeier spoke on the Beta software availability on the Ubiquity site to allow you to create towers and a subscriber base for standing up an ISP via their wireless service. The have launched about 4 new devices in the last 6-9 months that cover up to

the 5 megahertz range. This would allow you to simulate putting a device on say the Saluda tower and take into consideration the topiary and the effectiveness of the device. Mr. Henley and Mr. Grichtmeier will bring updates later on the validation of these new products. Mr. Henley stated it was close to software that Lancaster used for a while to estimate the range, topiary, etc. in their county.

Mr. Koontz had been working on suicide prevention with experts contributing from a great distance, which uses software (Mavenlink) to help with discussions between them in real time of their tests or come up with ideas to create a focused agenda so maybe we want to do something like this. Mr. Gentry stated we have the One Drive now, we just don't use it to do this yet. Mr. Koontz stated it would be nice to try something like this by the next meeting. Mrs. Lewis asked to make sure when it comes to members discussing local business, they realize FOIA policies are still in effect and discussions are subject to FOIA and the need to be preserved.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting set for March 22, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., by motion of Mr. Barnette, seconded by Mr. Henley; carried unanimously.

John Koontz, Chairman

Expenses Since Last Meeting

1/1/2021	1132 Kevin Gentry	Director			500.00	(\$76,996.75)
1/1/2021	1133 Peggy Jordan	Secretary/Treasurer			250.00	(\$76,746.75)
2/1/2021	1134 Kevin Gentry	Director			500.00	(\$76,246.75)
2/1/2021	1135 Peggy Jordan	Secretary/Treasurer			250.00	(\$75,996.75)
2/24/2021	Deposit	Deposit from County	CARES Reimbursement	(1,500.00)		(\$77,496.75)
3/1/2021	1136 Kevin Gentry	Director			500.00	(\$76,996.75)
3/1/2021	1137 Peggy Jordan	Secretary/Treasurer			250.00	(\$76,746.75)
3/1/2021	1138 Guynn & Waddell	Legal Services			105.00	(\$76,641.75)
4/1/2021	1139 Kevin Gentry	Director			500.00	(\$76,141.75)
4/1/2021	1140 Peggy Jordan	Secretary/Treasurer			250.00	(\$75,891.75)
4/1/2021	1141 Guynn & Waddell	Legal Services			157.50	(\$75,734.25)