

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX BROADBAND AUTHORITY HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023, AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

Present: Steve Barnette  
Greg Grichtmeier  
Casey Mewborn  
Carrie Dos Santos  
Kevin Gentry, Executive Director  
Ann Marie Ricardi  
Peggy Jordan

Absent: John Koontz  
Heather Lewis, County Attorney  
Dr. Liz Young, Consultant  
Peter Martin, Consultant

**CALL TO ORDER**

Kevin Gentry, Executive Director, called the meeting to order.

**ANNUAL MEETING**

Mr. Gentry stated the Authority would be electing a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary as well as designating a date/ time and place for meetings. Mr. Gentry asked for a motion to open the meeting and open nominations.

A Motion was made to Open the Annual meeting and nominations by Mr. Grichtmeier; seconded by Mr. Barnette. The Motion was carried with a roll call vote: Mr. Barnette, AYE; Mrs. Dos Santos, AYE; Mr. Grichtmeier, AYE; and Mr. Mewborn, AYE; Motion carried.

Mr. Gentry called for a nomination for Chairman. Mr. Grichtmeier nominated John Koontz (in his absence); seconded by Mr. Barnette.

A motion was made close the nominations by Mr. Grichtmeier, seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos. Motion carried unanimously.

A roll call vote on the Nomination of John Koontz as Chairman was taken with Mr. Barnette, Mrs. Dos Santos, Mr. Grichtmeier, and Mr. Mewborn, all voting AYE. Motion carried.

Mr. Gentry asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Grichtmeier nominated Steve Barnette, seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos. Nomination carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Mr. Barnette, Vice Chairman, took over the meeting asking for a nomination for Treasurer. Mrs. Dos Santos nominated Ann Marie Ricardo, seconded by Mr. Grichtmeier. Nomination carried unanimously by a roll call vote .

Mr. Barnette asked for a nomination for secretary. Mr. Grichtmeier nominated Peggy Jordan, seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos. Nomination carried unanimously by a roll call vote .

Mr. Barnette asked for a motion to set the date, time and place of the bi-monthly meetings. Mrs. Dos Santos made a motion to have it remain the same as the past year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every other month at 5:00 p.m. in the Historic Courthouse, seconded by Mr. Grichtmeier and carried unanimously. The meetings for the year will be held on March 16, May 18, July 20, September 21, and November 16, 2023 and January 18, 2024.

### **STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no statements from the public.

### **MINUTES**

Mr. Barnette asked if there was a motion to approve the November 17, 2022 minutes.

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. Barnette asked if there were any additions, changes or questions on the Treasurer's Reports for November; 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**

There were no reports from officers and staff .

## **ACTION ITEMS**

There were no action items.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### A. Connection Celebration

Mr. Gentry shared he had been in contact with the other 3 counties in this and we are not alone in not doing this. Mr. Grichtmeier asked if when All Points is over would we have information on those households that were left out to see if we could help. Mr. Gentry stated he would be working with them on that information.

### A. VATI Update

Mr. Gentry reported work was continuing on the Red Hill easement issues, stating they were moving forward. The All Points project should not have the same kind of easement issues since it will be fiber. There has been some confusion on social media with Breezeline marketing and their subscription models. After 6 months, fees change and they are requiring subscribers purchase their modem. Overall, the project was completed on time and on budget.

### B. All Points Update

Mr. Tom Innes from Breezeline reported contractor trucks, one of which is Davies, are in the county documenting existing poles. Thus far, 4500 have been completed and 1900 are under review. Overall they are on track and where they wanted to be at this time. Mr. Innes reported 15% of future customers have pre-registered for service and 650 inquires from outside of the service area have been received as well. Mr. Innes stated that until the VATI grant is completed they will not be looking into those 650 inquires.

Mr. Gritchmeier stressed the need for hang tags and that we could also help on social media. Also, what communication we can use for the 650 households after the project winds to an end and how we can help with their needs.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Dos Santos stated she was now employed by RCC. Students enrolled in classes are offered to participate in a new program which helps them get up to \$250 per month for internet access.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting set for March 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., by motion of Mr. Grichtmeier, seconded by Mrs. Dos Santos Motion was carried unanimously.

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Steve Barnette, Vice Chairman