APPROVED

Broadband Advisory Council

Regular Meeting

June 18, 2018

**TIME AND PLACE:** The Broadband Advisory Council met on June 18, 2018 at the Roanoke County Main Library, in Roanoke, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegate Byron, Chair

 Senator Ruff, Vice Chair

 Senator Carrico

 Delegate Boysko
 Ray LaMura

 Duront Walton
 Rosemary Wilson

Kristie Hemlick Proctor

**STAFF PRESENT:** Chuck Kirby

 Jean Plymale

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:** With 8 members of the council present, a quorum was established.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 1:16 PM.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The Council voted to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2018 meeting.

**MUNICIPAL BROADBAND AUTHORITY UPDATE**:

Robert Bridgham gave an update regarding the Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority. For a copy of this presentation, please contact Caroline Luxhoj (caroline.luxhoj@cit.org).

Frank Smith gave an update regarding the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority. For a copy of this presentation, please contact Caroline Luxhoj (caroline.luxhoj@cit.org).

**BROADBAND AND RAILROAD CROSSING UPDATE:**

Roger Frazier, Scott County Telephone Cooperative, presented on railroad crossing fees and the barrier they create for broadband deployment. For a copy of this presentation, please contact Caroline Luxhoj (caroline.luxhoj@cit.org).

Tim Bentley, Norfolk Southern, presented on their process for approving broadband over railroad crossing applications and the fees associated. For a copy of this presentation, please contact Caroline Luxhoj (caroline.luxhoj@cit.org).

**TV WHITESPACE UPDATE:**

Bob Bailey, Center for Advanced Engineering and Research, and Mike Houston, Adaptrum, presented on TV Whitespace Broadband Technology. For a copy of this presentation, please contact Caroline Luxhoj (caroline.luxhoj@cit.org).

**AEP UPDATE** – A representative from AEP provided an update regarding what AEP is doing to facilitate broadband in rural Virginia. The representative said that AEP is deploying fiber internally to support AEPs grids and business operations. In that work there could be an opportunity to expand that fiber into other places. AEP wants to be in the middle mile space by deploying fiber in their “power space” on poles – it can be cheaper, faster, easier to get services into unserved areas. AEP is doing a feasibility study now, due in December. This is a new model for AEP in Virginia and if they can find a way to work in this space it could be a model for the rest of the county.

**General comments**

LaMura requested an update from VDOT regarding the Fiber Optics study.

Proctor said that the Virginia Rural Center is pulling together a roundtable and will provide more info when available.

The Council did not decide on the next meeting date.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** NONE

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 PM