Broadband Advisory Council

Regular Meeting

July 13, 2015

**TIME AND PLACE:** The Broadband Advisory Council met July 13, 2015 from 1pm to 3pm at the General Assembly Building, House Room C 915 East Broad Street. Richmond, VA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegate Byron, Chairperson

 Delegate Leftwich

 Senator Carrico
 Senator Ruff

 Raina Washington (representing Secretary Jackson)

 Hayes Framme (representing Secretary Jones)
 Sam Towell (representing Secretary Haymore)
 Nadine Slocum (representing Delegate Surovell)

 Duront Walton
 Christy Morton
 Jimmy Carr
 Jane Dittmar

 Terry Ellis (representing Ray LaMura)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Delegate Minchew

**STAFF PRESENT:** Caroline Stolle
 Lisa Wallmeyer

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The council reviewed the May 1, 2015 meeting minutes. Duront Walton motioned to approve the minutes, Senator Ruff seconded. All agreed.

**Education Superhighway findings Presentation–** Andrew Kenny (Education Superhighway) and Gail Warren (DOE) presented on the findings of the AccelerateK-12 assessment. For a copy of the presentation please contact caroline.stolle@cit.org.

* Terry Ellis said that it’s important to remember that partnerships are key between providers and school districts and the results of the assessment reflect that.
* Delegate Byron asked if the goal is to increase capacity at the schools.
* Gail Warren said that that is the goal and that many are not positioned to meet the 2018 goal of 1 Mbps/student.
* Terry Ellis asked if it were correct that some of the schools have the ability to connect but haven’t subscribed.
* Gail Warren said that was correct.
* Christy Morton asked Gail to clarify her statement of all schools have some connectivity and if that meant every school had some connectivity.
* Gail Warren said that is the goal.
* Christy Morton asked if there was a map of the school divisions and their connectivity.
* Gail Warren said there is no map.
* Christy Morton asked if the program offered any assistance with erate filing.
* Gail Warren said that they are trying to disseminate information on erate reforms and to help file more efficiently.
* Jane Dittmar said the problem is the students go home and have no connectivity for homework and asked if the program helped to ensure broadband at home.
* Gail Warren said that the program didn’t start off addressing home connectivity but is moving in that direction through work with local governments.
* Delegate Byron asked with regards to the budget how to weigh access for each school since there are so many different variables meaning different bandwidth requirements.
* Gail Warren said that there is no one size fits all and that they are trying to find an approach that would be beneficial for all school divisions.

**bIP/BTOP Projects economic impact presentation–** Caroline Stolle (CIT) presented on the Broadband Impact Assessment conducted by CIT which outlines for ARRA-funded Virginia providers and an update on their funded infrastructure. For a copy of the presentation please contact caroline.stolle@cit.org.

* Senator Carrico asked about last mile access in Carroll County and Buchannan and if any of the funded infrastructure would address these counties.
* Caroline Stolle said that the Virginia awards were primarily for middle mile but that some providers may be able to achieve last mile as a result of the awards.
* Terry Ellis said that the providers mentioned in the report were just the awarded providers and that there are others available.
* Jimmy Carr said that the federal grants were poorly awarded because many awards paid to overbuild other providers’ infrastructure.

**new member Orientation –** Caroline Stolle (CIT) gave an orientation of the council for the new members and an overview of HB 2207. Lisa Wallmeyer gave an orientation on FOIA requirements. For a copy of the presentation please contact caroline.stolle@cit.org.

* Delegate Byron asked if you call into a meeting from a public place do you have to post that there is a public meeting occurring.
* Lisa Wallmeyer said that DLS would post it on their website.

**Officer Elections** – The council voted on chair and vice chair which is to be done annually.

* Senator Ruff nominated Delegate Byron.
* Senator Carrico seconded.
* Delegate Leftwich motioned to close nominations.
* All agreed.
* Delegate Byron was voted Chairperson.
* Senator Carrico nominated Senator Ruff for Vice Chair.
* Duront Walton seconded.
* Duront Walton motioned to close nominations.
* All agreed.
* Senator Ruff was voted Vice Chairperson.

**member discussion**

* Delegate Byron said that the next BAC meeting will be in September and the council will review HB 2325.
* Lisa Wallmeyer said that JCOTS will be referring a bill to the council for review.
* Senator Carrico said that he will have more information regarding his railroad crossing bill that went to SCC for review.
* Staff will contact SCC regarding railroad crossing bill and the pole attachment bill.

**NO COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:04PM.