UNAPPROVED

Broadband Advisory Council

Regular Meeting

September 22, 2016

**TIME AND PLACE:** The Broadband Advisory Council met September 22, 2016 from 1pm to 3pm at the Capital Building in Richmond, VA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegate Byron, Chairperson

Senator Ruff, Vice Chairperson

Senator Carrico

Delegate Boysko

Delegate Minchew

Delegate Leftwich  
 Sam Towell (representing Secretary Haymore)   
 Ray LaMura

Duront Walton  
 Christy Morton  
 Jimmy Carr  
 Jane Dittmar

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sandie Terry

Jean Plymale

Jeff Sharp

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Senator Carrico motioned to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2016 meeting. Delegate Boysko seconded. All agreed.

**DHCD BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM PRESENTATION**: Bill Shelton, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), presented on DHCD’s new broadband infrastructure grant program. For a copy of the presentation please contact Caroline Luxhoj ([caroline.luxhoj@cit.org](mailto:caroline.luxhoj@cit.org)).

**RURAL TELEHEALTH UPDATE:** Eugene Sullivan, Office of Telemedicine UVA, presented on opportunities in Telehealth for the Commonwealth. For a copy of the presentation please contact Caroline Luxhoj ([caroline.luxhoj@cit.org](mailto:caroline.luxhoj@cit.org)).

**USDA’S BROADBAND FUNDING PROGRAMS:** Matthew Underwood, USDA, discussed the broadband funding opportunities available through the USDA.

* Underwood said that the Community Connect program awarded $10.3 million nationwide last fiscal year. The max award was $3 million.
* USDA also has Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants.

**WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP UPDATE:** Christy Morton, Virginia Rural Center and council member, updated the council on the activities of the Wireless Infrastructure Group.

**RUONLINEVA UPDATE:** Sandie Terry, CIT, provided an update of the RUOnlineVA initiative.

**MEMBER DISCUSSION:**

* Next meeting:
  + The council would like to see the change in coverage over the previous years.
  + The council would like an update regarding the Microsoft/MBC TV Whitespace project.
  + Morton would like to have a robust discussion on policy.
  + Delegate Minchew would like to hear from providers regarding any push back from VDOT regarding HB912.
  + CIT will present the findings and recommendations of the RUOnlineVA initiative.
* Jimmy Carr emphasized the value of CIT’s Path and thanked CIT for the work.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:56PM.