

BROADBAND ADVISORY COUNCIL
 APPROVED MINUTES
 April 28, 2022
 1:00 PM
 Virginia State Capitol Building
 1000 Bank Street, Richmond, VA, 23218
 Virtual Option provided via Google Meet

Members Present

Senator Jennifer Boysko, Chair
 Delegate Kathy Byron, Vice Chair
 Senator Ghazala Hashmi
 Senator Lynwood W. Lewis
 Delegate James Leftwich
 Delegate Thomas Wright, Jr.
 Delegate David Reid
 Secretary Caren Merrick
 Secretary Matt Lohr
 James Carr
 Mike Culp
 Kristie Helmick Proctor
 Casey Logan
 Ray LaMura
 Steve Sandy
 Richard Schollman

Members Absent

None

Call to Order	Senator Jennifer Boysko, Chair of the Broadband Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.
Roll Call	Mrs. Deserae Saunders-Austin, Administrative Assistant at the Office of Broadband, called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.
Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman	<p>Dr. Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Broadband, opened the floor for nominations for Chair to the Council.</p> <p>A motion was made and properly seconded to nominate Senator Jennifer Boysko as Chair. Senator Boysko accepted the nomination.</p> <p>Hearing no further discussion, Dr. Holmes closed the floor to nominations. Senator Boysko was elected Chair (Votes for: Byron, Hashmi, Lewis, Leftwich, Wright, Jr., Reid, Carr, Culp, Proctor,</p>

	<p>Logan, LaMura, Sandy, and Schollman; Abstained: Boysko, Merrick, Lohr).</p> <p>Chair Boysko opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair to the Council.</p> <p>A motion was made properly seconded to nominate Delegate Kathy Byron as Vice Chair.</p> <p>Hearing no further discussion, Chair Boysko closed the floor to nominations. Delegate Byron was elected Vice Chair. (Votes for: Boysko, Byron, Hashmi, Lewis, Leftwich, Wright, Jr., Reid, Carr, Culp, Proctor, Logan, LaMura, Sandy, and Schollman; Abstained: Merrick, Lohr).</p>
Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2022 Meeting	A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2022 meeting of the Broadband Advisory Council. (Votes for: Boysko, Hashmi, Lewis, Leftwich, Carr, Culp, Proctor, Logan, LaMura, Sandy, and Schollman, Merrick, Lohr. Abstained: Byron, Reid, Wright, Jr.).
FY 2023 VATI Proposed Guidelines	Dr. Holmes and Mrs. Tammy Breski, Program Manager at the Office of Broadband presented the summary of changes to the FY 2023 VATI proposed guidelines. The presentation served as the consultation with the Broadband Advisory Council to designate the unserved areas to receive funds as directed by budget legislation concerning the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative within Section L. 4. of Item 114 of Chapter 552, 2021 Acts of Assembly, 2021 Special Session I, commonly known as the Budget Bill.
Office of Broadband Updates	Dr. Holmes presented an overview of the Office of Broadband's activities and programs, including relevant legislation pertaining to broadband related topics passed in the 2022 General Assembly Session. Ms. Grace Wheaton, Senior Policy Analyst at the Department of Housing and Community Development, presented information regarding House Bill 445 and Senate Bill 446, which establishes a stakeholder advisory group to study evaluating local and state policies, procedures, or ordinances to facilitate the expansion of high-speed broadband service and associated infrastructure in new residential and commercial development.
Commonwealth Connection: Virginia's New Broadband Availability Map Presentation	Mr. Brandon Herndon, Director of the Center for Geospatial Information Technology at Virginia Tech presented the Commonwealth Connection: Virginia's New Broadband Availability Map developed through a partnership with the

	Department of Housing and Community Development. The presentation featured an in-depth discussion of the map's data, analysis tools, and practicality for stakeholders.
Remarks from Secretary Caren Merrick, Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade	Secretary Merrick praised DHCD and Virginia Tech's Center for Geospatial Information Technology for the development of the Commonwealth Connection, Virginia's Broadband Availability Map. Secretary Merrick also noted Governor Youngkin's commitment to providing affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband universally across the Commonwealth, citing improved broadband infrastructure will play a crucial role in jumpstarting Virginia's economy, ensuring opportunities across the Commonwealth, and giving all Virginians the resources they need to learn, work and conduct business.
Public Comment	No public comment was provided at the meeting.
New Business	Senator Ghazala Hashmi requested more information on how DHCD keeps legislators and stakeholders informed of Virginia Telecommunication Initiative investments and project development
Adjournment	Upon a motion made and properly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.