

BROADBAND ADVISORY COUNCIL
 UNAPPROVED MINUTES
 January 21, 2022
 2:00 PM
 Virginia State Capitol Building
 1000 Bank Street, Richmond, VA, 23218
 Virtual Option provided via Google Meet

Members Present

Senator Jennifer Boysko, Chair
 James Carr
 Mike Culp
 Senator Ghazala Hashmi
 Kristie Helmick Proctor
 Casey Logan
 Delegate Paul E. Krizek
 Ray LaMura
 Senator Lynwood W. Lewis, Jr.
 Steve Sandy
 Richard Schollman
 Delegate James Leftwich

Members Absent

None

Call to Order	Senator Jennifer Boysko, Chair of the Broadband Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.
Roll Call	Mr. Chandler Vaughan, Broadband Policy Analyst at the Office of Broadband, called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.
Introduction of Guests	Senator Boysko introduced guests in attendance at the meeting, including U.S. Senator Mark Warner, Caren Merrick, Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Bryan Horn, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), Todd Weinstein, the Deputy Director of DHCD and Delegate Suhas Subramanyam. A summary of the comments of each guest which spoke at the meeting is provided below.
Remarks from U.S. Senator Mark Warner	Senator Warner provided remarks regarding the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), including eligible uses of IIJA to address access to broadband infrastructure and affordability of broadband service in the Commonwealth.
Remarks from Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick	Secretary Merrick provided remarks on administration priorities, including broadband access and affordability and economic development and workforce development.
Remarks from Director of DHCD, Bryan Horn	Director Horn provided remarks about the need for ubiquitous access to broadband, citing the example of rural electrification in

	the early 1900s. Director Horn cited Virginia’s nationwide leadership on deploying broadband infrastructure to unserved areas and the need to continue to lead in these efforts.
Remarks from Delegate Suhas Subramanyam	Delegate Subramanyam provided information regarding his proposed legislation and budget language during the 2022 General Assembly Session, including House Bill 1265 and budget amendments: 115 #11h and 115#12h
Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2021 meeting	A motion was made by Delegate Paul E. Krizek and properly seconded by Mr. Mike Culp to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2021 meeting of the Broadband Advisory Council. The motion passed by voice vote, with all members voting in favor.
Office of Broadband Updates	<p>Dr. Tamarah Holmes, Director of the Office of Broadband, presented updates from the Office of Broadband at the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), including the Office’s responsibilities and staffing structure. Dr. Holmes also presented on the recent success of the last round of the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) and the framework of the Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP).</p> <p>Mrs. Tammy Breski, VATI Program Manager with the Office of Broadband, presented on the grants management process of VATI awards, including the reporting process of grantees and internal practices within DHCD to monitor and ensure project compliance.</p>
Statewide Broadband Availability Map Updates	Brandon Herndon, Director of the Center For Geospatial Information Technology at Virginia Tech, presented updates on the data submission process and preliminary maps of the Statewide Broadband Availability Map.
Public Comment	No public comment was provided at the meeting.
New Business	Mr. Culp discussed challenges with legacy telephone companies’ maintenance of wireline telephone networks, discussing that maintenance of these networks is key, especially through the use of emergency services through ‘911.’ Mr. Culp called for the Broadband Advisory Council to seek solutions to address these issues.
Adjournment	Upon a motion made by Mr. Ray LaMura and seconded by Mr. Casey Logan, the meeting was adjourned.