



# COUNTY OF BEDFORD, VIRGINIA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
122 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 202  
BEDFORD, VIRGINIA 24523

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

H. ALLEN BOAZ, JR.  
CHARLES CALLOWAY  
DARREL C. CAMPBELL  
BILL GUZEK  
EDWARD H. HOISINGTON  
GREG MODEZELEWSKI  
LEE WALKER  
KEVIN MELE

## BROADBAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### **Broadband Advisory Committee meeting 6/13/2019**

#### **Attendees:**

Robert Hiss (County Administrator), Traci Blido (County Econ Dev. Dir.), George Condyles (The Atlantic Group - Consultant), John Barret (The Atlantic Group), Anthony Smith (Blue Ridge Towers), Robert Smith (Blue Ridge Towers), Sean Cai (Blue Ridge Towers), Warner Hall (Brisnet), Charles Calloway (BCPS), Andy Dooley (BOS), Ed Hoisington (BCPS), Greg Modzelewski (Broadband Advisory Committee), Darrell Campbell (Broadband Advisory Committee), Lee Walker (Broadband Advisory Committee), Edgar Tuck (BOS), William Guzek (Broadband Advisory Committee), and Jordan Mitchell (County Planning Department).

In the absence of Chairman Allen Boaz, County Administrator Robert Hiss kicked off the meeting and suggested we may want to approve previous meeting minutes in the future. It was felt it was not needed. A meeting with SCS and County Attorney (Patrick Skelley) will be held the first part of July to review the contract.

Lee Walker raised the need to begin reviewing/installing repeater towers for Goose Creek and Sheep Creek. Lee will be pursuing additional funding from the Broadband Authority. George Condyles shared that the technology used by Blue Ridge and SCS is different. This topic was raised at the end of meeting again and Anthony Smith agreed to get back to Andy Dooley within the next few weeks to address where relay poles could go and costs.

Mr. Hiss turned the meeting over to George, who thanked Traci for her efforts on the Ground Breaking event. Traci shared with the committee her concept paper which outlined who would speak and the order of events for June 19, 2019 at Big Island Elementary School at 10:30 a.m. Traci will be sending out a press release on the Ground Breaking today.

Charles Calloway will be making Wi-Fi available at the Ground Breaking. Anthony will be handling the logistics such as water, chairs, tent, signs, etc.

George said he and Robert, Traci, Allen and Del. Kathy Byron had met with River Street Networks, a North Carolina company that installs fiber and has identified an area in Bedford that is eligible for some federal funds through their resources. There was a question as to whether Bedford County would need to assist with funding in order to access those federal funds and the answer seemed to be that it would have to provide some assistance if it were to be installed later. While their plans for Bedford are a year or more from now, George plans to stay in connect with them just in case there are any synergies that we need to address later.

Virginia DHCD (VATI) staff has agreed to allow Bedford to replace Dumping Mtn. with the Landfill. They are requiring a 30-day challenge period. It is felt this will not have a negative effect on the project.

Anthony and Sean reviewed their project status report with advisory members (see attached Blue Ridge Towers Report). After some discussion, Anthony agreed to share propagation maps with committee members, but asked that it not be shared outside the committee. Blue Ridge is working with T-Mobile to secure an agreement to be

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on the Big Island tower. The two towers to be built in Big Island will have an increase in cost due the soil type in Big Island requiring additional foundation support. Anthony and Charles will work together to ensure that appropriate safety measures are taken at Big Island Elementary during tower construction.

Mr. Hiss had a meeting with BRWA board as it relates to BRWA properties for this project. Work is still needed to resolve issues in the use of BRWA properties.

George briefed the committee on the grant money from the TRRC in which Traci indicated that Del. Kathy Byron played a key role in Bedford getting the grant money.

Traci reviewed the agreement with Adaptrum on TV Whitespace and discussed the MOU between the county and Adaptrum. The committee agreed that the agreement was fair to proceed.

A community meeting in West Crossing was held with Shentel and residents in the Forest community. Jordan Mitchell and George Condyles attended as there could be opportunities to work together in the future to build out areas such as that one. Options for potential grants or citizen payments to offset costs were discussed.

George is looking to hold a meeting in the next 30 to 60 days on a New System for Troubleshooting. He presented to the group a brief overview and handouts on this. No company has responded to the county RFP for management. Blue Ridge felt their initial RFP which included this was all that was needed. There was some discussion that they needed to respond to the management RFP separately. Edgar is going to follow-up how this needs to be addressed.

Next meeting will be held July 11 at 10 a.m., again in Main Floor Training Room.

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