

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BROADBAND AUTHORITY MEETING HELD THEIR REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING ON MONDAY, APRIL 2021 AT 3:00 P.M., IN ROOM B75 ROOM LOCATED IN THE FRANKLIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, 1255 FRANKLIN STREET, SUITE 104, ROCKY MOUNT, VIRGINIA.

THERE WERE PRESENT:

Mike Carter  
Tommy Cundiff  
Leland Mitchell, Chairman  
Ronald Mitchell  
Lorie Smith, Vice- Chairman  
Tim Tatum  
Ronnie Thompson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Christopher Whitlow, County Administrator  
Michael Burnette, Assistant County Administrator  
Steve Sandy, Assistant County Administrator  
Jim Guynn, Legal Counsel  
Madeline L. Sefcik, CMC, Clerk

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Chairman Mitchell, called the meeting to order.

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**(RESOLUTION #01-04-2021)**

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Broadband Authority to approve the March 16, 2021 as presented.

MOTION BY: Tommy Cundiff

SECONDED BY: Tim Tatum

VOTING ON THE MOTION WAS AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Carter, Cundiff, L. Mitchell, R. Mitchell, Smith, Tatum, Thompson

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**CURRENT FIXED WIRELESS PROJECT UPDATES –  
STEVEN SANDY, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
BLUE RIDGE TOWERS – ANTHONY SMITH  
BRISCNET – JOHN MANNING**

Mr. Manning, Briscnet, gave an update to the Board and stated the Scruggs tower has been installed and current has two users.

Supervisor Smith brought a concerned citizen's email to Briscnet's attention and questioned if the Broadband decision was made to only use "line of sight" way of providing broadband. Mr. Manning provided that this was not a line-of-sight decision, and this is something their representative at Briscnet got incorrect when explaining to the citizen. The fixed wireless network is using CBS technology.

Blue Ridge Towers spoke to the Authority and gave an update on their sites.

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**COMMENTS BY AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

Supervisor Thompson asked about the status of the Windy Gap tower. Briscnet spoke and let the Authority know they have met with the homeowners' associations and have started to identify different locations.

Supervisor R. Mitchell asked why the Board of Supervisors is also the Broadband Authority? Chairman Mitchell responded by saying this was the way the Authority was founded and has stayed the same since it was created. Supervisor Smith said she believes the Authority should be expanded and include more expertise. Supervisor Thompson also stated he would like to see an advisory committee or something to help advise the Authority.

Chairman Mitchell suggested that we wait for a month for Mr. Sandy to compile a plan of how to choose the potential advisory committee model and also how these members would be picked. The Authority would like to also have representation for the entire County. Supervisor Cundiff stated that he does not like this idea.

*Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting.*