

# ROANOKE VALLEY BROADBAND AUTHORITY

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## **BOARD MEMBERS:**

*Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke  
Gary Larrowe, Botetourt County  
Michael T. McEvoy, Citizen  
Richard Caywood, Roanoke County  
James Taliaferro, II, City of Salem  
Dr. Scott Midkiff, Virginia Tech  
Keith Perry, Carilion*

The July 15, 2022 Board Meeting of the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority was held on at 8:30 a.m. @ 601 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 110, Roanoke , Va. 24011.

## **1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ROLL CALL**

Chairman McEvoy called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Roll was called by Secretary Ms. Tywanii Ross. All Board members were present with the exception of Mr. Gary Larrowe, Botetourt County, and a quorum was established.

Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority Board Members: *Present:* Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke; Mr. Mike McEvoy, Citizen; Mr. Jay Taliaferro, City of Salem; Dr. Scott Midkiff, Virginia Tech, and Mr. Keith Perry, Carilion

## **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Broadband Authority Staff: Mr. Frank M. Smith II, President & CEO, Mr. James Bandy, Director of Network Operations; Ms. Tywanii Ross, Business Operations Administrator.

Others: Mr. Sam Darby, Glenn Feldmann Darby & Goodlatte; Mr. Matthew Shaughnessy, Wallace 360.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

The May 20, 2022 and the June 15, 2022 minutes were presented. Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke wanted to make some corrections that Mr. Richard Caywood, Roanoke County was present in the May 20, 2022 and seconded the motion to go into closed session. The correction was noted and made. The motion was made by Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke to accept the provisions and seconded by Mr. Richard Caywood, Roanoke County. Both sets of minutes were approved with a voice vote 6-1 (Mr. Gary Larrowe, Botetourt County who is absent).

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Frank Smith gave an overview of the financial statements for May and June 2022. The RVBA finished out the year at 103% of what the goal was. Mr. Frank Smith thanked the team for all their hard work. Numbers provided by Ms. Janet Goldstein with Brown Edwards. No questions from the Board, the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

**4. Project Updates**

Mr. Frank Smith discussed the Strategic Plan and the next steps. A slide presentation was presented to the Board as a recap. Things are going great. Taking a look at the 5- & 10-year plan. Working with the National Science Foundation Grant, Carilion, Virginia Tech and CHIP, working for a stronger Community Engagement. We are in the process of bringing different players to the table, taking a look at the Infrastructure to support the application. Taking a look at different communities like Belmont-Fallon Park, and replicate it as we move forward across the valley. The Grant team is formed and we are in the application process. Which is working really well. Strategic Planning meeting which will be held on October 25, 2022, the research will be done before we have this meeting and at that time will be presented to the Board. Mr. Keith Perry, Carilion had a question of how accurate do you think you can be so far out when technology is moving so fast. Mr. Frank Smith stated that we have to be able to know where we are going and our future plans, and it at least needs to be talked about. The scope of what we can plan for narrows but in 5 years it will change so, we talk about what the RVBA's part will be in the localities. This is the early stages. FY 23 we have a Grant Writer on hand Mr. John Schoenbaum. We will be working on VATI Grants that are due August 25, 2022. We are also working with Connect Humanity who will help fund some of our projects. The FY 2021 Audit is complete it was Non- Qualified. The settlement agreement with Botetourt County and all required information that was needed by the RVBA has been provided.

**5. Other Business**

The election of Chair- Chair McEvoy asked if anyone was interested in the position? A slate was proposed by Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke, that Mr. Jay Taliaferro, City of Salem, serve as Chair; Mr. Richard Caywood, Roanoke County serve as Vice Chair; Mr. McEvoy, Citizen, serve as Treasure; and Ms. Ross, RVBA serve as the Secretary. Continuity for Mr. McEvoy to stay on to serve as Treasure to continue to sign checks on behalf of the RVBA. No discussion was needed and seconded by Mr. Richard Caywood, Roanoke County. Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke thanked Mr. McEvoy for serving in the capacity that he did for all this time, also stating what a valuable part of the Board that Mr. McEvoy is. Mr. Jay Taliaferro, City of Salem agreed.

The roll was called by Ms. Ross, all Board members in agreement with the slate of positions presented by Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke. No other questions at this time, the next Board meeting will be September 16, 2022 @ 8:30 a.m..

**6. Closed Session**

Mr. McEvoy asked for a motion to go into Closed Session. Mr. Richard Caywood, Roanoke County made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke. The roll was called by Ms. Ross, Secretary, all were in agreement that were present.

**7. End Closed Session and Reconvene to Regular Meeting**

Motion requested by Mr. McEvoy, to come out of Closed Session and return to regular meeting. Motion made by Dr. Midkiff, Virginia Tech and seconded by Mr. Richard Caywood, County of Roanoke. A motion was requested by Mr. McEvoy to certify the Closed Session, motion was made by Mr. Taliaferro, City of Salem, and seconded by Mr. Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke. No discussion needed, roll called by Ms. Ross. No other business to discuss. Meeting adjourned @ 9:31 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by Tywanii Ross  
Secretary to the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority