



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION

7:30 PM, Wednesday, November 20, 2013
3rd Floor Conference Room
Courthouse Plaza (2100 Clarendon Blvd.)

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance:

- Chair:** Joseph Pelton, Chair
- Vice Chair:** Frank Jazzo
- ITAC Members Present:** Larry Mayer
Sal d'Itri
Martha Moore
Anita Nolen
Phil Caughran
Kenneth Cohn
- Members Not Present:** Kevin Robins
Ben Faatz
Tyler Carlin
Kevin Robins
Mary Crannell
- County/Schools Staff:** Jack Belcher, CIO
Rob Billingsley, Cable Administrator
- Guests:** Stephen Tom, ICF
Lea Deesing, Chief Innovation Officer, Riverside, CA (by Telephone)
Pat Hohl, P.E. Electric Engineering Manager, Riverside, CA (by Telephone)
- Cable Company Representatives:** Marie Schuler, Comcast
Donna Selden, Verizon
Linc Janus, Verizon (by Telephone)

1. Meeting called to order by Joe Pelton, ITAC Chair

7:30 pm; Quorum Present. Meeting Agenda adopted.

2. Public Comment None.

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting and Agenda: Minutes of September and October 2013 meetings approved.

4. Administrative and Other Issues:

- The Commission now has a full complement. The Chair mentioned Benjamin Faatz and Carlin Tyler as newly appointed members.
- The next meeting in December) will be in Rm. 311 on the third floor in Courthouse Plaza Building at 2100 Clarendon Blvd.
- The Resolution for In-Building Wireless (IBW) was adopted by the Board, and Arlington Public Schools representatives concurred with the resolution.
- The CIO reported that he accompanied County Fire, Building and Police Chiefs to Chesterfield County where they met with the Virginia Building Association of building officials to discuss the addition of requirements for IBW in the Virginia Building Code. It will take a couple of years for the recommendation to be evaluated and approved. The Latitude complex developers agreed in the last Board Meeting to accept the IBW requirements.

5. Legislative Updates: Vice Chair, Frank Jazzo, provided the following:

- FCC Chairman nominee Tom Wheeler and FCC Commissioner nominee Mike O’Rielly have now been confirmed by the Senate. Both have been sworn in and have taken office.
- The FCC’s Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau scheduled a workshop to be held on October 2, 2013, on E911 Phase II Location Accuracy, which was rescheduled and held on November 18, 2013. FCC Chairman Wheeler noted the importance of this initiative.
- The FCC was to host a Cybersecurity Technology Forum in Recognition of Cybersecurity Awareness Month on October 1, 2013, which was rescheduled and held on November 12, 2013.
- FCC Chairman Wheeler announced that the FCC plans to vote on an Order at its January meeting addressing the IP Transition of the public switched telephone network. FCC Commissioner Pai commented favorably on this announcement.

- FCC Chairman Wheeler announced that Rear Admiral David Simpson, who was most recently vice director of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), will be the new Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.
- The FCC unveiled the FCC Speed Test app for Android smartphones so consumers, free of charge, can monitor their own mobile broadband speeds.
- Cable operators lost 687,000 subscribers during the third quarter of 2013, which was not offset by the gain of 574,000 new subscribers to satellite and phone company video services, resulting in a net loss of 113,000 pay TV subscribers for the quarter.
- Centennial and Longmont, Colorado held ballot initiatives on whether to expand their fiber networks to reach more residents.
- The FCC is seeking comment on the NPSTC report in order to spur greater use of the 4.9 GHz band for public safety communications.
- The FCC adopted technical rules for use of the public safety spectrum licensed to FirstNet, which should facilitate deployment of equipment for use by FirstNet.
- In locations where text-to-911 capability is not available, covered text message providers were to provide an automatic "bounce-back" message starting Sept. 30, 2013.
- The FCC adopted rules to address concerns related to call completion problems and reliable long distance service to Rural America.

6. Special Program with Riverside California

- After an introduction by Stephen Tom of the Intelligent Communities Foundation, (ICF), Lea Deesing, Chief Innovation Officer and Pat Hohl, P.E. Electric Engineering Manager of Riverside, CA provided a presentation on how broadband communications and WiFi has developed in their community. [Presentation slides available on ITAC Webpage]. The ITAC Members asked several questions.
- The Chair asked about SCADA issues, and Ms. Deesing noted their use of security audits. Member Caughran asked about measuring or evaluating cost benefits of fiber and/or WiFi. Ms. Deesing described the benefits of alleviating costs through subsidizing the reduction of the digital divide. Mr. Hohl stated that fiber has had some cost avoidance benefit. Riverside is not using "smart meters" for reading the usage of residential energy meters via the fiber. Riverside is leading the communities in its region for economic development, but have not yet established a link between that and broadband development.

7. Cable Administrator’s Report (Mr. Billingsley)

- The Cable Administrator noted that negotiations with Comcast continue and that no public hearing by the ITAC is expected to be needed in the short term. A resolution to extend the Comcast agreement another 12 months to the end of 2014 will be offered to the Board for adoption on December 14, 2013.
- The Chair requested a report on progress of Verizon FiOS buildout to MDUs, County Buildings and School facilities.
- Marie Schuler of Comcast provided information about offering free phone calls to the areas in the Philippines affected by the recent storms until the end of November 2013.

8. ConnectArlington Status and Telecommunications Master Plan (Billingsley)

- The Cable Administrator provided details about ConnectArlington’s first stage of 50 sites that are in various stages of completion. At this point, 34 of 50 sites are connected to their endpoint buildings. The remaining 16 sites are in various stages of completion. Some sites are still in other stages of development and testing. Approximately 48 of the 50 sites should be completed in early Winter 2013-2014.
- An RFP for completing Phase 3 of the (Intelligent Traffic System) ITS will be released within a few months to provide the backbone system supporting the “last mile connections” to the County Buildings and Schools.
- Funding for the remaining Phase 3 of ITS and Stage 2 of the last mile connections are coming from various sources – Federal, State, and Local.
- The Cable Administrator described the history leading up to the development of ConnectArlington, and agreed to put a link from the ITAC web page to the ConnectArlington webpage.

9. Initiatives Stemming from Interchanges with Dublin, Ohio, Riverside, CA, and Stockholm, Sweden (Pelton and Caughran). None discussed.

10. Status of Joint Working Group on IT Services with the Schools

- The Chair and Vice-Chair of the ITAC, as well as the CIO and Cable Administrator met with representatives of the Arlington Public Schools technology committee on November 20, 2013.
- The Chair reviewed the several items discussed at the meeting to include: publicizing locations where community members may use broadband communications, virtual high schools, and adult education/training.
- The Chair and Matt Smith, Special Projects Officer for APS will continue to flesh out these ideas.

11. New Arlington IT Systems Initiative. Draft White Papers on Economic Development, and IT, and on Community Security and IT and on Education.

- Two papers have been drafted, one on economic development and one on security. The Chair will be adding something to the economic development paper before it is circulated for review by ITAC members.
- The hope is that working with the Joint Committee with APS will lead to a paper on education, as well.
- Arlington is in the “top 21” of the ICF.

12. Discussion of a future program for ITAC on business services by carriers in Arlington (Moore and Belcher)

- Member Moore requested presentations by Verizon and Comcast on what services are available to businesses in Arlington, VA. Other service providers may follow.
- The Cable Administrator agreed to coordinate with the companies on these presentations.

13. New Business

- Member Moore related her experiences with the Verizon Emergency Alert System. She saw a Verizon EAS that did not seem to be relevant to Arlington County. It was about four individuals in the North Anna Nuclear Plant area and broadcast at a high audio volume level. She feels that these should be confined to the geographic region related to the message.
- Her concern is that if subscribers see too many irrelevant messages, they will begin to ignore them, even if they are relevant.
- Additional testing by Verizon affects DVR processes, as well.

14. Adjournment: 9:20 pm