



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 314, Arlington, VA 22201

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION**

7:30 PM, Wednesday, January 29, 2014  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Azalea Conference Room  
Courthouse Plaza (2100 Clarendon Blvd.)

### **MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance:

**Chair:** Joseph Pelton

**Vice Chair:** Frank Jazzo

**ITAC Members Present:** Larry Mayer  
Anita Nolen  
Phil Caughran  
Kenneth Cohn  
Ben Faatz  
Kevin Robins  
Tyler Carlin  
Martha Moore  
Jeanny Shu Ho

**Members Not Present:** Sal d'Itri  
Mary Crannell

**County/Schools Staff:** Jack Belcher, CIO  
Jack Brown, OEM Director  
Rob Billingsley, Cable Administrator  
Matt Smith, Special Projects, APS  
Cheryl Johnson, Cable Office

**Cable Company Representatives:** Marie Schuler, Comcast  
Louise Anderson, Verizon  
Donna Selden, Verizon  
Mohammed Shatat, Comcast  
Jonathan Morse

**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:** Minutes of December 2013 meeting were approved.

**4. Administrative and Other Issues:**

- Jack Brown of the Office of Emergency Management and Jack Belcher, Arlington CIO, announced the beginning of a study by a consultant, Winbourne Consulting, LLC. The decision was made by several directors of Arlington County Departments to take a critical look at public safety related information systems and processes. When the final report and plan are completed, they will be presented first to the County Manager.
- The Commission now has a full complement. The Chair mentioned that while he and the Vice Chair were recently approved for renewal by the Board, it is likely that new leadership will be sought for a term starting in 2015.
- While a new schedule is being formulated for ITAC with regular meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month, the Commission will probably continue to skip one meeting in the Summer and have November and December meetings on the third Wednesdays to avoid conflicts with holiday events.
- The Cable Administrator showed the final version of the new ITAC webpage which has gone “live.” Comments from ITAC members on the content or layout of the page are welcome.
- The Chair announced that the ITAC charter needs to be reformatted to the new template that the County Board Office has created for all advisory groups. The Chair and Cable Administrator, Billingsley, will meet in the next week to review how the current charter, a.k.a. charge, will be converted to the new format.
- The Chair also introduced a YouTube presentation of the recent announcement by the Intelligent Community Forum that Arlington was nominated to the “ICF Top 7” international finalists for the Intelligent Community of 2014 award.

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

- The US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit struck down the core “anti-blocking” and “anti-discrimination” elements of the FCC’s Net Neutrality rules. The FCC’s authority to regulate Internet traffic management was upheld. The FCC is still mulling its next steps, whether to appeal to the Supreme Court, reformulate the rules or reclassify Internet traffic as a common carrier service.

- Cities expressed concern over tower siting rules proposed by the FCC to facilitate the deployment of distributed antenna systems (DAS) and small cells because local authority to determine how properties are utilized is limited.
- The Department of Energy abandoned efforts to regulate the energy efficiency of set-top boxes and network equipment. MVPDs and their box suppliers reached a voluntary agreement with advocacy groups to improve energy efficiency.
- On Jan. 30, the FCC will consider an item to facilitate diverse technology (IP) transitions experiments to examine how best to preserve values consumers have come to expect from communications networks.
- On Jan. 30, the FCC will consider a Policy Statement and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to facilitate deployment of text-to-911 and other Next Generation 911 technologies.
- On Jan. 30 the FCC will receive an update on the timeline for the television spectrum incentive auction, which is now slated to be held in 2015.

**6. Cable Administrator's Report (Mr. Billingsley) Cable Television Updates**

- Status of Verizon implementation for MDUs and for County and School Buildings – At the time of the meeting Verizon had not completed compiling its data for County and School Buildings, and the Cable Administrator had not received the data from Verizon in time to present progress on multiple dwelling unit installation progress. However, the technical service statistics of calls received by the County, and service calls reported by the companies were reported. In general, the year over year quarterly problem reports have decreased significantly.
- Quarterly report on Cable TV Service – The Cable Administrator hopes to have all the necessary data from both Verizon and Comcast, as well as County records to make this report at the next ITAC meeting.
- New developments re Comcast Franchise—There is nothing new to report except that the County Board approved an extension of the agreement to December 31, 2013 at their December meeting. County and Comcast continue exchange of information and meetings.

**7. ConnectArlington Status and Telecommunications Master Plan (Billingsley)**

- The Cable Administrator provided details about ConnectArlington's first stage of 50 County and Arlington Public School sites that are in various stages of completion. At this point, 40 of 50 sites are connected to their endpoint buildings. An upcoming site to be completed is the Education that serves as the "nerve center" for communicating to all the schools, and that will activate all the connections to the schools that have been

connected in this phase. Two schools have been delayed due to other construction at those sites. Approximately 48 of the 50 sites should be completed in early Winter 2014. This represents about 28 miles of the final total of nearly 50 miles when all sites are eventually connected.

- Member Moore asked if ConnectArlington would also serve as a network for “red light cameras.” Red light cameras are used in Arlington, Alexandria, the City of Fairfax, Vienna, and Falls Church – but not currently in Fairfax County.
- Member Mayer asked if ConnectArlington would also connect to non-Governmental non-profit organizations. The CIO said the County was not empowered to provide “retail broadband services.”

#### **8. Presentations of Communications Services Available to Businesses in Arlington**

- Mohammed Shatat, Comcast, presented the various broadband services available for small, medium and large businesses for telephone and data services. Comcast has penetrated about 30% of the business customers in Arlington.
- In previous meetings, ITAC requested that Comcast and Verizon come to an ITAC meeting and present what they make available to businesses in Arlington. Several ITAC members have been approached about what services are available for businesses. Verizon will present their services for businesses in Arlington at the March meeting of ITAC.

#### **9. Emergency Service for Battery Powered Telecommunications Customers**

- Battery packs for Verizon FiOS systems have been failing due to age, etc., and customers do not seem to be aware of the limited life of the power source.
- The nature of fiber based services demands user end power and power backup either with batteries or other generator or backup power systems.
- The ITAC agreed that what is most important is for residents to have fuller information about the life of batteries, and sources for replacement.
- The Chair recommended that ITAC work with EPAC to look into finding and publishing better advice to the public on the vulnerabilities and recommendations.

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

- The Chair mentioned how this group continues to meet to discuss: virtual high schools to save tax dollars, and other advanced programs for high school students through local higher education resources. Matt Smith, Special Projects for APS, stated that some good discussions had already begun in the last meeting of the JWG. The Chair has circulated a paper on these ideas and seeks input from ITAC members, and mentioned that the next JWG meeting is on February 5, 2014,

#### **11. Adjournment:** 9:20 pm