



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION

7:30 PM, Wednesday, September 24, 2014
1st Floor Azalea Conference Room
Courthouse Plaza (2100 Clarendon Blvd.)

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance:

Chair: Joseph Pelton

Vice Chair: Frank Jazzo

ITAC Members Present: Kevin Robins
Kenneth Cohn
Martha Moore
Anita Nolen
Mary Crannell
Phil Caughran

Members Not Present: Larry Mayer
Ben Faatz
Sal d'Itri
Tyler Carlin

County/Schools Staff: Jack Belcher, CIO
Rob Billingsley, Cable Administrator

Cable Company Representatives: Louise Anderson, Verizon
Marie Schuler, Comcast

Members of the Public: Kevin Minsky

1. **Meeting called to order by Joe Pelton, ITAC Chair**
7:30 pm; Quorum Present. Meeting Agenda adopted informally.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:** Minutes of the June 2014 and July 2014 meetings were approved, and no changes were recommended.

4. Administrative and Other Issues:

- A new member, Robert James Schill, recently appointed to replace Jeanny Shu Ho for a full ITAC membership complement, introduced himself to the ITAC.
- The Chair reviewed the progress of the ITAC Resolution on Verizon FiOS power issues. A filing was drafted and filed by the Vice Chair, Frank Jazzo, with the FCC. A draft resolution has been circulated.
- The Chair proposed that the November ITAC Meeting be held November 20, 2014 if an alternative room was available. [this meeting date and time was changed later by the Chair to stay November
- Regarding the Joint Task Force with the County Schools for technology, the Chair mentioned that he had no further word from his contacts at APS. The Chair, Vice Chair, Jack Belcher, CIO, and Rob Billingsley, Cable Administrator will be meeting in October with Board Member Jay Fissette and will discuss this as part of the ITAC leadership transition discussions.
- The Chair announced that the Arthur C. Clark awards would be taking place at the Artisphere in Rosslyn, November 19, 2014. The awards will be for significant accomplishments in advanced technology.

5. Legislative Updates: Vice Chair, Frank Jazzo, provided the following by email before the meeting and was distributed by Member Mayer in hard copy at the meeting:

- At its August 8, 2014 Open Meeting, the FCC adopted a Second Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that establishes deadlines for covered interconnected (OTT) text providers to be capable of delivering texts to appropriate 911 PSAPs and seeks comment on potential improvements to current text-to-911 technology.
- A recent Broadview Networks study showed that Virginia has the fastest average Internet service in the country at 13.7 Mbps.
- Verizon announced that it is rolling out SpeedMatch, an instant free upgrade to symmetric services for small and mid-sized businesses (“SMBs”) buying FiOS Internet service.
- Marriott International reported that all of its owned and managed hotels nationwide allow direct 911 dialing. Over 75% of its franchised hotels offer direct 911 dialing, with increases expected.
- At its July meeting, the FCC voted to modernize the E-Rate program and to expand support for WiFi connectivity for schools and libraries. The FCC has now released State

Connectivity Profiles providing an overview of how schools and libraries purchase Internet access, WAN connections and internal connections.

- The FCC established a pleading cycle for petitions filed by Wilson, NC, and Chattanooga, TN, requesting the FCC to preempt laws in their states that restrict certain municipal broadband networks.
- Tuscaloosa, AL, reports a 44 mile fiber network, which it is working to expand and optimize.
- New Haven, West Hartford, and Stamford, CT, announced that they are seeking to develop ultra-high-speed gigabit Internet networks.

6. Cable Administrator's Report

- The Cable Administrator presented the periodic report on Verizon FiOS buildout progress for Multiple Dwelling Units to include the steps that a building goes through to obtain the service. Verizon has built out to 81% of the County.
- The Cable Administrator, CIO, and Network Manager toured the Shirlington area (Campbell Avenue) for strength of signal for Arlington Wireless connections to broadband. The detected a wide variety of strength and presence due to the store owner-supplied equipment. The County will soon complete an upgrade to the antennas and performance in Shirlington by the end of September 2014.
- The CIO would like to do something to bring all wifi connections in Shirlington to a standard effective level.
- There is nothing to report on the Comcast negotiations

7. ConnectArlington Status and Telecommunications Master Plan

- The Cable Administrator and CIO reported on the progress of the “last mile” connections for ConnectArlington linking about half of the County buildings and Schools to a fiber network. The Schools network is centered out of the Education Center on N. Quincy, but APS has not yet integrated their network with the new fiber. There was additional discussion about APS participation in preparedness for ConnectArlington. The Chair expressed some disappointment on the progress of APS use of the network, and that it was his understanding that APS was on board with ConnectArlington.
- For the additional fiber for ConnectArlington 2.0 for economic development is waiting on an order due in the next couple of months and modification of “handholes” to accommodate the additional fiber. The fiber licensing agreements are still under development and review. The ITAC may need to have a resolution regarding ConnectArlington 2.0.

8. **Emergency Communications Services and Sustainability of Network Services** (i) Resolution concerning new Verizon battery pack for emergency restoration of service; (ii) discussion of emergency power systems for VOIP telecommunications (iii) Text 911 implementation planning; (iv) Next Gen 911 (v) Liaison with EPAC on these matters

- The Chair read the Resolution into the Record, see attached. Member Moore made a motion for the ITAC to approve the resolution, and Member Crannell seconded, motion approved unanimously.
- ITAC discussed the availability of the Verizon alternative solution, and that they consider it a national issue, and not just limited to the County's concerns, especially for mobility challenged individuals.
- Along with the NG 911 and Text 911 is considered by the Chair to be a high priority issues.
- Chair also indicated that EPAC is interested, but only want to be kept informed of ITAC efforts regarding the emergency communications issues.

9. **Adjournment:** 8:45 pm

ITAC Resolution Concerning Emergency Communications

The IT Advisory Commission, after being briefed on the new emergency battery system for telecommunications services restoration as developed by Verizon, would like to endorse its implementation as soon as possible. If these new units could be made available at Verizon mobile stores and at the lowest possible cost and reduced shipping and handling this would be seen as showing Verizon's commitment to sustainability of service. The IT Advisory Commission would also support Comcast implementing a parallel system for power restoration for telecommunications service during outages.