

## Approved Minutes

A regular meeting of the Albemarle County Broadband Authority was held on February 10, 2025. The meeting was held in room 241 of the Albemarle County Office Building located at 401 McIntire Road.

PRESENT: Mr. Bucky Walsh, Mr. Waldo Jaquith, Mr. Jim Andrews, Mr. Mike Pruitt, Mr. Trevor Henry, Mr. Bill Fritz

ABSENT: None

Also Present: Ms. Lauren Bohdan (Senior Assistant County Attorney), and Mr. Jason Inofuentes (Program Manager, Broadband Accessibility and Affordability Office).

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Agenda Item No. 1. Establish Quorum and Call to Order.

Mr. Walsh established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

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Agenda Item No. 2 Approval of Agenda

Mr. Walsh **moved** to approve the agenda.

The motion was **approved** unanimously.

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Agenda Item No. 3 Brief Announcements from the Board

Mr. Jaquith noted that he is no longer with the U.S. Treasury Department which removes any possible conflict of interest.

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Agenda Item No. 4 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

There were no members of the public present for the meeting.

There were three virtual attendees.

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Agenda Item No. 5 Consent Agenda

Agenda Item No. 5a Financial Report (information only)

Mr. Henry **moved** to approve the consent agenda.

Mr. Andrews **seconded** the motion.

The motion was **approved** unanimously.

## Approved Minutes

### Agenda Item No. 6 Approval of December 10, 2024 meeting Minutes

Mr. Andrews **moved** to approve the minutes.

Mr. Henry **seconded** the motion.

The motion was **approved** unanimously.

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### Agenda Item No. 7 Old Business

#### Agenda Item No. 7a VATI 2021 Update

Mr. Inofuentes shared a PowerPoint presentation. (Attached to these minutes)

Mr. Inofuentes stated that he was working to resolve service wot an address that was included to be served but is not receiving service.

#### Agenda Item No. 7b VATI 2022 Update

Mr. Inofuentes shared a PowerPoint presentation. (Attached to these minutes)

Mr. Andrews noted that there have been issues with using the County's GIS to determine where easements and property lines exist. The lines in GIS do not always match what is in the field.

#### Agenda Item No. 7c BAAO update

Mr. Inofuentes shared a PowerPoint presentation. (Attached to these minutes)

Mr. Pruitt asked for confirmation that any federal funds for VATI 2002 is with DHCD.

Mr. Inofuentes stated the funds are with DHCD.

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### Agenda Item No. 8 New Business

#### Agenda Item No. 8a Consideration of Request for BEAD Letters of Support

Mr. Inofuentes shared a PowerPoint presentation. (Attached to these minutes)

Mr. Inofuentes stated that Comcast was recommended for support by BAAO.

Mr. Inofuentes stated that BAAO had no recommendation for Amazon Kuiper.

## Approved Minutes

Mr. Jaquith stated he could support Comcast expansion because they already have service in the area. Amazon Kuiper has no satellites and does not provide any service. Mr. Jaquith stated he does not want to support the Amazon Kuiper request.

Mr. Pruitt asked if we could ask Comcast to commit to a service time.

Mr. Inofuentes stated that he doesn't know when the money will be available which makes it difficult to determine when work could start.

Mr. Walsh noted that all the County's support does is add some points to an application that is decided on by someone else.

Mr. Walsh **moved** to support the Comcast proposal and not the Amazon Kuiper proposal.

The motion was **approved** unanimously.

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### Agenda Item No. 9 Other Matters

There was no discussion.

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### Agenda Item No. 10 Adjourn

Mr. Walsh **moved** to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 5:34.

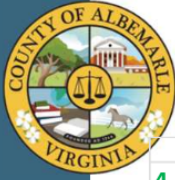
## CONSENT AGENDA

### **5. FOR APPROVAL (by recorded vote):**

**No items**

### **5. (Information Only)**

#### **5.a Financial Report (Information Only)**



# ABBA Financial Report

Update: 02/03/2025

**4-4300-91097-491097-950030-9999 (EXPENSE CODE)**

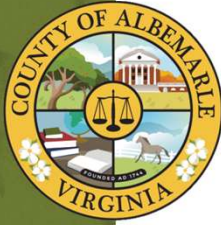
**BROADBAND INCENTIVES>ALBEMARLE BROADBAND AUTHORITY**

	Original budget	Encumbrances	Expenditures	Balance
VATI 22	\$4,500,000.00	\$ 2,890,138.12	\$1,522,861.88	\$1,367,276.24
VATI 21	\$2,916,110.00	\$2,916,110.00	\$560,141.00	\$2,355,969.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,416,110.00</b>	<b>\$5,806,248.12</b>	<b>\$2,083,002.88</b>	<b>\$3,723,245.24</b>

**Notes:**

VATI 2021: Brightspeed has submitted invoices totaling the agreed upon sum of \$2,568,117.14, including the ABBA share that is currently being processed. BAAO will submit to DHCD a reimbursement request for \$2,007,976.14, representing all but the 10% retainage which is to be held until final closeout. Final close out will occur 30 days after submitting a revised close out report.

VATI 2022 Expenditures include payment of 15 invoices to TJPDC totaling \$1,522,861.88 and the transfer of \$87,000 to the ARPA Grant Project (BAAO)



# Albemarle Broadband Authority

February 10, 2025

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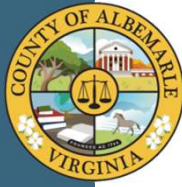


## Agenda

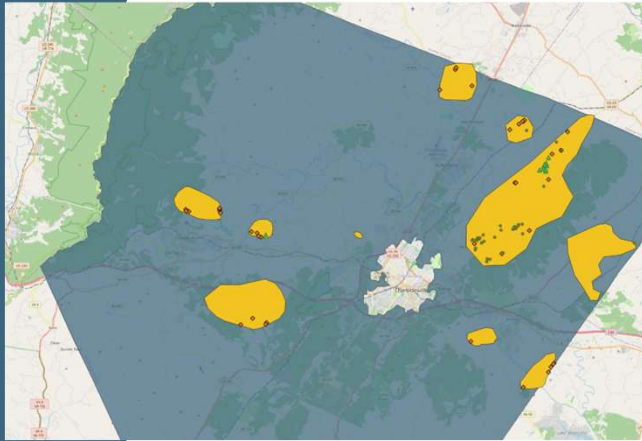
1. Establish Quorum and Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Brief Announcements by Authority Members
4. Public Comment
5. Consent Agenda
  - a. Financial Report
6. Approval of December 10 Meeting Minutes
7. Old Business
  - a. VATI 2021 Update
    - i. Brightspeed Invoice Status
  - b. VATI 2022 Update
  - c. BAAO Update
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  - a. Consideration of Requests for BEAD Letters of Support
9. Other Matters
10. Adjourn

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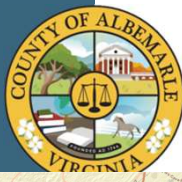
# VATI 2021 Update



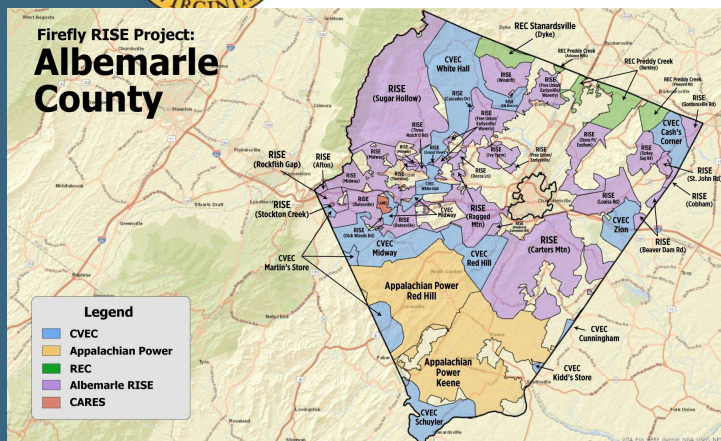
- The Initial Close-Out Report was returned for clarification, to optimize timing for final financial review, report will be resubmitted with reimbursement request
- Pending questions regarding an address that may have been missed may also create delay in close-out

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# VATI 2022 Update



- Construction work continues throughout the project area
- Firefly continues to work through easement issues as they come up
- Dominion continues its work and remains on schedule
- Residents uncertain where their project falls should visit: <https://www.fireflyva.com/partners-albemarle/>

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# VATI 2022 Update

SERVICE CONNECTIONS IN EACH PROJECT AREA ARE ANTICIPATED TO BEGIN WITHIN THE NOTED PERIOD AND INTO THE FOLLOWING PERIOD UNTIL ALL WHO PRE-REGISTERED FOR SERVICE ARE CONNECTED.  
(I.E. FIRST CONNECTIONS ARE MADE IN THE FALL AND WILL CARRY ON INTO THE WINTER UNTIL CONNECTIONS ARE COMPLETE)



Summer 2024  
ends 9/22/2024




Fall 2024  
ends 12/21/2024



Winter 2024-2025  
ends 3/20/2025




Spring 2025  
ends 6/20/2025





Summer 2025  
ends 9/22/2025

RISE PROJECTS	
Albemarle County	
Appalachian Power - Red Hill	In-Service
CARES - Albemarle	In-Service
REC - Stanardsville (Dyke)	Connecting Now
RISE (Beaver Dam Rd)	Winter 2024-2025
RISE (Decca Ln)	Winter 2024-2025
RISE (Ivy Farms)	Winter 2024-2025
RISE (St. John Rd)	Winter 2024-2025
RISE (Thurston)	Winter 2024-2025
RISE (Batesville)	Spring 2025
RISE (Free Union/Earlsville/Waverly)	Spring 2025
RISE (Midway)	Spring 2025
RISE (Rockfish Gap)	Spring 2025
RISE (Sugar Hollow)	Spring 2025
RISE (Windrift)	Spring 2025
Appalachian Power - Keene	Summer 2025
REC - Preddy Creek (Advance Mills)	Summer 2025
REC - Preddy Creek (Burnley)	Summer 2025
REC - Preddy Creek (Vineyard Rd)	Summer 2025
RISE (Carters Mtn)	Summer 2025
RISE (Gordonsville Rd)	Summer 2025
RISE (Louisa Rd)	Summer 2025
RISE (Ragged Mtn)	Summer 2025
RISE (Stony Point/Eastham)	Summer 2025
RISE (Turkey Sag)	TBD



# VATI 2022 Update

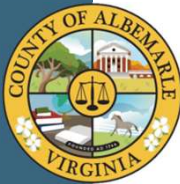
VATI 2022 Project Milestones	Progress as of February 2024	Progress as of November 2024	Progress as of December 2024	% Increase since last ABBA Update
Miles of Field Data Collection	104	430	430	0%
Miles of Fiber Design	96	252	252	20%
Miles of Make Ready Construction	87	92	94	5%
Miles of Aerial Fiber Placement	75	82	83	1%
Miles of Underground Fiber Placement	11	12	29	59%
Miles of Splicing	66	94	96	1%
Number of Passings	830	938	938	2%



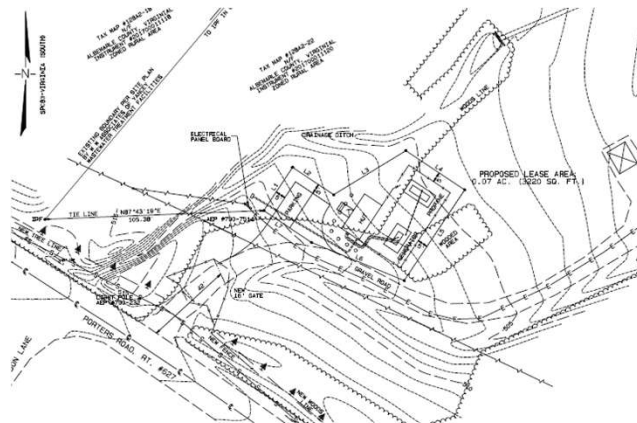
## VATI 2022 Update - Dominion

Dominion Middle Mile Milestones	Progress as of June 2024	Progress as of September 2024	Progress as of December 2024	% Progress
Total Miles	215	211	211	--
Miles Designed	170	211	211	100%
Construction status	In progress	In progress	In progress	--
Miles Completed	40	85.3	126	60%
Splicing % Complete	0%	0%	20%	20%



## VATI 2022 Update – Yancey Facility

- Approvals granted at BoS meeting
- Agreement is now with FES and Firefly for implementation





## BAAO Report

- Impact of Executive Orders on Digital Inclusion Programming

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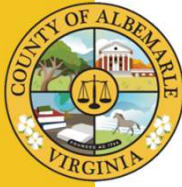


## Impact of EOs

- DHCD will continue to the application processes for both its DEA and BEAD programs
- EOs do freeze the programs until further guidance and action is provided by the administration
- NTIA administrator has been nominated, expect no action prior to installation

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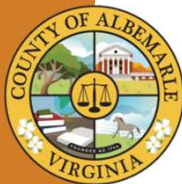


## Impact of EOs

- No immediate impact on any ongoing broadband expansion programs
- No immediate impact on digital inclusion programming
- Introduces uncertainty to planning process, may impact focus and messaging around future efforts

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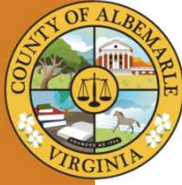
## BEAD Letters of Support

As noted, EOs may have a material impact on BEAD program, particularly uncertainty around timeline and program criteria

DHCD did revise its eligible locations list in Albemarle to 572 shortly before requests were received, staff has not reviewed this list.

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## BEAD Letters of Support

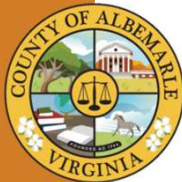
Two requests were received:

- Comcast Xfinity
- Amazon Kuiper

Neither had a specific commitment to utilize our eligibility data, nor our commitment for service by 2026

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## BEAD Letters of Support

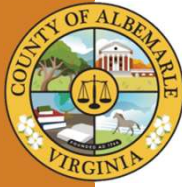
Comcast Xfinity is an incumbent provider in our region serving customers both in the development and rural areas.

Comcast has been a VATI partner in the past and has worked with BAAO to identify served areas listed as unserved by DHCD

Recommendation: Staff recommends awarding Comcast Xfinity a BEAD Letter of Support based on capacity to deliver in all eligible locations.

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## BEAD Letters of Support

Amazon Kuiper is a proposed low-earth orbit satellite internet service provider that has plans for broad service availability and a commitment to meeting BEAD guidance.

Recommendation: Staff makes no recommendation given limited history of Amazon's efforts.

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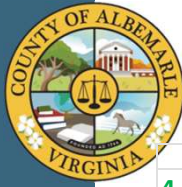


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# ABBA Financial Report

Update: 02/03/2025

**4-4300-91097-491097-950030-9999 (EXPENSE CODE)**

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