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**VIRGINIA TOBACCO INDEMNIFICATION
AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION COMMISSION**

701 East Franklin Street, Suite 501
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Technology Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 25, 2007

8:30 a.m.

Mountain Empire Community College
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

1 **APPEARANCES:**

2 Mr. Thomas W. Arthur - Acting Chairman

3 The Honorable Edward Owens

4 The Honorable William C. Wampler, Jr.

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6 COMMISSION STAFF:

7 Mr. Neal E. Noyes, Executive Director

8 Mr. Ned Stephenson, Deputy Director

9 Mr. Timothy Pfohl, Grants Program Administration Manager

10 Ms. Sara Williams, Grants Coordinator Southwest Virginia

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1 MR. ARTHUR: I'm going to convene the
2 Technology Committee meeting for the Virginia Tobacco Commission.

3 Neal, would you call the roll, please?

4 MR. NOYES: Mr. Arthur?

5 MR. ARTHUR: Here.

6 MR. NOYES: Delegate Byron?

7 DELEGATE BYRON: (No response.)

8 MR. NOYES: Mr. Hite?

9 MR. HITE: (No response.)

10 MR. NOYES: Delegate Hogan?

11 DELEGATE HOGAN: (No response.)

12 MR. NOYES: Mr. Montgomery?

13 MR. MONTGOMERY: (No response.)

14 MR. NOYES: Mr. Owens?

15 MR. OWENS: Here.

16 MR. NOYES: Mr. Thompson?

17 MR. THOMPSON: (No response.)

18 MR. NOYES: Senator Wampler?

19 SENATOR WAMPLER: Here.

20 MR. NOYES: Delegate Wright?

21 DELEGATE WRIGHT: (No response.)

22 MR. NOYES: A quorum fails, Mr. Chairman.

23 MR. ARTHUR: Thank you, sir, I appreciate that.

24 Lacking a quorum, we will report the results to the full Commission and ask
25 the Staff to do such. I have no further business.

1 MR. NOYES: The matter before this group, if
2 there's any discussion, it's an award of \$63,360 to Norton, and the award
3 would go to Lenowisco, who has the capacity to manage the project. An
4 award of \$900,000 to Scott County Telephone Cooperative, which will be
5 unrestricted funds. The Staff will work out through the reserve account
6 exactly how much to do. Those are the two matters before the Committee
7 this morning, if there is no further discussion.

8 The final matter is a presentation by Tad Deriso.

9 MR. ARTHUR: Come around here, and you can
10 make your presentation.

11 MR. DERISO: What we'd like to do is to amend
12 the scope of our pilot project, including the communities of Kentuck in
13 Pittsylvania County, in addition to the Alta Vista. Previously, because of
14 tower issues and getting access, we felt we couldn't do that. Gamewood
15 came back and said they'd rather do it because of some issues, and to make a
16 long story short, because of savings we can find, and we don't have any
17 additional, without any additional dollars we can do both projects at the
18 same time.

19 MR. ARTHUR: What is the time frame?

20 MR. DERISO: Approximately 60 to 90 days to be
21 up and running.

22 MR. OWENS: This is already in the works?

23 MR. DERISO: Yes. What we're asking is to just
24 add the community of Kentuck in Pittsylvania County for the pilot projects.

25 MR. ARTHUR: That's in the Ringgold and Blair's

1 area.

2 MR. NOYES: When I say Kentuck in the meeting,
3 everybody will understand it, or what we're referring to? You're doing this
4 with no dollars added?

5 MR. DERISO: That's correct.

6 MR. NOYES: That concludes our business.

7 MR. ARTHUR: Be prepared at the full
8 Commission if you're called on. I don't know that we will, but just be
9 prepared.

10 MR. DERISO: Yes, thank you.

11 MR. BURNETT: Mr. Chairman, can I address you
12 very quickly?

13 MR. ARTHUR: Yes, come around.

14 MR. BURNETT: I'm Mike Burnett, and I'm with
15 Patrick County, and we have put in an application to the Economic
16 Development Committee that was turned over to the Technology Committee
17 for this DSL project, and we were hoping to get going on that.

18 MR. ARTHUR: You had no DSL projects?

19 MR. BURNETT: No, actually our DSL project is
20 a project where we would actually take 17 switching stations and turn those
21 into DSL capability stations. That would allow us to get 85 to 90 percent of
22 all households in Patrick County that would be covered with DSL service.
23 Right now we don't have that kind of service, about 43 percent of the county,
24 but with this other project, that gives us about 63 percent. The full project
25 will get us up to about 90 percent, or 85 to 90 percent, all of Patrick County.

1 SENATOR WAMPLER: This is not unfamiliar to
2 me, I've seen this before.

3 MR. BURNETT: In the Economic Development
4 Committee we got this.

5 MR. PFOHL: It was in the current Technology
6 round.

7 SENATOR WAMPLER: At Rocky Mount?

8 MR. PFOHL: Yes.

9 MR. BURNETT: I actually talked to Delegate
10 Hogan; he asked us to revise the application and pull it down to a lower
11 amount. What we're going to do today is come in and ask you all to revise
12 it, and we know you have \$920,000 in the Technology Fund right now. We
13 were hoping you all would approve \$240,000, and that would allow us to do
14 three things. Then we were hoping that you all would recommend that
15 Economic Development Committee would allow us to use our allocation for
16 the remainder of the funds.

17 SENATOR WAMPLER: Mr. Chairman, I'd say
18 there are probably three or four other projects in Southwest that we asked to
19 defer until we could recapitalize in the Technology Subcommittee. I don't
20 know if it's the will of Southside or Southwest. I would say that maybe this
21 should be resubmitted, and we'll take it up for consideration at a later time.

22 MR. ARTHUR: After the first of the year, that's
23 when we'll refund all of the subcommittees. I'd ask that you do that, and I
24 think Senator Wampler is right on. Not to put you off, but we'll be funded
25 better at that time, and it will be clearer just where we are. So, I hope that

1 you would --

2 MR. BURNETT: -- All right, I certainly

3 appreciate it.

4 MR. NOYES: That concludes our business.

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6 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.

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CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

CRANE-SNEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC.

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I, Medford W. Howard, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public for the State of Virginia at large, do hereby certify that I was the court reporter who took down and transcribed the proceedings of the **Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission Technology Committee Meeting when held on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. at the Mountain Empire Community College, Big Stone Gap, Virginia.**

I further certify this is a true and accurate transcript to the best of my ability to hear and understand the proceedings.

Given under my hand this 29th day of October, 2007.

Medford W. Howard

Registered Professional Reporter

Notary Public for the State of Virginia at Large

My Commission Expires: October 31, 2010.