RMC Rural Broadband Taskforce Meeting
Thursday, August 17, 2017, 12pm – 2pm,
Maryland Association of Counties Conference, Ocean City, MD
Meeting Notes

Participants:

Helen Propheter	RMC Staff:
Andrew Johnson	Executive Director, Charlotte
Keith Colby	Davis
Brian Roche	Program Administrator,
Tom Dennison	Meredith Donaho,
John Hartline	
Julie Webb	
Steve Pennington	
Scott Warner	
Mike Pennington	
Delegate Johnny Mautz	
Drew Van Dopp	
Delegate Carol Krimm	
Michael Scott	
Jonathan Fan	
Teresa Bethune	
Patrick Mitchell	
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio	
Guy Winterberg	
Britta Vander Linden	
John Dickson	
Kristen Sullivan	
Joe Cluster	
John Lyon	
John Kornak	
Mike Kileo	
Sean Looney	
Mitzi Herrera	
Tyler Patton	
Josh Hastings	
Jack Wilson	
Mark Ripper	

The meeting began at 9:05am. Charlotte Davis, Chair of the Rural Broadband Taskforce, welcomed the group and called for introductions.

Review of Membership
Charlotte Davis shared a handout of the Connecting Rural Maryland Act of 2017 membership. There are a few positions that have not been appointed yet; more information regarding an updated roster will be available at the next meeting.

Review of Task Force Charge
Charlotte Davis reviewed the task force charge and elements of the study and its findings due to the Governor and General Assembly on November 30th.

Ideas for Information/Presentations
Suggestions for information and presentations for upcoming taskforce meetings, included:
- Assessment of services, regulation, and acquire knowledge of basic broadband fundamentals such as external pipes and fiber works.
- Federal Communication Commission (FCC) funds, broadband mapping grants (companies, census blocks), and other additional sources for leveraging federal funds and sources, and identify a return on investment.
- Review other states (such as New York) and their implementation of broadband, strategies for paying for broadband services.
- Review of broadband for institutions, education system.
- Research open access capabilities with Verizon and Comcast.
- Research rural broadband in the Farm Bill.

Taskforce Meeting Schedule
Suggestions for the meeting schedule included meetings taking place regionally, establishing county-level taskforce levels, and offering meetings virtually via an online conference feature so that statewide representatives can participate. Additional information about the meeting schedule will be available at the next meeting.

With no other suggestions for input, the meeting concluded at 10:20pm.

Next: Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 10am-12pm, Location TBD