

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATIONAL BROADBAND

SERVICE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
December 23, 2008

Opening:

The seventh regular meeting of the South Carolina Educational Broadband Service Commission was called to order at 1:00 pm on December 23, 2008 via teleconferencing by Gary Pennington. It was noted for the record that the Commission does have a quorum and Public Notice of the Meeting was made on December 18, 2008. Visitors were instructed to register their name and email address on the sign-in sheet.

Members Present (Via Teleconferencing):

Gary Pennington, Jack Cooper, William Byrd, Dr. Joachim Taiber, Poinzettia Stephens

Staff Present (Via Teleconferencing):

Paul Koch, Gay Hoyer, Derrick McFarland.

1. Approval of Agenda

Gary Pennington asked for a motion to approve the agenda, William Byrd made a motion to accept the agenda. Agenda was approved.

2. Identification of Received Public Comments

Gary Pennington recognized those individuals and entities that submitted public comments. As stated in the last meeting, comments concerning the RFP were to be submitted to Paul Koch by Wednesday, December 17, 2008. Four sets of comments were received and distributed to the Commission members for their review. Comments were received from: Jeffrey S. Bridgland, Director, IT & Telecommunications, the Piedmont Municipal Power Agency; Brett Bursey, Executive Director, South Carolina Progressive Network; Dr. Jabari Simama, PhD, Vice President, Benedict College and Dr. R. David Lamie, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Applied Economics and Statistics, Clemson Institute for Economic and Community Development. The Commission members were polled and all received and had the opportunity to review the comments. Mr. Pennington stated for the record that the Commission appreciated the time and effort that the four entities put into providing comments, that the comments were well received and appreciated by the Commission, and that the Commission recognized and understood these comments.

3. Executive Session to Receive Legal Advice

A motion was made and approved for the Commission to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice.

4. Next Steps

Motion was made and accepted to go back into Public Session. The guests were invited back into the room. Gary Pennington stated that at this point in time, a vote will be taken to approve the final form of the Request for Proposal (RFP). The Commission Members have had extensive discussions with legal counsel, have taken into account their own personal areas of expertise, and have considered and taken into account at length the comments from

the four entities. A motion was made by William Byrd to accept the RFP, motion was accepted. The final draft of the RFP will be completed by legal counsel no later than Monday, December 29, 2008. At that time, the staff of Paul Koch's office will begin duplicating and binding the RFP and sending it to a list of bidders the Commission has put together with legal counsel. The goal is to have the RFP mailed out by Wednesday, December 31, 2008. The RFP will be posted on the website and distributed to the e-mail distribution list. A press release will be issued and advertising will be done in a variety of forums. There was no further discussion. William Byrd moved to adjourn. Motion was approved and meeting adjourned.