

MINUTES

Information Technology Advisory Commission (Tech Commission)

**Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 7:30pm
2100 Clarendon Blvd. Room 318
Arlington VA 22201 and Virtually via Microsoft Teams**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by John Burke, Chair. Attendance as follows:

Members:

- John Burke, Chair
- Frank Jazzo, Vice Chair
- Jonathan Adelstein
- Dr. Michael Cornfield
- Jim Smith (Virtual – out-of-state; personal)
- Jacqueline Snelling (Virtual – excused)
- Jared Stancombe
- Gary Thayer
- Andrea Wingo (Virtual – excused)
- Biran Zhang

Staff and liaisons:

- Richard Archambault, Staff Coordinator, Arlington County

Member of the public:

- Louise Anderson, Verizon

2. Public Comment

- None

3. Minutes – April 24, 2024 Meeting

- Adopted – Unanimous

4. Chair Updates

○ VA legislature has passed updated *Open Meeting* requirements. New policies will become effective July 01, 2024.

Key items:

- Virtual meeting policies must be adopted annually
- On-camera requirements for virtual participation
- Definition of various terms clarified

○ The County's *Advisory Groups Handbook* is being revised. Feedback & comments of Tech Commission members should be forwarded to Mr. Stancombe by June 07 (County due date is Jun 11)

5. Cyber Security Landscape – Annual Discussion

Guest Presentation by Ryan Leirvik, CEO, *Neuvik* ***“The Impact of Emerging Technologies”***

Mr. Leirvik discussed the impact of emerging technologies and how they are perceived, used, and abused. The primary focus was on vulnerabilities a potential attacker might exploit to achieve undesired or illegal ends – such as perpetrating fraudulent transactions.

Key topics and examples: AI Voice Generation and Quantum Computing techniques used for evading and cracking security safeguards.

6. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Mr. Burke provided updates on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) noting that the County's upcoming CIP briefing would precede the Tech Commission's earliest next meeting. Discussion followed about how Commission comment, feedback, and recommendations might be timely communicated to the Board.

Ms Snelling inquired about the movement of funds between CIP (cap-ex) and operating expense categories. Mr Archmbault noted that, apart from relatively small amounts of on-premise infrastructure, the vast majority of current expenses constitute op-ex subscriptions once systems are moved to the cloud.

Ms Snelling also expressed concern about resiliency from Grid failure, and attendant risks such as data and backup losses. Mr. Archambault noted that Arlington County participates in a statewide risk sharing pool tasked with addressing these concerns.

7. “Arlington 2050: Envisioning Tomorrow Together”

Commission discussion focused on the *Arlington 2050* initiative presenting an opportunity to highlight digital strategic planning issues identified by the Tech Commission, as well as reviewing past Commission recommendations for inclusion with feedback and comments that may be submitted by Commission members via provided initiative response cards.

BACKGROUND: The *Arlington 2050 Initiative* was announced by Chair Garvey at the Arlington County Board’s January 2024 Organizational meeting and is a year-long effort to engage neighbors across Arlington on what the County should look like by the year 2050 and what challenges the County, and its residents, must address. Beyond initiating and sustaining a dialogue, this initiative seeks to distill community feedback into 2 to 3 distinct visions of the future, which can serve as the basis or a foundation for long-term strategic planning.

8. Legislative Update – Mr Jazzo

- The FCC will vote on June 6 whether to establish the Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program. Over \$200 million in support will be available to eligible schools and libraries to defray the costs of eligible cybersecurity services and equipment.
- The FCC will also consider then a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to increase the security of information routed across the Internet and to promote national security by requiring broadband providers to report on their progress in addressing vulnerabilities in the Border Gateway Protocol.
- The Senate Commerce Committee will try again this week to approve legislation reauthorizing FCC Spectrum Auctions and providing new funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). There are concerns over passage in the House of Representatives.
- The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) published a report grading states’ initial Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program proposals. Virginia was one of only 9 states receiving an “A” on its BEAD proposal, for technical neutrality, streamlined regulatory environment and digital inclusion strategy.
- The House of Representatives passed bipartisan legislation reauthorizing the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the first time in over 30 years. The bill seeks to modernize the NTIA’s functions, including spectrum management and cybersecurity oversight in the telecom sector.
- The AI in Government Lab at the Center for Technology in Government at the University at Albany was created to the study and application of artificial intelligence in the public sector.
- Virginia’s budget includes \$50 million for the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI), which appears aimed at building out broadband infrastructure to serve rural areas.

- T-Mobile announced that it has entered into a joint venture with EQT, a global investment firm, to purchase Lumos, whose fiber network currently crosses Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. T-Mobile will acquire Lumos' existing fiber customers. Lumos currently reaches 320,000 households over 7500 route miles with fiber optic Internet and home WiFi service in the Mid-Atlantic.
- As anticipated, on April 25, the FCC voted 3-2 to restore Net Neutrality rules.

9. DTS Update – Richard Archambault

- None

10. Good of the Order

- Summer Tech Commission Meeting Schedule
 - June – Live (and Virtual via MS Teams)
 - July – All Virtual
 - August – NO MEETING (Summer Break)

11. Adjourn

- Motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:45 pm.

Next Meeting: June 26, 2024; 7:30 pm