



**ORDINANCE NO. 2004-2
WYTHE COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CREATING FOR
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, DOING BUSINESS AS
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, A RENEWAL FRANCHISE GRANTING
PERMISSION TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE SYSTEM
UPON, ALONG, ACROSS, OVER, AND UNDER THE STREETS AND PUBLIC
RIGHTS OF WAY OF THE COUNTY OF WYTHE, VIRGINIA**

This Ordinance granting a renewal Franchise is between the County of Wythe, Virginia, hereinafter referred to as the “Franchising Authority” and Charter Communications VI, LLC, doing business as Charter Communications, hereinafter referred to as the “Grantee.”

WHEREAS, the Franchising Authority finds that the Grantee has substantially complied with the material terms of the current Franchise under applicable laws, and that the financial, legal and technical ability of the Grantee is sufficient to provide services, facilities and equipment necessary to meet the future cable-related needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, having afforded the public adequate notice and opportunity for comment, Franchising Authority desires to adopt this Ordinance renewing a Franchise with the Grantee for the construction and operation of a cable system on the terms set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Franchising Authority and Grantee have complied with all federal and State-mandated procedural and substantive requirements pertinent to this franchise renewal;

BE IT ORDAINED by the County of Wythe, Virginia, that the following Ordinance renewing a Franchise is adopted and approved:

SECTION 1
Definition of Terms

1.1 Terms. For the purpose of this Ordinance renewing a Franchise the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended from time to time (the "Cable Act"), unless otherwise defined herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is mandatory and "may" is permissive. Words not defined shall be given their common and ordinary meaning.

- A. "Cable System," "Cable Service," "Cable Operator" and "Basic Cable Service" shall be defined as set forth in the Cable Act
- B. "Board/Council" shall mean the Board of Supervisors, the governing body of the County of Wythe, Virginia.
- C. "Cable Act" shall mean the Cable Communication Policy Act of 1984, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 521, et. seq.
- D. "FCC" shall mean the Federal Communications Commission and any successor governmental entity thereto.
- E. "Franchise Authority" shall mean the County of Wythe, Virginia.
- F. "Franchise" shall mean the non-exclusive rights granted pursuant to this franchise to construct and operate a Cable System along the public ways within all or a specified area in the Service Area.
- G. "Grantee" shall mean Charter Communications VI, LLC, doing business as Charter Communications or its lawful successor, transferee or assignee.
- H. "Gross Revenue" means any revenue received by the Grantee from the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Services in the Service Area, provided, however, that such phrase shall not include: (1) any taxes, fee or assessment of general applicability collected by the Grantee from Subscribers for pass-through to a government agency, including the FCC User Fee; (2) unrecovered bad debt; and (3) any PEG or I-Net amounts recovered from Subscribers.

- I. "Installation" shall mean the connection of the Cable System from feeder cable to Subscribers' terminals.
- J. "Person" shall mean an individual, partnership, association, organization, corporation or any lawful successor, transferee or assignee of said individual, partnership, association, organization or corporation.
- K. "Public School" shall mean any school at any educational level operated within the Service Area by any public, private or parochial school system, but limited to, elementary, junior high school, and high school.
- L. "Reasonable notice" shall be written notice addressed to the Grantee at its principal office or such other office as the Grantee has designated to the Franchise Authority as the address to which notice should be transmitted to it.
- M. "Service Area" shall mean the geographic boundaries of the Franchise Authority, and shall include any additions thereto by annexation or other legal means, subject to the exception in subsection 6.1 hereto..
- N. "State" shall mean the State of Virginia.
- O. "Street" shall include each of the following located within the Service Area: public streets, roadways, highways, bridges, land paths, boulevards, avenues, lanes, alleys, sidewalks, circles, drives, easements, rights-of-way and similar public ways and extensions and additions thereto, including but not limited to public utility easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority in the Service Area, which shall entitle the Grantee to the use thereof for the purpose of installing, operating, repairing and maintaining the Cable System..
- P. "Subscriber" shall mean any person lawfully receiving Cable Service from the Grantee.

SECTION 2
Grant of Franchise

2.1 Grant. The Franchising Authority franchise hereby grants to the Grantee a nonexclusive Franchise which authorizes the Grantee to erect, construct, operate and maintain in, upon, along, across, above, over and under the Streets, now in existence and as may be created or established during its terms; any poles, wires, cable, underground conduits, manholes, and other conductors and fixtures necessary for the maintenance and operation of a Cable System. Nothing in this

Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the Grantee from offering any service over its Cable System that is not prohibited by federal, State or local law.

2.2 Term. The Franchise and the rights, privileges and authority hereby granted shall be for an initial term of fourteen (14) years, commencing on the Effective Date of this Franchise as set forth in subsection 15.7, unless otherwise lawfully terminated in accordance with the terms of this Franchise.

2.3 Franchise Requirements For Other Franchise Holders. In the event that the Franchising Authority grants one (1) or more franchise(s) or similar authorizations, for the construction, operation and maintenance of any communication facility which shall offer services substantially equivalent to services offered by the Cable System, it shall not make the grant on more favorable or less burdensome terms. If said other franchise(s) contain provisions imposing lesser obligations on the company(s) thereof than are imposed by the provisions of this Franchise, Grantee may petition the Franchising Authority for a modification of this Franchise. The Grantee shall be entitled, with respect to said lesser obligations to such modification(s) of this Franchise as to insure fair and equal treatment by this Franchise and said other agreements.

In the event that a non-franchised multichannel video-programming distributor provides service to the Service Area, the Grantee shall have a right to request Franchise amendments that relieve the Grantee of burdens that create a competitive disadvantage to the Grantee. In requesting amendments, the Grantee shall file a petition seeking to amend the Franchise. Such petitions shall:

1. Indicate the presence of a non-franchised competitor(s);
2. Identify the basis for Grantee's belief that certain provisions of the Franchise place Grantee at a competitive disadvantage;

3. Identify the burdens to be amended or repealed in order to eliminate the competitive disadvantage.

The Franchising Authority shall not unreasonably withhold granting the Grantee's petition.

2.4 Police Powers and Conflicts with Franchise. This Franchise is a contract and except as to those changes which are the result of the Franchising Authority's exercise of its general police power, the Franchising Authority may not take any unilateral action which materially changes the explicit mutual promises in this contract. Any changes to this Franchise must be made in writing signed by the Grantee and the Franchising Authority. In the event of any conflict between this Franchise and any Franchising Authority ordinance or regulation, this Franchise will prevail.

2.5 Cable System Franchise Required. No Cable System shall be allowed to occupy or use the streets or public rights-of-way of the Service Area or be allowed to operate without a Cable System Franchise.

SECTION 3 **Franchise Renewal**

3.1 Procedures for Renewal. The Franchising Authority and the Grantee agree that any proceedings undertaken by the Franchising Authority that relate to the renewal of the Grantee's Franchise shall be governed by and comply with the provisions of Section 626 of the Cable Act, or any such successor statute.

SECTION 4 **Indemnification and Insurance**

4.1 Indemnification. The Grantee shall, by acceptance of the Franchise granted herein, defend the Franchising Authority, its officers, boards, commissions, agents, and employees for all claims for injury to any person or property caused by the negligence of Grantee in the

construction or operation of the Cable System and in the event of a determination of liability shall indemnify and hold Franchising Authority, its officers, boards, commissions, agents, and employees harmless from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, or judgments growing out of any injury to any person or property as a result of the negligence of Grantee arising out of the construction, repair, extension, maintenance, operation or removal of its wires, poles or other equipment of any kind or character used in connection with the operation of the Cable System, provided that the Franchising Authority shall give the Grantee written notice of its obligation to indemnify the Franchising Authority within ten (10) days of receipt of a claim or action pursuant to this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Grantee shall not be obligated to indemnify the Franchising Authority for any damages, liability or claims resulting from the willful misconduct or negligence of the Franchising Authority or for the Franchising Authority's use of the Cable System, including any PEG channels.

4.2 Insurance.

A. The Grantee shall maintain throughout the term of the Franchise insurance in amounts at least as follows:

Workers' Compensation	Statutory Limits
Commercial General Liability	[\$1,000,000] per occurrence, Combined Single Liability (C.S.L.) [\$2,000,000] General Aggregate
Auto Liability including coverage on all owned, non-owned hired autos Umbrella Liability	[\$1,000,000] per occurrence C.S.L.
Umbrella Liability	[\$1,000,000] per occurrence C.S.L.

B. The Franchising Authority shall be added as an additional insured to the above Commercial General Liability, Auto Liability and Umbrella Liability insurance coverage.

C. The Grantee shall furnish the Franchising Authority with current certificates of insurance evidencing such coverage.

SECTION 5
Service Obligations

5.1 No Discrimination. Grantee shall not deny service, deny access, or otherwise discriminate against Subscribers, channel users, or general citizens on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age or sex.

5.2 Privacy. The Grantee shall fully comply with the privacy rights of Subscribers as contained in Cable Act Section 631 (47 U.S.C. § 551).

SECTION 6
Service Availability

6.1 Service Area. The Grantee shall make Cable Service distributed over the Cable System available to every residence within the Service Area where there is a minimum density of at least thirty (30) unserved residences per mile as measured from Grantee's closest existing Cable System plant. The Grantee may elect to provide Cable Service to areas not meeting the above standard.

6.2 Service to New or Previously Unserved Single Family Dwellings. The Grantee shall offer Cable Service to all new homes or previously unserved single dwellings located within 150 feet of Grantee's feeder cable at its published rates for standard Installation.

6.3 New Development Underground. In cases of new construction or property development where utilities are to be placed underground, the Franchising Authority agrees to require as a condition of issuing a permit for open trenching to any developer or property owner that such developer or property owner give Grantee at least 30 days prior notice of such construction or development, and of the particular dates on which open trenching will be

available for Grantee's installation of conduit, pedestals and/or vaults, and laterals to be provided at Grantee's expense. Grantee shall also provide specifications as needed for trenching. Costs of trenching and easements required to bring service to the development shall be borne by the developer or property owner; except that if Grantee fails to install its conduit, pedestals and/or vaults, and laterals within ten (10) working days of the date the trenches are available, as designated in the notice given by the developer or property owner, then should the trenches be closed after the five-day period, the cost of new trenching is to be borne by Grantee.

SECTION 7 **Construction and Technical Standards**

7.1 Compliance with Codes. All construction practices and installation of equipment shall be done in accordance with all applicable sections of the National Electric Safety Code. .

7.2 Construction Standards and Requirements. All of the Grantee's plant and equipment, including but not limited to the antenna site, head-end and distribution system, towers, house connections, structures, poles, wire, cable, coaxial cable, fixtures and appurtenances shall be installed, located, erected, constructed, reconstructed, replaced, removed, repaired, maintained and operated in accordance with good engineering practices and performed by experienced maintenance and construction personnel.

7.3 Safety. The Grantee shall at all times employ ordinary care and shall use commonly accepted methods and devices preventing failures and accidents which are likely to cause damage,

7.4 Network Technical Requirements. The Cable System shall be operated so that it is capable of continuous twenty-four (24) hour daily operation, capable of meeting or exceeding all applicable federal technical standards, as they may be amended from time to time, and operated in such a manner as to comply with all applicable FCC regulations.

7.5 Performance Monitoring. Grantee shall test the Cable System consistent with the FCC regulations.

SECTION 8 **Conditions on Street Occupancy**

8.1 General Conditions. Grantee shall have the right to utilize existing poles, conduits and other facilities whenever possible, and shall not construct or install any new, different, or additional poles, conduits, or other facilities on public property until the written approval of the Franchising Authority is obtained, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

8.2 Underground Construction. The facilities of the Grantee shall be installed underground in those Service Areas where existing telephone and electric services are both underground at the time of system construction. In areas where either telephone or electric utility facilities are installed aerially at the time of system construction, the Grantee may install its facilities aerially with the understanding that at such time as the existing aerial facilities are required to be placed underground by the Franchising Authority, the Grantee shall likewise place its facilities underground. In the event that any telephone or electric utilities are reimbursed by the Franchising Authority or any agency thereof for the placement of cable underground or the movement of cable, Grantee shall be reimbursed upon the same terms and conditions as any telephone, electric or other utilities.

8.3 Permits. The Franchising Authority shall cooperate with the Grantee in granting any permits required, providing such grant and subsequent construction by the Grantee shall not unduly interfere with the use of such Streets.

8.4 System Construction. All transmission lines, equipment and structures shall be so installed and located as to cause minimum interference with the rights and reasonable convenience of property owners and at all times shall be kept and maintained in a safe, adequate and substantial condition, and in good order and repair. The Grantee shall, at all times, employ

ordinary care and use commonly accepted methods and devices for preventing failures and accidents which are likely to cause damage, injuries, or nuisances to the public. Suitable barricades, flags, lights, flares or other devices shall be used at such times and places as are reasonably required for the safety of all members of the public. Any poles or other fixtures placed in any public way by the Grantee shall be placed in such a manner as not to interfere with the usual travel on such public way.

8.5 Restoration of Public Ways. Grantee shall, at its own expense, restore any damage or disturbance caused to the public way as a result of its operation, construction, or maintenance of the Cable System to a condition reasonably comparable to the condition of the Streets immediately prior to such damage or disturbance.

8.6 Removal in Emergency. Whenever, in case of fire or other disaster, it becomes necessary in the judgment of the Franchising Authority to remove any of the Grantee's facilities, no charge shall be made by the Grantee against the Franchising Authority for restoration and repair, unless such acts amount to gross negligence by the Franchising Authority.

8.7 Tree Trimming. Grantee or its designee shall have the authority to trim trees on public property at its own expense as may be necessary to protect its wires and facilities.

8.8 Relocation for the Franchising Authority. The Grantee shall, upon receipt of reasonable advance written notice, to be not less than ten (10) business days, protect, support, temporarily disconnect, relocate, or remove any property of Grantee when lawfully required by the Franchising Authority pursuant to its police powers. Grantee shall be responsible for any costs associated with these obligations to the same extent all other users of the Franchising Authority rights-of-way are responsible for the costs related to their facilities.

8.9 Relocation for a Third Party. The Grantee shall, on the request of any person holding a lawful permit issued by the Franchising Authority, protect, support, raise, lower, temporarily

disconnect, relocate in or remove from the Street as necessary any property of the Grantee, provided that the expense of such is paid by any such person benefiting from the relocation and the Grantee is give reasonable advance written notice to prepare for such changes. The Grantee may require such payment in advance. For purposes of this subsection, “reasonable advance written notice” shall be no less than ten (10) business day in the event of a temporary relocation and no less than one hundred twenty days (120) for a permanent relocation.

8.10 Reimbursement of Costs. If funds are available to any person using the Streets for the purpose of defraying the cost of any of the foregoing, the Franchising Authority shall reimburse the Grantee in the same manner in which other persons affected by the requirement are reimbursed. If the funds are controlled by another governmental entity, the Franchising Authority shall make application for such funds on behalf of the Grantee.

8.11 Emergency Use. If the Grantee provides an Emergency Alert System (“EAS”), then the Franchising Authority shall permit only appropriately trained and authorized Persons to operate the EAS equipment and shall take reasonable precautions to prevent any use of the Grantee’s Cable System in any manner that results in inappropriate use thereof, or any loss or damage to the Cable System. The Franchising Authority shall hold the Grantee, its employees, officers and assigns harmless from any claims or costs arising out of use of the EAS.

SECTION 9 **Service And Rates**

9.1 Phone. The Grantee shall maintain a local or toll free telephone number and a phone service operated such that complaints and requests for repairs or adjustments may be received at any time.

9.2 Notification of Service Procedures. The Grantee shall furnish each Subscriber at the time service is installed, written instructions that clearly set forth information concerning the

procedures for making inquiries or complaints, including the Grantee's name, address and local or toll free telephone number. Grantee shall give the Franchising Authority thirty (30) days prior notice of any rate increases, channel lineup or other substantive service changes.

9.3 Rate Regulation. Franchising Authority shall have the right to exercise rate regulation to the extent authorized by law, or to refrain from exercising such regulation for any period of time, at the sole discretion of the Franchising Authority. If and when exercising rate regulation, the Franchising Authority shall abide by the terms and conditions set forth by the FCC.

9.4 Continuity of Service. It shall be the right of all Subscribers to continue receiving Cable Service insofar as their financial and other obligations to the Grantee are honored.

SECTION 10 **Franchise Fee**

10.1 Amount of Fee. Grantee shall pay to the Franchising Authority an annual franchise fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the annual Gross Revenue. Such payment shall be in addition to taxes of general applicability owed to the Franchising Authority by the Grantee that are not included as franchise fee under federal law.

10.2 Payment of Fee. Payment of the fee due the Franchising Authority shall be made on a quarterly basis, within 45 days of the close of each calendar quarter. The payment period shall commence as of the Effective Date of the Franchise. In the event of a dispute, the Franchising Authority, if it so requests, shall be furnished a statement of said payment, reflecting the Gross Revenues and the applicable charges, deductions and computations for the period covered by the payment.

10.3 Accord and Satisfaction. No acceptance of any payment by the Franchising Authority shall be construed as a release or as an accord and satisfaction of any claim the Franchising Authority may have for additional sums payable as a franchise fee under this Franchise.

10.4 Limitation on Recovery. In the event that any Franchise payment or recomputed payment is not made on or before the dates specified herein, Grantee shall pay an interest charge, computed from such due date, at the annual rate of one percent over the prime interest rate. The period of limitation for recovery of any franchise fee payable hereunder shall be three (3) years from the date on which payment by the Grantee was due.

SECTION 11
Transfer of Franchise

11.1 Franchise Transfer. The Franchise granted hereunder shall not be transferred or assigned, without the prior consent of the Franchising Authority, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. No such consent shall be required, however, for a transfer in trust, by mortgage, by other hypothecation, or by assignment of any rights, title, or interest of the Grantee in the Franchise or Cable System to secure indebtedness. Within thirty (30) days of receiving a request for transfer, the Franchising Authority shall notify the Grantee in writing of any additional information it reasonably requires to determine the legal, financial and technical qualifications of the transferee. If the Franchising Authority has not taken action on the Grantee's request for transfer within one hundred twenty (120) days after receiving such request, consent by the Franchising Authority shall be deemed given.

11.2 Transfer to Affiliates. The foregoing requirements shall not apply to any sale, assignment or transfer to any Person that is owned or controlled by the Grantee, or any Person that owns or controls the Grantee. Grantee shall notify the Franchising Authority thirty (30) days prior to any such sale, assignment or transfer.

SECTION 12

Records, Reports And Maps

12.1 Reports Required. The Grantee's schedule of charges, contract or application forms for regular Subscriber service, policy regarding the processing of Subscriber complaints, delinquent Subscriber disconnect and reconnect procedures and any other terms and conditions adopted as the Grantee's policy in connection with its Subscribers shall be filed with the Franchising Authority upon request.

12.2 Records Required.

The Grantee shall at all times maintain:

- A. A record of all written complaints received regarding interruptions or degradation of Cable Service shall be maintained for one (1) year.
- B. A full and complete set of plans, records and strand maps showing the location of the Cable System.

12.3 Inspection of Records. Grantee shall permit any duly authorized representative of the Franchising Authority, upon receipt of advance written notice to examine during normal business hours and on a nondisruptive basis any and all records as is reasonably necessary to ensure Grantee's compliance with the Franchise. Such notice shall specifically reference the subsection of the Franchise that is under review so that the Grantee may organize the necessary books and records for easy access by the Franchising Authority. The Grantee shall not be required to maintain any books and records for Franchise compliance purposes longer than three (3) years, except for service complaints, which shall be kept for one (1) year as specified above. The Grantee shall not be required to provide Subscriber information in violation of Section 631 of the Cable Act. The Franchising Authority agrees to treat as confidential any books; records or maps that constitute proprietary or confidential information to the extent Grantee make the Franchising

Authority aware of such confidentiality. If the Franchising Authority believes it must release any such confidential books or records in the course of enforcing this Franchise, or for any other reason, it shall advise Grantee in advance so that Grantee may take appropriate steps to protect its interests. Until otherwise ordered by a court or agency of competent jurisdiction, the Franchising Authority agrees that, to the extent permitted by state and federal law, it shall deny access to any of Grantee's books and records marked confidential, as set forth above, to any Person.

SECTION 13 **Community Programming**

13.1 Service to Schools and Buildings. The Grantee shall maintain, without charge, one outlet to each Public School and library, located in the Service Area served by the Cable System and will provide free Basic Cable, for so long as the Cable System remains in operation in the Service Area. Any such school or library may install, at its expense, such additional outlets for classroom purposes as it desires, provided that such installation shall not interfere with the operation of Grantee's Cable System, and that the quality and manner of installation of such additional connections shall have been approved by the Grantee and shall comply with all local, State and federal laws and regulations.

13.2 Limitations on Use. The Cable Service provided pursuant to this Section shall not be used for commercial purposes and such outlets shall not be located in areas open to the public. The Franchising Authority shall take reasonable precautions to prevent any use of the Grantee's Cable System that results in the inappropriate use thereof or any loss or damage to the Cable System. The Franchising Authority shall hold the Grantee harmless from any and all liability or claims arising out of the provision and use of Cable Service required by subsection 13.1 above. The Grantee shall not be required to provide an outlet to any such building where a standard drop

of more than 150 feet is required, unless the Franchising Authority or building owner/occupant agrees to pay the incremental cost of any necessary extension or installation.

13.3 Franchising Authority Local Channel. Upon completion of any cable plant upgrade and upon written notice to the Grantee from the Franchising Authority, the Franchising Authority and Grantee shall negotiate in good faith to dedicate sufficient bandwidth for the provision of one (1) channel for use by the Franchising Authority to produce and originate non-commercial, government programming for distribution on the Cable System. The Franchising Authority shall have sole responsibility for such programming and shall have sole responsibility for the purchase and maintenance of the Franchising Authority's equipment required for originating such programming.

SECTION 14 **Enforcement Or Revocation**

14.1 Notice of Violation. If the Franchising Authority believes that the Grantee has not complied with the terms of the Franchise, the Franchising Authority shall first informally discuss the matter with Grantee. If these discussions do not lead to resolution of the problem, the Franchising Authority shall notify the Grantee in writing of the exact nature of the alleged noncompliance.

14.2 Grantee's Right to Cure or Respond. The Grantee shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of the notice described in subsection 14.1 to (i) respond to the Franchising Authority, contesting the assertion of noncompliance, or (ii) to cure such default, or (iii) if, by the nature of default, such default cannot be cured within the thirty (30) day period, initiate reasonable steps to remedy such default and notify the Franchising Authority of the steps being taken and the projected date that they will be completed.

14.3 Public Hearing. If the Grantee fails to respond to the notice received from the Franchising Authority pursuant to the procedures set forth in subsection 14.2, or if the default is not remedied within the cure period set forth above, the Board shall schedule a public hearing if it intends to continue its investigation into the default. The Franchising Authority shall provide the Grantee at least twenty (20) days prior written notice of such hearing, which specifies the time, place and purpose of such hearing, notice of which shall be published by the Clerk of the Franchising Authority in a newspaper of general circulation within the Franchising Authority in accordance with subsection 15.5 hereof.

14.4 Enforcement. Subject to applicable federal and state law, in the event the Franchising Authority, after the hearing set forth in subsection 14.3 above, determines that the Grantee is in default of any provision of the Franchise, the Franchising Authority may:

- A. Seek specific performance of any provision, which reasonably lends itself to such remedy, as an alternative to damages; or
- B. Commence an action at law for monetary damages or seek other equitable relief; or
- C. In the case of a substantial default of a material provision of the Franchise, seek to revoke the Franchise itself in accordance with subsection 14.5 below.

14.5 Revocation.

- A. Prior to revocation or termination of the Franchise, the Franchising Authority shall give written notice to the Grantee of its intent to revoke the Franchise on the basis of a pattern of noncompliance by the Grantee, including one or more instances of substantial noncompliance with a material provision of the Franchise. The notice shall set forth the exact nature of the noncompliance. The Grantee shall have sixty (60) days from such notice to either object in writing and to state

its reasons for such objection and provide any explanation or to cure the alleged noncompliance. If the Franchising Authority has not received a satisfactory response from Grantee, it may then seek to revoke the Franchise at a public hearing. The Grantee shall be given at least thirty (30) days prior written notice of such public hearing, specifying the time and place of such hearing and stating its intent to revoke the Franchise.

- B. At the hearing, the Board shall give the Grantee an opportunity to state its position on the matter, present evidence and question witnesses, after which it shall determine whether or not the Franchise shall be revoked. The public hearing shall be on the record and a written transcript shall be made available to the Grantee within ten (10) business days. The decision of the Board shall be made in writing and shall be delivered to the Grantee. The Grantee may appeal such determination to an appropriate court, which shall have the power to review the decision of the Board *de novo*.

SECTION 15 **Miscellaneous Provisions**

15.1 Force Majeure. The Grantee shall not be held in default under, on in noncompliance with the provisions of the Franchise, nor suffer any enforcement or penalty relating to noncompliance or default, where such noncompliance or alleged defaults occurred or were caused by circumstances reasonably beyond the ability of the Grantee to anticipate and control. This provision includes work delays caused by waiting for utility providers to service or monitor their utility poles to which Grantee's Cable System is attached, as well as unavailability of materials and/or qualified labor to perform the work necessary.

Furthermore, the parties hereby agree that it is not the Franchising Authority's intention to subject the Grantee to penalties, fine, forfeitures or revocation of the Franchise for violations of the Franchise where the violation was a good faith error that resulted in no or minimal negative impact on the Subscribers within the Franchise territory, or where strict performance would result in practical difficulties and hardship to the Grantee which outweighs the benefit to be derived by the Franchising Authority and/or Subscribers.

15.2 Action of Parties. In any action by the Franchising Authority or the Grantee that is mandated or permitted under the terms hereof, such party shall act in a reasonable, expeditious and timely manner. Furthermore, in any instance where approval or consent is required under the terms hereof, such approval or consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

15.3 Notices. All notices from Grantee to the Franchising Authority pursuant to this Franchise shall be to the Clerk of the Franchising Authority. Grantee shall maintain with the Franchising Authority, throughout the term of this Franchise, an address for service of notices by mail.

15.4 Public Notice. Minimum public notice of any public meeting relating to this Franchise shall be by publication at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the area at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and a posting at the administrative buildings of the Franchising Authority.

15.5 Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Franchise is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Franchise.

15.6 Entire Agreement. This Franchise sets forth the entire agreement between the parties respecting the subject matter hereof. All agreements, covenants, representations and warranties, express and implied, oral and written, of the parties with regard to the subject matter hereof are

contained herein. No other agreements, covenants, representations or warranties, express or implied, oral or written, have been made by any party to another with respect to the matter of this Franchise. All prior and contemporaneous conversations, negotiations, possible and alleged agreements, representations, covenants and warranties with respect to the subject matter hereof are waived, merged herein and therein and superseded hereby and thereby.

15.7 Effective Date. The Effective Date of this Franchise shall be upon acceptance by both parties.

15.8 Ordinance Supercedes. This Ordinance shall replace and supercede any and all other Cable System ordinances or franchises between the Franchising Authority and Grantee.

Considered and approved this 12th day of October, 2004.

COUNTY OF WYTHE, VIRGINIA

Signature: _____

Name/Title: Cellell Dalton, Clerk _____

Accepted this ____ day of _____, _____, subject to applicable federal, state and local law.

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS VI, LLC
DOING BUSINESS AS CHARTER
COMMUNICATIONS

Signature: _____

Name/Title: _____

This ordinance was duly considered following the required public hearing held on October 12, 2004, and was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County, Virginia, at its regular meeting held on October 12, 2004, and the members voting:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Wythe B. Sharitz	X			
James E. Hagee	X			
Susan R. Crigger	X			
Anne B. Crockett-Stark	X			
Charles S. Dix				X
Lisa R. Eaton	X			
Danny C. McDaniel		X		

I certify that this is a true and correct copy taken from the October 12, 2004, minutes of the Wythe County Board of Supervisors meeting.

R. Cellell Dalton, Clerk