

Unapproved

**Newbury Telecommunication Rural Economic Development Infrastructure District
Annual Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2018**

Chair Claude Phipps called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Board members seated in the front were: Claude; Lenice Cicchini, Vice-Chair; Dan Burwinkel, Treasurer; Brad Vietje, Clerk; Chip Conquest, Member; Jim Henderson, Member; Susan Underwood, Member. Committee members also in attendance were Ed Childs, Rick Hausman, Richard Pollock, Laurie Williams.

1. **Updates to Agenda:** Claude suggested adding to Item 5 the wording, “and annual meeting.”
2. **Selection of note taker:** Susan Underwood
3. **Hear the reports of the Chair, Clerk, and the Treasurer.**

Chair Report:

- Claude noted that during the one and one-half years the committee has existed it has built enthusiasm within the community for our broadband project to bring reliable high speed internet to households and businesses.
- Basic concept has been developed.
- Next step is to adopt bylaws.
- We have the tools to move project forward.
- We need to work on the discrepancies with the Vermont statutes and the REDI statute.
- Currently posting on the town’s website and our website. We will purchase our domain name when it is finalized and, when obtained, posting will discontinue on the town’s website.
- Laurie Williams and Rick Hausman have been working on a very competitive USDA grant due February 15, 2018 that offers a maximum of \$30,000. We need to show that every business in our town needs broadband.
- Our relationship with Fairpoint is still good; our goal of a public/private partnership with them still appears strong.

Clerk Report:

- Brad noted that our group became an official REDI district on October 16, 2017, and we elected our board of directors.
- The executive committee has been working on the bylaws. This work has been difficult due to the conflicts within the state statutes.

Treasurer Report:

Dan advised we have \$500 about to be deposited in the bank.

Unapproved

- 4. Motion to establish rules for posting warnings, minutes, and notices for the ensuing year:** Brad Vietje moved that postings be established at the two town libraries, the town clerk's office, Newbury Village post office, two list-serves, and our website, and Dan Burwinkel seconded his motion. Discussion followed. Brad withdrew his motion with a second by Dan. Susan Underwood asked if the REDI district is required to comply with municipal election procedures that include posting a warning, notice to voters, and a checklist 30 days before an election since the REDI district is a "municipality." Discussion followed. Connie Philleo asked if a notice needs to be posted in the newspaper.

It was moved, seconded, and voted to establish the following locations for posting: Town clerk's office, Baldwin Library, West Newbury Post Office, electronically, and by other means as the Board deems appropriate.

Claude moved and Lenice seconded that minutes and agendas be posted on the REDI district website. So voted.

- 5. Motion to set the schedule of regular meetings and annual meeting.** Brad moved to set the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Tenney Library for regular meetings. Claude moved to set the annual meeting as the first Monday in January unless we as a group change the date. Dan Burwinkel moved to set the annual meeting for the second Monday, excluding holidays, and Lenice seconded his motion.

Claude pointed out that both the first Monday and possibly the second Monday are both too short a period of time following the end of a year to properly prepare for the annual meeting, and he moved to amend the motion to the fourth Monday of January for 2019. Susan seconded his motion, and it passed as amended.

- 6. Motion to approve the 2018 budget.** Claude moved to pass over this item, Dan Burwinkel seconded his motion, and it was so voted.
- 7. Receive the report from the Newbury Selectboard concerning Governing Board appointments for the ensuing year.** Claude called for a brief recess at 7:43 pm to telephone Selectboard Chair Alma Roystan who had not arrived at the meeting to provide this report. She was reached at home and suggested the first five of the list of candidates previously submitted: Dan Burwinkel, Brad Vietje, Susan Underwood, Jim Henderson, Claude Phipps.
- 8. Receive nominations for the at-large nominations to the board.** Claude nominated and Jim seconded Chip and Lenice, Jim nominated and Dan seconded Ed Childs, Claude nominated and Susan seconded Nate Dudenhoeffer, and all were voted affirmatively.
- 9. Open the meeting to comments from the floor.** There were none. Claude declared the annual meeting closed at 7:50 pm.

Unapproved

Minutes by: Susan B. Underwood, Susan B. Underwood