

DRAFT MINUTES

NEWBURY TELECOMMUNICATIONS RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE DISTRICT.

Monday, October 28, 2019

4:30 PM, Space on Main

*Next Meeting Wed November 13th, 2019 (Holiday Delay); 4:30 PM, Space on
Main*

Attendees: Claude Phipps, Chair; Lenice Cicchini, Vice Chair; Dan Burwinkel, Bonnie Taylor, Brad Vietje. (Unable to attempt Zoom connect to Liane Allen)

Guest: Rick Hausman; Michael C. Reed, Director of External Affairs, Mission Broadband (RFP Respondent)

Call to Order: Claude called the meeting to order at 5:20.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved for October 14, 2019 as written

Treasurers Report: Balance remains \$11,681.76

Sub-Committee Reports:

Partnership with Consolidated Communications:

List of shared duties, Liane proposed 7 items to google list. Claude proposed another 25 items. Dan B offered to combine all into one list. Claude P encourages all to read list to be aware of possible negotiations with CCI.

Contract for Engineering Study, contact Jeff McIver: No update from CCI. Schedule of work- at present none exists. Email sent to Jeff McIver and Kara Pfeiffer for first copy of Schedule of Work. Concern about keeping up with timelines; this may need more discussion at next meeting. Scope of results of engineering study (by Consolidated Communications unknown for now.

Finance:

Broadband Innovation Grant CP: Grant submitted; Notice of award expected 11-08. Was modified notes on prior efforts to improve area access to BB; 15 different items added. Thank you to Rick H who supplied the Financial history (w/o audit) section.

USDA Grant: Work plan and budget: USDA Grant Money and work schedule: existing service and pricing. Fluctuation of pricing discussed. Sent draft of Work Plan & Budget to Susan Poland for verification of the scale and format.

DPS BIG 2019: Additional funding for feasibility study and business plan are in this grant. (Applied to Northern Borders Commission for another 24K which was turned down.) Grant was submitted October 25. Notice of award is due November 8th.

Publicity: LOGO Discussion: Informal discussion prior to Quorum noted similar conclusions and detail included here. Bonnie T to ask follow up questions on logo appearing TOP RIGHT of handout – possibly replace orange. Various Preferences noted and some versions rejected. No Red, no purple, no cell phone bars, no soccer balls, nothing too busy will work, BT to send note to John Munson. No conclusions. Discussion about whether to keep ‘Newbury’ as part of the name and therefore logo. Registered with Secretary of state. Decision to keep Newbury for now. (even though REDInet effort could extend to other municipalities.) Need to remain identifiable; can always resort to a new Doing- Business- As status later.

Consolidated Communications NDA: Report on development of NDA for non-board members: Decision to contact the town’s lawyer regarding the CCI NDA. How can it extend to all members when discussing the detail required by CCI?

* **Motion:** Dan B moved and Lenice C seconded that J. Barlow be consulted.
Unanimously approved.

Consultant: Proposals due 1 Nov. Sub-committee to review RFP. RFP due on November 1. Lenice C will run review process. Dan B volunteered to participate in this sub- committee. Nate will be asked if he can help. Will select by 12/2/2019. This is the second most important decision we have to make as Newbury REDInet. (First is contract with CCI.)

Other business recap from CP:

- Engineering Study Contract Due 11-24
- Need consultant on board; effort to begin November 1
- Best to have consultant on board by the time the engineering study is complete.

Guest Presentation: Michael Reed; Director of External Affairs, Mission Broadbean (of CT)

- Roots of company in healthcare: need to help towns so created MBB in April. No build or product just provides consultant support
- Emphasizes experience – ‘know what they are doing’
- Hi-level support – each community has a different set of circumstances
- Range community size assisted – Pop 1200 to Bangor
- Managing projects in RI and ME
- State of affairs vary by state in New England. Vermont legislature has really ‘stepped up’
- Goal to help get money for states; Welch on bipartisan coalition for BroadBand expansion

Respectfully Submitted: Bonnie Taylor, 11/10/2019