

NEWBURY TELECOMMUNICATIONS RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE DISTRICT.

Monday, November 26, 2018 4:30 PM, the Space on Main, Bradford, VT

Minutes, Newbury REDInet Meeting

Board members present: Claude Phipps, Brad Vietje, Chip Conquest, Ken Rower, Nate Dudenhoffer, Edward Childs, Lenice Cicchini, Liane Allen; Guests: Rick Hausman

Called to order 4:28 PM.

1. Do we have proper connection with Liane?

Video connection successful.

2. Updates to Agenda:

3. Note taker: Ed 11/26, (Chip 12/10, Ken 12/27, Lenice 1/14, Nate 1/28)

4. Approval of Minutes: (November 12, 2018)

Approved as corrected by Claude.

5. Treasurers Report: bills paid,

Nothing has happened, Dan is not present.

6. Clerk's Report: Special meeting dates for 2019

Brad sent out an email with two conflicts. Brad will send to Jim. Conflicts were Memorial Day and one other date? Do we have a standing policy on moving meetings which are scheduled for a holiday? Brad proposed moving the meeting Monday to Wednesday if Monday is a holiday.

7. Sub-Committee Reports:

a. Contract Generation and Partnership with Consolidated Communications (CCI):

Further discussion with CCI awaits completion of document of intent. \$20,000 contract is a waste if we cannot agree on overall concept. If we finish document our next action should be to meet with CCI and discuss general concepts. Nate suggested presenting the document at the meeting and recommended that a group of 3 attend. Chip agreed to

set up a meeting. Montpelier the likely venue. Nate out until December 13. Week of the 17th or following week most likely time. Wednesdays are bad for Nate. Nate, Chip, Claude and Rick designated to attend the meeting.

b. **Technology:** Rick's link to [TV-frequency White Space](#)

Mostly controlled by Microsoft, has problems in known situations (overlap, jumbled). Let us put our effort into core project. Last mile issues should be determined by design consultant.

c. **Finance:** Telephone meeting coming up 11/28 with Deputy Commissioner Ted Brady and

Claude. Ted works with Brett Long. Ted wanted to know what the statute allows us to do. Claude made this information available to Ted. For example, can we borrow, etc.? The administration is thinking of setting up a high-risk low-cost loan platform (revolving loan fund) for local initiatives. Chip not sure if this needs legislation. Loan might be forgiven if business plan fails. Loan that could be converted to a grant.

d. **Publicity:**

e. **Proposed amended Statute:** Date due? Universal Service Fund changes for 2019. Are the proposals that past the house OK? House approved but did not make it to Senate. Problem with at-large board members. Chip proposed a small group to see what statutory changes are desired, Chip will try to get into it by early January. Chip, Brad, Lenice will be involved. Universal service charge fund available to groups such as ours.

8. **Document of intent:** Lenice's draft from last meeting: do we need to add other details? next steps? Claude would like to change some things. Edited on line by Nate. Do we need to flesh it out further? Nate proposed small group to flesh out details. Rick will be on committee. Liane will work on it. Claude will meet with Rick to choose packets of information to be assigned to other board members. Do we need the meeting with CCI first before being able to do a business plan? There were varying opinions on this topic.

9. **Google Docs:** Nate's proposal and procedures. No discussion on this topic.

10. **Green Mountain Power:** contacts? (Nate)

Brian Oatley from GMP? Back and forth emails with Chip. Brian Oatley indicated willingness to meet with Chip.

11. **Matt Dunne:** (Chip) No discussion.

12. **Other Business:**

Meeting with Christine Hallquist. Rick met briefly with her. Rick happy to contact her. Nate talked with her at Space on Main opening.

Discuss the VT Telecommunications Act. Will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

13. Next REDI meeting: December 10, 2018, 4:30 PM, Space on Main, Bradford

14. Liane Allen Board Membership: Brad moved, Chip seconded, all in favor, unanimous.

15. Meeting adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Submitted: Edward Childs, 11/26/2018