

NEWBURY TELECOMMUNICATIONS RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INFRASTRUCTURE DISTRICT.

Minutes

Monday, April 13, 2020

4:30 PM, Space on Main & Zoom Meeting

Newbury REDInet Regular Meeting

1. **Call to order** at 4:32
2. **Attendance (via Zoom):** Brad, Luke, Bonnie, Lenice, Liane, Claude, Ed, Dan, Linda. Guests: Chris Lynch, and Rick Hausman (for the latter half of the meeting)
3. **Approval of Minutes** of February 24, March 9, March 23 canceled regular meetings. Claude moved, Liane seconded, all minutes approved.
4. **Treasurers Report:** Claude updated budget to show the BIG 2019 award split on a 50/50 basis. Paid first \$2500 to Town. Total of \$200 to Linda. Note that State requires us to provide auto insurance but will provide additional money to cover. (More information in Item 9. Sub-Committee Reports, c. Finance).
5. **Clerk's Report:** No clerk's report. Brad said he has put all minutes and reports in one file that he will share with Bonnie.
6. **Matrix Design Group Presentation:** Chris Lynch, Director of Business Development, www.matrixdg.com. Privately held company from East Hanover, NJ. A copy of his presentation was forwarded to all board members.
7. **Board Membership:** Claude asked that we continue to search for potential new members and replacements.
8. **Consultant:** We reviewed status of Tilson contract. Claude asked Adam Quinlan if Tilson was interested in starting again? Polite, but no follow-up. He has not reconnected with Magellan pending discussions with Matrix Design.

9. **Sub-Committee Reports:**

a. **Partnership with Consolidated Communications:**

- i. **List of shared duties:** Claude says it is clear we are not in agreement.
- ii. **Contract for Engineering Study:** Claude asked Jeff for a closing invoice that listed previous cash payments, in-kind payments, and amount due. Needed to justify USDA requirements.
- iii. **Engineering Study:** The group felt CCI's bid is not feasible. For example, \$7.7 million is too high; we would need to add 800 new poles to avoid going underground; we would need to restrict the area we try to serve, no Charter, no Topsham Telephone. No long runs to single subscriber. Lenice moves we put our relationship with Consolidated aside for the moment. Ed seconds. So moved.

b. **Technology:** No discussion.

c. **Finance:**

- i. **Broadband Innovation Grant 2019:** Re: Automobile insurance: USDA gave us a waiver to allow us to go on sub-contractor insurance, but State insists we need to carry our own. Fortunately they will allow us to cut the amount in half, to \$500,000, and they will pay for it.
- ii. **USDA Grant:** No discussion.

10. **Other Business:** None. Meeting adjourned 6:12.

11. **Next REDI meeting:** Monday April 27, Zoom, 4:30 PM

Submitted: Linda Ide, Meeting Recorder, 4/13/2020