

LAMOILLE FIBERNET COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD: REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Chart of Actions

Who	What	Status
Board	Send to Jane suggestions for treasurer/bookkeeper position	In progress
Jane C.	Develop draft financial policies	Done
Paul W.	Develop draft mission statement	Done
Michael R, Sam L, Lucy R.	Submit written testimonies in support of the Governor's budget proposal funding for CUDs and an allocation of CRS \$\$ for pole assessment	Done
Lea K.	Compose a response to Round 2 Connectivity Initiative proposals	Done
Lea K.	Share broadband survey results with the Board	To do
Board	Email Lea for a copy of LCPC-Tilson feasibility study agreement	Done
Website C.	Request from 3W Promotions creation of lamoillefiber.net email accounts for Board	Done
Michael R.	Sign PSD-LFCUD grant agreement	Done
Executive	Develop LFCUD-LCPC agreement for consulting and admin services	To do

Town Representatives and Alternates Attending (V=present and voting; P=present)

Town	P/V	Representative	P/V	Alternate	P/V	Alternate
Cambridge	V	Tim Humphrey	P	Sam Lotto		
Hyde Park	V	Michael Rooney	P	Jack Wool		
Johnson	V	Charlotte Reber	P	Doug Molde	P	Paul Warden
Morristown	V	Jane Campbell	P	John Meyer		
Waterville	P	Jeff Tilton	V	Lucy Rogers		
Belvidere	V	Carol Caldwell Edmonds	P	Kipp Verner		

Also Attending

Kate Donnaly, Duane Howard, Larry Lackey, Stephen Freedman, Lea Kilvadyova

Call to Order

Michael Rooney called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Additions/deletions to the agenda

- Appoint Larry Lackey to Technology Committee
- Accept Lea Kilvadyova's resignation from website committee

- Authorize website committee to develop website content, with Lea's guidance; and authorize expense of \$72 in FY21 to 3W Promotions to create up to five lamoillefiber.net email accounts
- Add a discussion about Governor's State Budget Proposal to allocated two million dollars to CUDs
- Add a discussion about ISP proposals to Round 2 Connectivity Initiative
- Update Treasurer paragraph in the Bylaws and synchronize language with the Banking Resolution
- Lucy Rogers will be a voting representative for Waterville at this meeting
- Update the consent agenda item to include the added items that will be voted on
- If we run out of time tonight, postpone financial documents, Open Meeting Law and September meeting schedule items

Jeff Tilton expressed an interest in getting a dedicated lamoillefiber.net email account. (Note: More discussion on this followed later in the meeting)

Public Comment

None

Review of Draft Minutes

Lucy Rogers moved, Jane Campbell seconded the motion to approve draft minutes from Aug 7, 2020. Vote: 5-0-1. Abstention from Carol Caldwell Edmonds.

Administrative, meeting and committee updates

- A welcome to Belvidere: Belvidere's Selectboard submitted a request to join LFCUD along with a resolution to appoint Carol Caldwell Edmonds and Kipp Verner as representatives
- Eden is yet to appoint a representative
- Account at Union Bank is now open and the 10K grant from Vermont Community Foundation has been deposited.
- Jane Campbell has been working earnestly to obtain insurance quotes.
- Amended website proposal and agreement were signed by 3W Promotions and LFCUD chair, respectively.
- Technology Committees requests to appoint Larry Lackey as member.
- All Committees and the Board have established schedules for their regular meetings: Executive 2nd Wed at 6pm, Tech 3rd Wed at 7pm, Board 4th Wed at 7 pm, Website weekly on Mondays at 5:30 p.m.
- LCPC met with Tilton to get updates on the feasibility study – progress was made with the survey, high level design and network buildout cost estimates.
- VCUDA has been discussing methods for statewide utility pole data collection
- Board members interested in the LCPC-Tilton agreement should email Lea

Lucy Rogers asked whether there is any movement in Stowe to join LFCUD. Larry Lackey said that the Selectboard only committed to the feasibility study. Of consideration may be a town vote at the 2021 Town Meeting.

LFCUD mission discussion

To start the discussion, Michael Rooney, Jeff Tilton and Jane Campbell submitted initial ideas.

Jane said she liked Jeff's first paragraph because it leaves technology options slightly open and does not focus on solely on fiber: "Our mission is to provide a local option of affordable, reliable, true high-speed internet service to all addresses in our district by facilitating the buildout of, and overseeing the management of a robust, all-inclusive network using fiber optic and other tested and secure technologies to carry data." Sam Lotto was concerned about "local option". Tim Humphrey said the mission should not mention specific technology or specific operating model and should be high level. It should focus on affordable, high speed internet. Jane agreed that the mission needs to stay very high level. Doug Molde thought the mission should reflect the fact that we do not intend to be stagnant with one technology and recognize that overtime technology options may change. Jack Wool said that key mission characteristics should include universal, reliable, affordable. Paul Warden offered to take a shot at writing a statement reflecting the discussion. All agreed.

Consent Agenda items:

Tim Humphrey moved, Lucy Rogers seconded the motion to:

- Authorize Chair to sign the PSD-LFCUD grant agreement
- Authorize Executive Committee to develop/sign Sub-Grant agreement with LCPC with start date of July 1, 2020
- Authorize Executive Committee to develop/issue RFP for utility pole assessment
- Appoint Larry Lackey to Technology Committee
- Accept Lea Kilvadyova's resignation from the website committee
- Authorize the website committee to develop website content, with Lea's guidance; and authorize the expense of up to \$100 in FY21 to 3W Promotions to create lamoillefiber.net specific email accounts for LFCUD Board members

Vote: 6-0-0

Lucy Rogers moved to amend the motion relating to email accounts, Tim Humphrey seconded. The amendment is to alter the \$100 amount to an "up-to-the-amount necessary" to purchase lamoillefiber.net specific email accounts for all Board members.

Vote: 6-0-0.

Jeff Tilton left at 8 p.m.

Governor's budget proposal discussion

Lucy Rogers said that the Governor's state budget proposal includes 2 million to support

CUDs. Rob Fish recommended that each CUD appoints one person to testify to the importance of this money. CUDs can provide in-person and written testimonies and should encourage other community members such as school board members to testify.

Lucy also said that three million CRF dollars could be released to support statewide utility pole data assessment. Public Service Department would coordinate this work.

Michael Rooney, Sam Lotto and Lucy all volunteers to draft testimonies.

Tim Humphrey moved and Jane Campbell seconded the motion for Michael Rooney, Lucy Rogers and Sam Lotto to draft testimonies supporting the two million dollar appropriation to CUDs and the three million dollar appropriation to PSD for pole assessment. Vote: 6-0-0.

ISP Connectivity Initiative proposals

LFCUD received a notification of ISP funding requests submitted to the Connectivity and Get Vermonters Connected Now Initiatives in Round 2 of the program. Lea Kilvadyova reviewed the list of proposals included in the notification.

Tim Humphrey moved and Charlotte Reber seconded the motion to object to all proposed wireless buildouts and ask Lea to draft a letter to PSD to communicate the objection. Vote: 6-0-0.

Agenda items postponed to another meeting

- Review Governing Board Job Description
- Review Bylaw Change Proposal re the Treasurer Role
- Review Bookkeeper Job Description
- Review Financial Policies
- Create a list of Board member questions about Open Meeting Law
- Review September meeting schedule

Adjourn

Lucy Rogers moved and Jane Campbell seconded the motion to adjourn a 8:46 p.m. Vote: 6-0-0