

**LAMOILLE FIBERNET COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

Sep 22, 2021 at 7:00p.m.

Location: GMSS, 93 James St, Morrisville, VT

DRAFT MINUTES

7pm Call to Order: Jane Campbell called the meeting to order.

Changes to the Agenda and Public Comment: none Michael wants to discuss zoom vs teams.

7:01pm Roll call:

Town Representatives and Alternates Attending

(V=Present and Voting, P=Present, A=Absent)

Town	P/V	Representative	P/V	Alternate	P/V	Second Alternate
Belvidere	V	Carol Caldwell-Edmonds	P	Kipp Verner		
Cambridge	V	Sam Lotto	P	Teelah Hall	P	Fred Wadlington
Eden	A	Liza Jones	A	Damien Le Clerck		
Hyde Park	V	Michael Rooney	P	Carol Fano	A	Jack Wool
Johnson	V	Charlotte Reber	P	Paul Warden		
Morristown	V	Jane Campbell	A	John Meyer		
Stowe	V	Stephen Friedman	A	Scott Weathers	A	Chris Foran
Waterville	V	Jeff Tilton	P	Lucy Rogers		
Wolcott	V	Bruce Wheeler	A	Mike Davidson		

Attending Staff: Val Davis **Other Members attending:** Larry Lackey* **Guests:** Rob Fish, Christa Shute

*Larry joined meeting at 7:55pm

7:04pm Consent Agenda:

- Approval of minutes from 8/25/21 to include the following correction: Kipp Verner was present.
- Treasurer's Report
- Recent purchases

- Banking resolution: In approving the consent agenda, the Governing Board will be approving a request to Union Bank to issue a Lamoille FiberNet debit card to Valentine Davis.
- Updates: Short takes: *VCBB is talking about purchasing bulk materials for buildout projects. VCUDA contemplating offering shared administrative resources. NEK Broadband has been talking to VCBB about training line workers to support the upcoming large projects.*

Michael Rooney moved to approve the consent agenda with the above italicized additional notes. Paul Warden seconded. Motion passed.

7:06pm Zoom vs. Teams: Noting an observed superiority with the Zoom Communication platform verses Microsoft Teams on low bandwidth networks, Michael moved to continue using the platform into the future as opposed to switching to teams with the transition to 360. Paul Warden seconded. Anecdotally, the members concluded there is no significant difference in low bandwidth scenarios. The added integration is likely worth the growing pains associated with switching platforms. The board will keep the Zoom account active while switching over to Teams, in case the need to default to Zoom Motion was recalled.

7:15pm NEK Broadband Request: Cares fund need to be used by the end of dec. Legal per the statutes. The agreement will indemnify LFCUD in the event of audit and in the event of liability situation. The %5 administrative fee to LFCUD must be used by December. Rob Fish gave a brief history of these particular funding caps and then noted that DPS is still looking into legality, but encourages the district to move ahead with grant application. The issue of legality lies with the state, not the districts involved. There will be time for LFCUD to get a legal review of proposal from LFCUD's counsel. Christa Shute added that a condition of contract is that the grant amendment is approved by the state. Secondly, noting that LFCUD will have their legal counsel review in the near future, she would like a conditional approval tonight. She anticipates delay on state side as well. Michael Rooney moved to accept the grant amendment if so approved by the state, and enter into the subgrant agreement subsequent as such with NEK Broadband. Sam Lotto seconded. Motion passed.

Rob Fish and Christa Shute left the meeting.

7:35pm Personnel Handbook Approval: The Executive Committee and legal counsel have reviewed and recommended this document to the board for adoption. Jane noted we have given our one employee 40hrs of sick time upon hiring, but wanted to clarify if this would be the policy moving forward. The board feels prorated and accumulating sick time would be the better option. Paul Warden moved to accept policy with the added change of accruing personal sick time on monthly basis. Michael Rooney seconded. Motion passed. There was further discussion on possibly needing "pandemic sick bank" clause for future pandemic emergencies. The board collectively hopes this will not be needed.

7:46pm Retention Policy and Plan Discussion: Once we have a retention plan, we will be able to archive and dispose records as needed. Jane and Carol Fano are trying to trim down the proposed policy down to a useful and relevant document for this application. Any document storage system needs to be easy

for employees, staff, and board to use. Document labels, etc. are an example of effective archiving strategies. This document is a good starting point, but will be updated as needed.

7:55pm Larry Lackey joined the meeting.

7:57pm Partnership Task Force Update: Noting that the proceeding update would contain a discussion on contracts of which premature public knowledge would clearly place LFCUD or its potential partners at a significant disadvantage, Stephen Friedman moved to enter executive session, to include all present and noted on the roll call, excluding the attendees that had left (Rob Fish, Christa Shute). Paul Warden Seconded. Motion passed.

7:59pm Meeting enters executive session.

8:30pm Public meeting resumed. No actions were taken as a result of executive session. The board expressed their gratitude to PTF for their hard work over the last several months.

8:33pm Meeting Wrap-up and Adjourn: GMSS has offered office space to LFCUD, for a donation however the actual office space may move around. Michael Rooney moved to adjourn. Sam Lotto seconded. Motion passed.