



## LAMOILLE FIBERNET COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT

### EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 7th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: GMSS, 93 James St, Morrisville, VT

### Approved MINUTES

**7:09 pm Call to order:** Jane Campbell called the meeting to order.

**7:09 pm Agenda changes & public comment:** Jane recommended Pulling the ED update out of the consent agenda for discussion. All agreed.

**7:10 pm Roll Call:**

#### Committee Members Attendance

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

Town	P/V	Representative	P/V	Alternate	P/V	Second Alternate
Cambridge	A	Sam Lotto	V	Teelah Hall		
Eden	A	Damien De Clerck				
Elmore	A	Brian Evans-Mongeon	A	Hans de Boer		
Hyde Park	V	Michael Rooney	A	Carol Fano	A	Jack Wool
Johnson	A	Charlotte Reber	A	Paul Warden		
Morristown	V	Jane Campbell	A	John Meyer		
Stowe	V	Stephen Friedman	A	Scott Weathers	A	Chris Foran
Waterville	V	Jeff Tilton	A	Lucy Rogers		
Wolcott	A	Bruce Wheeler	A	Mike Davidson		
Treasurer	P	Larry Lackey				

**Other Lamoille FiberNet attendees:** Val Davis

**Public/Guests:** Salvador Morales

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**7:12pm Consent Agenda:** Recent purchases, none.

**7:13 ED Updates:** Val noted that Tilson had delivered their high-level design. They updated their GIS information online. We need to go through it to confirm the accuracy. Val is communicating with Tilson about payment. Committee members again expressed concerns about Tilson's lack of timeliness and deliverables and, also, given their discomfort with having NRTC work for no payment and therefore no responsibility for the work, they suggested setting up an hourly payment arrangement with NRTC. Lisa Birmingham has accepted the position and will be starting soon. Jane inquired about the VCBB pre-purchase of materials. Val explained that the VCBB is working on a mechanism to pre-order materials. VCBB will actually purchase the materials and disperse to the CUDs against their grant dollars. Val noted that he is working on a Pole Study RFP. He is working on determining where our buildings will be placed and what easements will be needed. Also, the Pole Study may be redundant work. Val is continuing to investigate. Val is continuing to try to arrange an hourly working agreement with NRTC. Val reminded committee members that Selectboard reappointments will be due at the end of April: Val will schedule a special May meeting for election of officers and committee assignments.

**7:17 pm:** Teelah joined.

**7:23 pm Fiber Broadband Association:** Val wants to join the Fiber Broadband Association. Val looked at other associations to join. Val determined that the FBA is the best association. Other associations focus more on power utilities. Jane said it is Val's decision. Val said it will not affect the bottom line of the budget. Val will be joining the FBA at a cost of around \$1200 per year.

**7:27 pm Change to Bylaws with attendance requirements:** Jeff Tilton crafted the initial language. Jane pointed out that we don't have an "Executive Assistant" and that the verbiage should be changed to reflect Lisa Birmingham's title "Grants Administrator/Office Coordinator." Stephen Friedman thought the verbiage was vague and suggested verbiage changes to better reflect the spirit of the intention. Jane suggested "each town" be present through either a primary or alternate representative. Jane suggested language stating that "primary and alternate representatives should keep themselves up to date with the CUDs activity. Jeff Tilton advised that this is designed to create a mechanism to allow the CUD to contact the Town in the event that the town is not being represented regularly.

Jeff Tilton made a motion that the board adopt the bylaws change with appropriate language; Teelah Hall seconded. All in favor; no abstentions.

**7:29 pm:** Larry Lackey joined.

**7:43 pm PTF Update-** Stephen Friedman made the motion to enter executive session after making a specific finding that premature general public knowledge of contract negotiations would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Paul Warden seconded. All voted in favor. Entered Executive Session.

**8:27 pm Exit Executive Session:** Action items for Executive Director: All agreed the Governing Board will have final approval authority of the agreement with Google Fiber. The Working Group will continue working through the next drafts of the negotiated agreement, and if the Working Group thinks there is a decision that challenges a fundamental premise or policy of LFCUD, the Working Group will inform the Governing Board ASAP. To continue to move the process forward and bring broadband to our communities as soon as possible, the Governing Board may need to schedule some special meetings to discuss significant turning points in the negotiations.

Val will post the latest drafts in a confidential area of Teams and ask Governing Board members to read it and bring up their questions/concerns by Tuesday by 5:00 April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Val will also prepare an RFP for Professional Services/Project Management.

**8:45 pm Meeting Wrap-up and Adjournment:** Paul Warden motioned to adjourn, Teelah Hall seconded. All in favor.

**8:46 pm Meeting adjourned.**

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