



**LAMOILLE FIBERNET COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
October 26, 2022 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Online Virtual Meeting Only
APPROVED MINUTES**

7:00 pm Call to Order & Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order and called the roll. Members present and voting were as follows:

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				
Cambridge	V	Sam Lotto	P	Teelah Hall		
Eden	V	Carey Earle	A	Freeda Powers		
Elmore	P	Brian Evans-Mongeon (joined at 7:15pm)	A	Hans de Boer	V	Randy Tomlin
Hyde Park	V	Michael Rooney	P	Carol Fano	A	Jack Wool
Johnson	V	Charlotte Reber (joined at 7:03pm)	P	Paul Warden		
Morristown	V	Jane Campbell	A	John Meyer		
Stowe	V	Stephen Friedman	A	Scott Weathers		
Waterville	V	Jeff Tilton	P	Lucy Rogers		
Wolcott	P	Andrew Ross				

Lamoille FiberNet attendees: Mark Schilling (Treasurer), Val Davis, Lisa Birmingham, Fabian Bourgeois
Public/Guests: None

After calling the roll, the Chair noted that Freeda Powers (Eden) had resigned, and that tonight would be the last meeting for Lucy Rogers (Waterville).



Lucy Rogers announced she was starting a new position with the VCBB on Monday. Everyone expressed their gratitude for Lucy’s valuable contributions as both a board member and legislator and wished her well.

7:02 pm Agenda Changes: The Chair noted a correction to the Consent Agenda, the draft minutes were for September 28, not August 24. Val suggested pulling the laptop policy from the Consent Agenda. The Chair then suggested removing from the agenda: the marketing and communications committee update; the equipment policy; drop policy; and broadband friendly policy. Paul Warden so moved; Carey Earle seconded. All in favor; none opposed; none abstained.

7:04 pm Charlotte Reber joined.

7:07 pm Annual Update and Fiscal Review, Proposed 2023 Budget Review: Val reported that the bottom line had not changed since last month and the materials were in the packet. Noting that no members of the public were in attendance, the chair asked if any members wanted to ask questions or comment. No one did.

7:08 pm Public Comment and Feedback from District Legislative Bodies: No members of the public or District legislative bodies were present. The Chair asked Val and members if they had received any questions or feedback. No questions or feedback was shared.

7:09 pm Treasurer’s Report: The Chair requested a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Jeff Tilton so moved; Stephen Friedman seconded. The Chair invited Mark Schilling to share highlights. Mark noted that LFCUD had a productive meeting with its accountant and shared ideas for improvements. One recommendation was to eliminate the two-signature requirement on checks of less than \$5000, as long as the check was not payable to the signatory. Mark noted that such a requirement was an unnecessary burden and most organizations do not have such a limit. He also noted that LFCUD uses debit cards for transactions which do not require any signature. Val explained that the Executive and Finance Committee, on a vote of 3-2 vote, approved to recommend this change to the Governing Board. After Jane restated the motion as approved by EFC, Jeff Tilton moved to approve, and Michael Rooney seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, she called the vote. Hearing an opposed, the Chair proceeded to call the roll.

Town	Representative	Vote
Belvidere	Carol Caldwell-Edmonds	No
Cambridge	Sam Lotto	Aye
Eden	Carey Earle	Aye
Elmore	Randy Tomlin	Aye
Hyde Park	Michael Rooney	Aye
Johnson	Charlotte Reber	Aye



Morristown	Jane Campbell	Aye
Stowe	Stephen Friedman	No
Waterville	Jeff Tilton	Aye
Wolcott	Andrew Ross	Aye

The motioned passed. The Treasurer agreed to work with Val to prepare the necessary materials for the bank.

7:06 pm Executive Director Update: Outside Counsel, Elijah Emerson is reviewing the NRTC agreement to help get that to the finish line. Also, LFCUD met with VCBB staff to discuss the prospect of a new map and get a better understanding of the policy relating to incidental overbuild. The VCBB has determined that grant dollars may be used only for incidental overbuild and that incidental means 20% of total addresses passed. In finalizing the build plan, NRTC will identify the eligible overbuild as well as confirming the 5,200 unserved and underserved addresses. Val estimated that total passings was roughly 7,900. Members had additional discussion about the updated business plan, which was slightly improved by using 20% of the total passings, rather than 20% of underserved and unserved.

7:15 pm Brian Evans-Mangion joined.

He reported the RFP was being reviewed by legal and almost final, and yielded the floor to Lucy Rogers, who explained her new role at the VCBB.

Carol Caldwell-Edmunds asked if Val was able to breakout the construction grant dollars on a town-by-town basis. Val had requested the allocations from VCBB staff but had not yet received.

7:28 pm PTF Update: Sam Lotto reported that the committee had done a lot of work on the RFP and encouraged other Board members to review once posted. Val offered to send a SharePoint link to the updated RFP. Carol asked if the language regarding scope of permissible responses had changed or clarified and asked if a respondent could bid on just a portion of the footprint, not the entire footprint. There was some discussion about whether the language of the RFP reflected the committee’s intent to entertain all options but prioritize bidders who would take on the entire footprint. The current language says respondents can bid on a portion of the work but does not limit it to a geography or service. Sam emphasized that what we are looking for is the next, most sustainable, most manageable, and economically feasible solution.

Stephen asked what the outreach plan was and where the RFP would be posted; there was a brief discussion of options. Val said he would post on Bidnet and send to previously interested parties and the CUD’s website. Stephen and Paul also asked about how to respond to inquiries. Val reiterated the Q & A process and that he would be the sole point of contact and that all questions would be answered at the same time and shared with everyone.



7:52 pm Marketing and Communications Committee Update - Jeff Tilton reported that the committee had selected Four Nine to update the website and had a kickoff meeting today with more meetings to be scheduled. The committee is also exploring how to leverage social media.

7:54 pm Consent Agenda (Approval of: September 28, 2022 Minutes; Partnership Taskforce Charter Change authorizing up to Eight Members) Jeff Tilton moved the amended consent agenda; Paul Warden seconded. All in favor; none opposed; none abstained.

7: 55 pm Other Board Matters and Wrap Up: The Chair noted the carry forward items for the next meeting, which had been tabled at the top of the meeting, namely the drop policy, the broadband friendly policy, the laptop and equipment policy, the updated communications plan, and the budget.

Having completed the Agenda, the Chair thanked Lucy Rogers again and requested a motion to adjourn. Charlotte Reber so moved; Andrew Ross seconded. The Chair called the vote. All in favor; none opposed; none abstained.

7:57 pm Meeting adjourned.

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