



Governing Board Meeting
March 27, 2024 at 7:00pm
Meeting by Video Conference ONLY
Approved 4/24/2024

7:00pm Call to Order and Roll Call: Jeff Tilton called the meeting to order.

**Town Representatives and Alternates Attending (V=Present
and Voting, P=Present, A=Absent)**

Town	P/V	Representative	P/V	Alternate
Belvidere	V	Carol Caldwell-Edmonds		
Cambridge	V	Sam Lotto	P	Matthew McCabe
Eden	V	Carey Earle		
Elmore	V	Randy Tomlin		
Hyde Park	P	Michael Rooney	V	Carol Fano
Johnson	V	Paul Warden	A	Jeff Bickford
Morristown	V	Jane Campbell	P	John Meyer
Stowe	V	Stephen Friedman		
Waterville	P	Jeff Tilton	P	Scott Johnson
Wolcott	V	Andrew Ross		

Other Lamoille FiberNet attendees: Lisa Birmingham, ED; Mark Schilling, Ex-Officio, Treasurer
Public/Guests: Teelah Hall

Agenda Changes

· None

Public Comment

· None

Approval of Prior Minutes – Vote

· Jane moved to approve the 2/28/2024 Governing Board Minutes. Paul seconded. Unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Chair's Remarks

- Comments regarding items requiring Executive Session
- LCPC's new finance manager, Susan Sinnott starts at LCPC April 1; Susan will be available for CUD support one day a week and will transition with our accountant.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Update – Schilling referred members to his written report, noting next month there will be three grant resources and new reports for pre-con and construction grants, both ARPA funds. Newly awarded \$55k BEAD capacity grant for external resources to help us with the BEAD challenge and grant process.

We have started talking with a couple of Treasurer candidates.

Marketing and Communications Committee Update - Campbell, Caldwell-Edmonds

- Jane/Carol – no updates beyond report; are spreading the word out re: hiring a Treasurer

Operations and Executive Director Update - Birmingham

- The accountant transition will require supporting Lisa to best transition from QB's to QB's/Enterprise. She is seeking support in addition to Mark to navigate that transition; Michael and Jane offered.
- VCBB mtg. on Monday; will discuss what to do with unobligated ARPA funds; ECFiber is asking for an additional \$10M to make services more affordable, it does not appear to be for new construction. Stephen moved & Carol Caldwell-Edmonds seconded to recommend the ED attend VCBB meeting on 4/1/24 and request that LFN be able to apply for ARPA funds in a fair and open process. Motion passed unanimously.
- Sam asked if the 4/15 detailed design and construction schedule was something members could share with constituents. Lisa advised that review and reconciliation would require some time (a couple/few weeks) to turn around into a complete address build list. Will update at next meeting.

Sustainability Task Force Update - Tomlin - Discussion, Executive Session. Lisa and Randy provided an overview of the timeline and basic obligations, current budget allocations to support operations.

7:55pm - Stephen moved to go into executive session to discuss legal, contractual and other matters relating to the Phase 2 BEAD strategy and the sustainability strategy, the premature public disclosure of which would put the CUD or potential partners at a substantial disadvantage -- to include all Gov. Board members and staff present. Randy Seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Teelah Hall left the meeting.

8:57pm - Executive session ended and no immediate action was taken. Lisa reviewed the updated 2024 budget recommendations, which included reducing 2024 spend to reallocate to 2026. As a result of executive session discussion, Randy made a motion to approve an adjusted 2024 budget of \$293,400.00. Jane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

- o Board appointments are due 4/15/2024
- o 4/17/24 is next EFC mtg. 4/24/24 is next GB mtg.
- o 5/14/24 is the Annual Meeting and will be in-person.

Wrap up and Adjourn- 9:06pm Randy moved and Jane seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.