



## **Agenda**

WiredWest Board of Directors Meeting

November 2, 2013 9:30 AM

Leyden Town Hall

16 W. Leyden Road

Leyden, MA, 01337

**Welcome and Introductions** – Noting a quorum present, President Monica Webb called the meeting to order at 9:33 am. She welcomed the delegates, alternates and guests and extended thanks to our hosts, Gloria and her group of volunteers for the refreshments.

**Approval of minutes** from October 10th, 2013 meeting – Jim moved; Glenn seconded. Discussion – Steve suggested we strike one sentence. All in favor of approving minutes as amended with 6 abstentions.

**Motion to add Dan Jacques, delegate from Montgomery, to the executive committee -** Monica reported that Dan Jacques had indicated an interest in and willingness to serve on the EC, and noted that he has relevant and valuable experience. Dan spoke briefly. Reva nominated Dan Jacques for election to the Executive Committee for a three-year term to expire at the 2016 annual meeting. All in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.

**Report from the Executive Director** – David Epstein gave a monthly progress report and answered delegates' questions. Most of the discussion surrounded town participation and strategies for funding the network as well as the general appetite and sense of urgency for the implementation of fiber to the home.

**Legislative Update** – Monica shared that she had recently testified in Washington DC in support of RUS funding and broadband initiatives. She discussed the issues and problems with funding and various strategies for moving things forward. Monica noted that the state bond bill is now in the house ways and means committee, but still has several more committees to clear. Additional support letters may be requested.

### **Committee Reports -**

- Town Liaison – Reva reported that she is preparing for outreach surrounding town participation. She has created a town meeting schedule and started an email list for monthly communication with town select boards.
- Sales – Glenn reported that we are progressing in working with a number of commercial accounts who are interested in fiber extensions. Pricing varies widely and is very high. We are looking at ways to reduce costs. A customer support contract has been

submitted for service from BizTech Solutions, Inc. The client contract has also been developed with the help of BRPC.

- Marketing – Monica cautioned member about speaking to the media on behalf of their towns in case they (the media) are looking for a negative spin. Please refer media inquiries to Monica. Monica is working on the very detailed and time consuming marketing information as required for the RUS application. Monica also brought the delegates' attention to the "Report to the Board of Directors."
- Governance – Steve has been reviewing client connection contracts and acceptable use policies.
- Finance – Jim distributed a financial statement. Very few changes from last month with the exception of having paid some legal fees. Jim noted that there will be some significant expenses associated with completing the RUS application.
- Technology – Kevin Cahill not present at today's meeting, but Dan Jacques reported that he and Kevin will be working on better ways to manage and document clients. Reva mentioned she has discussed some pro-bono document management with Kevin. Jim and Kevin have had some conference calls with backhaul providers. Jean reported that she has been in conversation with telecom companies to provide VOIP services to WW customers.

**Other Director Input** -Noel Abbott brought up the CIC grant. Discussion ensued and it was felt that our likelihood for being funded was fairly low and we would not be pursuing it at this time. Bob Labrie offered to put together an informational draft. Directors discussed utilizing the MBI connections for the public.

**Other business which could not be reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of meeting -**

**Confirm and Schedule next BoD meetings**

- December 7<sup>th</sup> in Chesterfield
- January 11<sup>th</sup> in Goshen

Adjourn - Jim moved we adjourn; Mary Ellen Kennedy seconded; Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.