

WiredWest Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date / time: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 6:00 PM

Location / address: Hampshire Council of Governments, 99 Main Street, Northampton, MA

Attendees: Jim Drawe, David Dvore, Bob Labrie, Bob Labrie, Jeremy Dunn, Charley Rose, MaryEllen Kennedy

Guests; Steve Nelson, Gayle Huntress

Meeting called to order at: 6:30 pm

1. Approve minutes of previous meetings – Dec 14 approved unanimously
2. David Dvore moved to recess for business discussion, Bob Labrie seconded, Charley Rose abstained.

EC meeting reconvened at 6:55

1. MBI update – 2 addenda to the RFP and Q&A document have been posted. Marilyn Wilson contacted State auditor’s office – she’s meeting with MBI auditor (she contacted Charley, Gayle & Leslie to join). Marilyn heard from Carolyn Kirk – they are committed to RFP process, but she’d meet with Marilyn in late January.
2. Discuss/approve letter to town officials: Letter was previously approved. Outreach will send immediately.
3. Discuss Dec 21 Board of Director’s meeting: went well, towns are seeing options.
4. Discuss Plan A2: We have 1 proposal that covers all towns, don’t feel that Matrix proposal is practical (mainly construction). Jeremy Dunn thinks we should give deadline to other vendors. Jim Drawe will contact them to see if they still are serious and give them a deadline.
5. Broadband Summit planning – Stan Rosenberg can’t attend, would send staff. Steve Nelson thinks conference should focus on presenting WW proposal to town officials. Jim Drawe also wanted to facilitate communication from towns to legislators. Jeremy Dunn: towns will be presented with decisions by March/April – this meeting should help town officials to decide – postpone until early February and focus on educating town officials. Gayle – MBI CMs are designing a regional network, allocating extra strands, etc. Jeremy Dunn: policy decisions are made above MBI tech level. Requirement for each town to connect to MBI123 needs to be changed – this is the biggest issue. Steve Nelson – the resolution was designed to make Carolyn Kirk aware that we want a regional solution & seat at the table. David Dvore: the best way is to have a focused meeting with Carolyn Kirk and a small group of town officials. The EC thinks we should not wait to publicize our solution.

Meeting on 28th will be only for discussion of WW plans and Q&A. Jan 4 EC meeting will focus on rates & tiers, then work on agenda for 28th (to be continued on Jan 11th). Jim Drawe thinks the Holleran slides on regionalization would be good to show. Jeremy Dunn: keep in mind the audience, not very technical. They want to know cost, who’ll pay, how much it costs them. This is basically a sales pitch.

1. Committee Updates
2. Review other ongoing work, including meetings, conference calls
3. Other business which could not be reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of meeting
4. Set next EC meeting: Jan 4th

Adjourned at 7:30pm for Outreach Committee meeting

Need for mailing lists