

WiredWest Executive Committee Meeting

Date / time: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 6:00 PM

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

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

Guests: Steve Nelson, Leslie Rule, Russ Jolly, Tim Newman, Gayle Huntress, Craig Martin, Bob Handsaker, Travor Mackey, Doug McNally

Meeting called to order at: 6:05 pm

1. Approve minutes of previous meeting – January 4 – approved. Charley Rose abstained.
2. Resolution – raised by Steve Nelson. Bob Labrie is keeping track of documents submitted by towns. He suggests to leave resolution; Outreach will produce a response to the Larkin letter for towns.
3. MBI update – WW reps met with MBI auditors yesterday. They are auditing the Middle Mile process.
4. Discuss Plan A2 – WCF requesting letter of support – they submitted their RFP response yesterday. It included prices for design, engineering & construction – Jim Drawe added those estimates to spreadsheet – they are less than MBI’s estimates. MaryEllen Kennedy moved, Jeremy Dunn seconded that we send a letter of support for WGE’s response – carried unanimously. The EC recommends to send this to the BoD as a stronger endorsement – Charley Rose to write a draft.

Bob Labrie is concerned about lack of feedback from town to WW queries, he needs to know how many towns will fund WiredWest.

Jeremy moved, BL seconded to recess for non-public discussion at 6:45pm, approved unanimously.

Reconvened at 7:40pm

1. Broadband Summit planning
2. Committee Updates

Finance: Report from HCOG: 6571 customers – we are ~$6,000 short in escrow account (credit card fees, interest income from overpayment to early refunds). Jeremy Dunn moves to make escrow account whole (fully funded), MaryEllen Kennedy seconded. Carried unanimously.

Bob L will work with Melissa on billing the towns which have appropriated funds for FY17.

What should dues be? Maximum in the bylaws is $1,000, but we could ask towns to add a voluntary contribution. We can alter bylaws, takes at least 2 BoD meetings, to ask for additional funds. Bulk of anticipated expenses will be legal fees. Jim Drawe – we will need to create a regionalization agreement, towns will have to pay for a legal review – should warn them. We have gotten grants from BPRC for legal work. Steve Nelson – we should have an MOU for towns – present on Jan 28, give them a deadline to sign after reviewing options. Bob Handsaker – this could be an inter-municipal agreement that towns create with our help.

Mailing costs if we had to return all signups - $3302.11

Sean Cunningham (MBI Finance) acknowledged receipt of last requests, slight discrepancy with what we feel we have left

1. Review other ongoing work, including meetings, conference calls
2. Other business which could not be reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of meeting

Agenda for Jan 14 meeting was confirmed.

1. Set next EC meeting – 18 Jan 6:30 pm
2. Joined Outreach Committee meeting at 8:10 pm

Charley moved, MaryEllen Kennedy 2nd to adjourn at 9:05