

WiredWest Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date / time: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 6:00 PM

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

Attendees: Jim Drawe, Jeremy Dunn, MaryEllen Kennedy, David Dvore

Guests: Cai Walkowiak, Gayle Huntress,

Called to order at: 6:03 pm

1. Approve minutes of previous meeting – April 19 Jeremy proposed, Charley 2nd - Approved
2. Regional Broadband Solution

Jim reviewed the task list.

Charley – we should have criteria for towns rejoining (pay dues for all years they are not members) or joining – contribute equivalent amount to towns which have remained.

\*\* We should propose as an amendment to the bylaws. EC agenda bylaw changes, then include in agenda for BoD.

Goshen meeting on Saturday, April 29 – Jim, Jeremy, Charley intend to come. Leslie suggested that the question of extra money offered to Comcast should be brought up, why won’t MBI offer to the town?

Jim invited to talk to Rowe SB – Thursday, May 4 5:00 pm (to be confirmed by David)

Jim sent initial version of contract to EC and OC. He will post on Google docs for comments when he’s added the appendices. He included a clause for expansion and for additional services. He wants to specify quarterly meetings between 2 WGE & 2 WW reps to discuss problems, plans.

We need to decide on what contract terms should be added. Brainstorming session on this next week.

Discussion on Skitter TV proposal – it’s attractive. Major unknown is the cost for 1Gb connection to their headend, which seems to be in IOWA.

1. MBI/EOHED update

We reviewed the MBI update forwarded by Charley to the Exec Committee.

David received premise information from MBI by requesting from Ed Donnelly. It includes KMZ and shape files.

Colrain has requested pole survey from MBI and they will be requesting EOHED grant.

Updated Crocker proposal – like Frontier, but higher cost per household. Not sure if towns will be able to cover with existing tax limits. May require home rule law to continually subsidize the cost.

Todd suggested that MBI may allow overlashing, Gayle was told the Carolyn Kirk would be the approver. Shutesbury BB committee is working on a request letter. Jim there are 600 miles of MBI fiber in our towns, so it could be helpful. Jim there is the question of who is responsible for maintenance if overlasning, another option is joint ownership of pole attachment – share cost of pole registration & maintenance. Jeremy – pole attachment costs in Becket ~$1/month/sub. Concerns about working with MBI in the future.

Aaron Bean reported that splits in the hut cost 10% more than splits in field for Otis, who decided to do splits to hut.

1. Committee Updates

Outreach – Letters to delegates and town officials have been sent. Gayle is working on letter to accompany the MOU(?). David proposed an update to town officials with the information on the website. Some concern that they are too busy preparing for ATMs right now.

1. Review other ongoing work, including meetings, conference calls

David – we need to clarify the relationship between WG&E & WW.

1. Other business which could not be reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of meeting

Becket town admin has not rescheduled the Charter meeting.

1. Set next EC meeting – Wednesday, May 3, 2017 6:00 pm

Adjourned: 7:48 pm