

WiredWest Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date / time: Wednesday, 2 January 2019 / 6:00 PM

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

Attendees: Doug McNally, Jim Drawe, Bob Labrie, MaryEllen Kennedy, David Dvore

Guest: Jeremy Dunn

Called to order at 6:05 pm

1. Approve minutes of previous meetings – *December 5, 2018* – passed over, minutes not distributed.
2. PURMA membership approval

Bob moved, David 2nd to ratify the agreement – approved unanimously.

We are now members, with liability & employer’s insurance

David – WG&E said Rowe should have insurance once construction starts. He has quote from MIIA and wanted to confirm there would be no conflict with WiredWest using PURMA – there isn’t. Jim was told that Becket needs builder’s risk insurance, but David feels WG&E is talking about the insurance which would continue once the network is built. Jim is planning $125,000 for insurance using information from WG&E.

1. Agenda for January 16 BoD meeting

Agenda was updated by the group. MaryEllen will post on the website.

1. Pricing

Jim reports that Westfield doesn’t distinguish between residence and business for best effort rate. Businesses may want better service, e.g. separate support number. Small businesses can work with best effort. We should charge businesses $15 premium for up to 5 users (~$90), $125 for up to 25 users, $200 for up to 50 users, highest tier – we’ll skip. $100 for each municipal connection.

Jeremy – what about non-profits? Jim feels they are a business as noted in service agreement.

Cost for static IP? We don’t have a cost from WG&E for this. Jeremy noted Crocker had a block of IP addresses, not sure about WCF. Jim thinks Tier-1 providers have available blocks. Jim suggests $15.00/month.

1. Onboarding

Jim distributed updated Onboarding document – to be discussed at the Board meeting. Towns will need to have a drop policy. Some towns want to wait on drop policy until distribution costs are known, to understand how much they can subsidize.

Some concern about people signing up to be connected, then cancelling – minimum contract term would help.

Deidre confirmed MLP can collect non-payment via taxes, Jim will confirm that coop can also.

Becket will ask owners to pay for make ready on driveways. Jim asked Jeremy to share a legal agreement for this when they have developed it. Towns can borrow money to finance drops, to be repaid gradually by the customer.

1. Finance

Melissa Szumski, finance administrator for HCG has resigned and HCG has outsourced to a firm to process this. We need to remove her access to the account. Jim will approach Tom Scanlon to see if he is willing to be the accountant for WW or find another firm. Bob will contact TD bank to create a new online account and get new signature cards signed. We need to work out how the bills will be handled, signed and paid.

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

TriWire meet and greet 7pm Wed Jan 9 – for Cummington & Windsor

1. Set next EC meeting – Jan 30

(David is away Jan 21 – early March)

Adjourned 7:33 pm