

**Minutes**

WiredWest Board of Directors and Executive Committee Meeting

Online

Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 6:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting on your computer

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85143188312?pwd=VFNrVjQ0QVVRNVloODBhaXBhZ0gvQT09

Meeting ID: 851 4318 8312 Passcode: 1S1Z9i

Or Dial in telephone: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 851 4318 8312 Password: 538720

Attending: Doug McNally, Jeff Piemont, Don Hall, Jim Drawe, MaryEllen Kennedy, Kent Lew, Sheila Litchfield, David Dvore, Kathy Soule-Regine, Art Schwenger

Guests: David Gordon

Called to order at: 6:31pm

**Approval of the warrant by Executive Committee**

Moved: Kent

Seconded: David

Discussion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Vote** |
| Doug | Y |
| David | Y |
| Kent | Y |
| MaryEllen | Y |

**Approval of Minutes**

 September 1, 2021

Moved: Doug

Seconded: Sheila

Discussion:

Result: approved unanimously

**Report from the Executive Director**

Jim sent his notes to delegates. Auditor has the documents, the engagement letter was signed, and the audit is in progress.

Total subsidized subscribers in WiredWest towns: 11 lifeline, 39 EBBP. No repairs reported. Most towns have signed up for the redundancy option – Washington to be installed next Monday.

Maintenance contracts – should they be per town or WW expenses? They are town contracts, but repair work is a WW expense. Kent proposes we identify the different expenses for maintenance and repairs and decide which are town vs. WW. Jim feels all break/fix should be shared expenses since they can’t be anticipated.

Retainage – Rich Carnall is not involved, so there is no new information.

Our contract expires in spring of 2022 (3 years after first customer was turned on).

Jim reviewed the numbers published in signup.xlsx. If a customer turns off but a new customer is connected in the same month, both will need a rebate. This is the exception to the rule that customers who cancel pay for the final month in full.

Tree trimming – contract almost ready. It only includes MLP-owned poles. Doug points out that Verizon-only poles don’t need Asplundh (who has equipment to deal with power lines). A local service may charge less, so it’s worth checking for repairs on Verizon-only poles. Jim has reached agreement with WCF that they will provide this service at no additional cost.

Emergency planning – we should have some fiber on hand in case of a major break needing repair. Kathy reminded us that the towns have some spare fiber. Doug suggests that we get an inventory of the fiber we have and send them to Jim. Doug was told that the later built towns have more spare fiber left.

Excess revenue calculation: Jim finds that reporting this calculation is misleading since expenses are variable in different months. The town P&Ls are also misleading since they don’t reflect all the shared expenses. He proposes producing a simpler report on actual income and expenses to date rather than including projections.

**Insurance cost for hut**

MIIA can’t/won’t separate the bill for the hut from the rest of the town buildings. Doug suggests that the town just pay this and not try to bill separately. The hut is a town building. There was a consensus agreement of the members to do this.

**Future of WG&E**

David feels there’s been a deterioration in response, especially from the technical folks. He’s found most of them are sub-contractors and have been told they can’t put in overtime. He feels it’s limiting our communication in the process of designing the resilient solution. Also, customer service has gone downhill.

David encouraged all the towns to complete the survey WCF just sent out. Doug & Jim will attend the Sep 21 event.

**Hut monitoring**

Jim sent the contracts for monitoring out. Doug asked about how to request the external camera, his town would like to include.

**Backhaul resilience**

Jim sat in on all the geocluster meetings; most towns are interested. Jim sent a document on expense sharing for the rings, and he is willing to open this discussion with the other towns. Several folks would like to see most if not all expenses be shared.

**Finance Report**

**Town updates**

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

**Confirm next BoD meetings**

October 6 6:30pm

October 20 6:30pm

November 17 6:30pm

Future - every 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm

**Adjourn** 8:31pm Moved by Kent, seconded by Jeff