

**Agenda**

WiredWest Board of Directors and Executive Committee Meeting

Online

Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 6:30 pm

**Attending:** Jim Drawe, Don Hall, Jeff Piemont, Doug McNally, Sheila Litchfield, Kent Lew, David Dvore, MaryEllen Kennedy, Bob Labrie

**Guests:** David Gordon

**Called to order at:** 6:30pm

**Approval of the warrant by Executive Committee**  5 minutes

Moved: MaryEllen

Seconded: Kent

Discussion: Kent asked if the $3 discrepancy on warrant was updated. It was.

Kent moved to approve warrant as amended

Doug seconded

Vote:

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

Result: approved unanimously

**Approval of Minutes**

January 19, 2021

Moved: Sheila

Seconded: Kent

Discussion: none

Vote: approved unanimously

**Report from the Executive Director**

Jim sent notes. WCF has agreed to lower our wholesale rate for this fiscal year, based on our contract. They will provide refunds as credits on next month’s bills and we will be charged $28/sub.

He is trying to confirm the new rate for retainage for emergency services. WCF has stated they might want to use the Hilltown crews in extreme emergencies – Jim thinks they should contribute to the cost.

WCF notified Heath on some areas which need tree trimming. One section includes the Heath-Colrain connection and Sheila asked if there’s a way share costs. Jim will look into the cost-sharing. Doug reports that Eversource has been very responsive to tree issues.

Jim has been told that MBI would allow towns to drop their current contracts if they are purchasing a 10Gb circuit to replace them.

Outside plant inspection - Jeff asked for an explanation of the line items in the quotes. Doug thinks paying for inspections twice a year is excessive and would like to know what they will be looking for aside from branches on wires. Sheila noted that the original estimate detailed what items they will check. Jim was asked to get more details and decide whether we need monitoring more than once a year.

WCF is submitting information to DigSafe about any underground installations for us.

**RRR Update**

Northern cluster is reviewing contracts for bandwidth sharing. They decided that towns will own the backhaul connections. Things are moving very slowly.

**Hut Security Update**

Sheila reported that when monitoring is installed, the techs bring a document which must be filled out with information on who will have access. Jim has forwarded a copy of the form to the delegates. Heath is using Kohler OnCue for generator information, which supplies detailed information about operation.

**WCF contract update**

To be discussed at Jim’s meeting with WCF next week. He is pushing them to develop a management plan for the fiber plant and equipment, which is in our current contract but hasn’t been done.

**Dues**

First reading of amended bylaw regarding annual dues

**Reconnect Fee**

Vote on updated wording in Terms & Conditions.

Motion: Kent moved to accept the wording with recommended amendments. Sheila seconded

Vote:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Becket | Y |
| Heath | Y |
| New Salem | Y |
| Rowe | Y |
| Washington | Y |
| Windsor | Y |

Result: Approved unanimously

**Finance Report**

Bob will research and report on possible ways to invest excess revenue for a better return.

Income 44% over budget, expenses 23% under.

All invoices must be submitted by the Friday before a warrant.

If possible, towns should have online accounts with the vendors, to simplify and speed payments for our bookkeeper.

**Town updates**

David pointed out that Rowe has no bills for pole licenses from National Grid, nor has New Salem. We should follow up with them to make sure charges aren’t accumulating.

Heath – last FSA (Mohawk Acres) is on hold since it’s difficult to reach this location with primary vacation homes.

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

**Confirm next BoD meetings**

March 16, 2022, 6:30pm

April 20, 2022, 6:30pm

Future - every 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm

**Adjourn** Jeff moved, Sheila seconded 8:20pm