

**Agenda**

WiredWest Board of Directors Meeting

Online

Wednesday, June 21, 2022, 6:30 pm

Attending: Doug McNally, Kent Lew, Don Hall, Bob Gross, MaryEllen Kennedy, David Dvore, Kathy Soule-Regine, Jim Drawe

Guests: David Gordon (Heath), Simon Zelazo (Rowe),

Called to order at: 6:36pm

David introduced Simon Zelazo, who has expressed interest in helping with managing for the Rowe MLP.

**Approval of Warrant #23 by Executive Committee**

Seconded: David

Discussion:

Vote:

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

Result: approved unanimously

**Approval of Minutes**

May 17, 2023

Moved: Kent

Seconded: David

Discussion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Member Town** | **Vote** |
| Becket | Abstain |
| Heath | NP |
| New Salem | Y |
| Rowe | Y |
| Washington | Y |
| Windsor | Y |

Result: approved

**Executive Director’s Report**

Jim met with new WCF map contact (Jamie Cincotta) – they will be emailing our current maps and data in PDF format. Several comments that PDF is not a good format for this data. Jim will request they are in the original format (DWG for maps, XLSX for cut sheets). Jim has also requested the pole license data.

David supplied a new company name for tree work that we can use, Doug thinks a local service is a better idea. We will use local contacts, but Jim will share the company information.

The RRR project is taking up all resources, so we can’t expect any new reports soon, including top talkers.

The auditing contract was signed and the auditor is working on FY22 now, they will go on to FY23 after that completes.

Stamper boxes are being replaced by Adtran routers. Washington has the slowest speed, Jim thought it was 1:32 splits – Kent says that there are very few are connected with 1:32 and only one had Stamper box, so doesn’t think that is the issue. Doug has been seeing some very slow speeds at peak times. Jim is asking them to look at the speed problems in detail, since they don’t really know what’s causing the slowness and it may impact our CAF II payments. Kent has been watching speeds and did see improvements in mid-March, but not to the needed level. Doug – RRR was originally proposed as improving reliability, not speed. Kent is not sure that the FCC has validated that the tests actually reflect the service provided.

Goshen fiber has been removed and pole licenses with National Grid are cancelled.

David sent an RRR update to delegates. Doug – Central group has been bumped – South prioritized (Kent – due to grant deadline).

Revenue $2.3M, COGS $1.2M, total backhaul $244k, net income $617,992

Eversource is doing major upgrades in Washington. 159 poles to be replaced, some added. Kent doesn’t think we will be charged but will have to manage the work of moving the fiber. Doug – Eversource moved fiber when replacing poles in Windsor and did a good job. Jim – WCF managed this for some work in Rowe and directly billed the power company.

Jim pushing back on USIC charges, for locations where there is no fiber, suspects there are too many after hours charges. He will meet with Brian and Mike Lee on this.

**Onboarding documents** 15 minutes

The template Jim sent had prices for business too high. Jim reviewed the choices. He will send the updated document to us to fill out and return to him.

**New drop charges from WCF** 15 minutes

Presented at the last Hilltown partners meeting. Kent reviewed the proposed cost and found ‘they more or less track.’ The main difference is that there is a mobilization charge; he thinks it is a flat rate regardless of location, no more geo zones. There is no longer a split between exterior & interior, which may increase charges to customers with simple inside installation. WCF will maintain current costs for Becket installations until Becket build is complete. Kent reminded that we had signed contracts with the original costs and they are being changed without a new contract. Jim thinks we should remind them about that. There is a meeting on Monday, June 26 scheduled by WCF to update the towns.

**RRR update**  5 minutes

David sent a note to delegates about Northern cluster. Central cluster implementation moved from Jul-Aug to Sep-Oct.

**Finance Report**

Jim discussed budget vs. actual spreadsheet. Insurance, electricity and monitoring are some areas where costs are higher than anticipated.

Jim presented the FY24 budget, which is based on the actual costs in FY23. We are losing VoIP customers, Doug expects more will drop as cell service improves. He will include the seasonal variation in this version.

Send Jim an estimate of what our backhaul costs will be for FY24.

Jim is not comfortable with the retainage cost charging per mile and is working to get that information from WCF.

**Town updates**

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

**Confirm next BoD meetings**

July 19 6:30pm

August 16 6:30pm

September 20 6:30pm

Future - every 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm

**Adjourn** 9:07pm