

**Minutes**

 WiredWest Board of Directors Meeting

Online

Tuesday, September 5, 2023, 6:30 pm

**Attending:** Doug McNally, Jim Drawe, Don Hall, Jeff Piemont, MaryEllen Kennedy, David Gordon, Bob Gross, David Dvore, Kent Lew, Simon Zelazo

**Guests:**

**Called to order at:** 6:31 pm

**Approval of Warrant #5**

Warrant not ready, will be approved by email. Each delegate should respond with their vote to sender only.

**Approval of Minutes**

August 16, 2023

Moved: David D.

Seconded: David G.

Discussion:

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

Result: approved

**Executive Director’s Report**

Jim is still waiting for requested reports from WCF.

**Drop policy**

Payment process, town notification

WCF wants to standardize payments for new installations. It is fairly simple if the MLP manager does not require payment before authorizing the drop.

Becket requires payment first for undergrounds and wanted to be sure homeowner paid before installation starts. Becket bills the customer and collects the payment before allowing construction. They had many underground drops which were fairly costly. They still have 45-50 people to connect, so would not want to change until the build is complete. Jeff thinks this was a town responsibility.

Doug felt that WCF’s proposal was good, billing customer on first bill and billing town for the subsidy. If folks don’t pay, they will be disconnected.

David G thinks the expensive drops (long underground) are a concern, possibly there should be a threshold of cost where the town should approve.

We’d like the policy to apply to all drops under $2,000 – Jim will talk to WCF.

**Vote to Resume Executive Session**

Recess current session and resume after executive session is recessed.

Moved: Kent

Seconded: Bob

Discussion:

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

Result:

**RRR update**

North cluster resolved ownership of backhaul. WCF will own the connection from Charlemont and bill all the towns for their share. They still don’t know why traffic switches spontaneously, not sure if it’s important since it’s not affecting service. Final acceptance test soon. Jim – remind them to do a restore of the backed-up configuration to a blank 7250.

Southern cluster is looking positive; there are some contract issues. Nokia is working on low-level design. They expect an install date to be set by the next meeting. Project must complete by end of September, though some billing may happen later. Kent will hold retainage until acceptance test complete.

**Finance Report**

**Town updates**

Becket Woods is now undergoing testing, will meet CAF deadline.

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

**Confirm next BoD meetings**

September 20 6:30pm

October 4 6:30pm

October 18 6:30pm

Future – every 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm

**Adjourn** 9:05 pm

Kent moved, Jeff seconded