

# DRAFT

## Minutes of the Heath MLB Meeting

August 2, 2022 at 11

Virtual meeting

Present: MLB: Art Schwenger (Chair), Anne Emmet, David Gordon, Bill Fontes, and Ned Wolf  
with MLP Manager Sheila Litchfield

Art called the meeting to order at 11. Members read the minutes of the July 26<sup>th</sup> MLB meeting with edits sent by Sheila in an email to members on August 1<sup>st</sup>. David recommended replacing the second sentence of the first paragraph at the top of page 4 with the following sentence: He (David) noted that we would pay for start-up costs out of our construction cost if funds are not available from the CCC grant. Bill moved that the minutes with recommended edits be approved. David seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Members read the minutes of the July 26<sup>th</sup> WG&E installs meeting. It was recommended that the second sentence of paragraph five be replaced by the following: Chris said that in the case of the relocation of a trailer in Mohawk Estates, Whip City Fiber billed the customer, and the payment goes into our Stripe Account at Wired West. Anne moved that the minutes be approved as edited. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Sheila said that her scheduled meeting about HVAC maintenance at the Heath hub with a Jamrog representative has had to be rescheduled for Friday, August 5.

The August 22<sup>nd</sup> generator test was successful although the report arrived from Kohler later than usual. The generator is back on standby.

Sheila said that she phoned Kinsley to ask whether preventive maintenance has been done on the generator. She was told that the maintenance was done on July 5<sup>th</sup>. There has been no invoice. She has provided Kinsley with the number of the MLP mailbox.

Sheila reported that the Accountant has now recorded the state funds of \$214K and \$2K received by Treasurer Kris Nartowicz as being added to the Broadband State Grant Account. The \$22K, which Kris has received from the state as retainage, has not yet been recorded by the Accountant.

Sheila said that Dave Loiko of Whip City Fiber has picked up the faulty MST that had been installed on Hosmer Road. The MST is under warranty.

### Backhaul

David reported that he met on July 28<sup>th</sup> with representatives from Charlemont and Rowe to review the draft for the appendix for the second backhaul. They approved the approach for the second backhaul. Leyden will be asked whether they want to participate in the second backhaul. David said that the language of the appendix would allow Leyden to join later if they do not join initially if all participants agree.

There are 2 backhauls. The start-up for the first backhaul can be covered by the CCC grant. It is not clear at this time whether the start-up for the second backhaul could be covered by the CCC grant if there were just 4 of the 5 towns involved. Meanwhile we need to keep enough cash in construction to be available for the second backhaul.

### Emergency Protocol

Maintenance of the hub's HVAC is being investigated as we expect a proposal from Jamrog.

If a falling tree takes down a fiber line, customers should call Whip City Fiber (WCF) directly. WCF should see ONT's going down. WCF crews get called; Wired West pays for them.

Bill said that if electricity is lost, nothing can be done until National Grid comes.

### Finances

Next week we will prepare for a financial report to the Select Board on August 30<sup>th</sup>. At the end of August we should expect a check for about \$87K from Wired West for the sum of FY22 revenue surplus plus FY21 retainage plus FY22 retainage.

Jessica Drawe, Wired West's Accountant, has received Heath's list of costs to be paid by the customer that would need to be reimbursed. The MLB asked Sheila to ask if we can be informed when paid. This is a problem that continues to be followed by the MLB.

### Community Hall Connection

Bill said that after returning to the Community Hall and testing the internet connection there was still a problem requiring a new ticket for Northeast IT. Hilma hasn't yet done speed tests at other Muni sites. Sheila said that Jaime Cincotta was going to check the fiber.

Anne moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:58. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf