

Minutes of the WG&E Meeting on Installations with the Heath MLB  
February 28, 2023 at 1:30  
virtual meeting

Present: WG&E: Chris LaVertu, Brian Sullivan, and Betsy Loiko  
MLB: Art Schwenger, Anne Emmet, David Gordon, Bill Fontes, and Ned Wolf with  
MLP Manager Sheila Litchfield

Chris began by referring to items Sheila had sent in an email to WCF before the meeting. He said that Laura Blascak is the new head of Tech Support. He will check with her on February 28<sup>th</sup> about a statement from WCF prompted by the draft protocol from Heath for managing Muni-network problems.

Regarding a cost estimate for a new port in the hub, Chris said that the model of our current line cards is expiring. The new model line cards with their own cost estimate have arrived. Chris will check on what that cost estimate is and get tell us.

Chris has informed us of changes in the billing process. As for better understanding why some items will come to Heath and some to WiredWest, he recommends contacting Jim Drawe. Sheila said she will do that.

Chris said that “trouble calls” include those for tech support but does not include calls for billing questions.

Chris said that the length of time that we could count on the hub battery working in lieu of the generator kicking in is less than 20 minutes. To Bill’s question about whether there is a way to switch manually to the generator. Chris replied that such manual action is not done. It should be part of Kinsley’s plan to test the transfer switch. Chris agreed with Bill’s calling it a single point of failure.

Brian committed to more timeliness in answering questions sent by the MLP Manager.

Chris and Brian said that moving the next installs meeting from March 28<sup>th</sup> to March 21<sup>st</sup> works for them.

Bill asked whether there were any customers in the group of 33 excluding those who paid after the termination identified in Betsy’s report. Betsy said that everyone but one reconnected.

Brian said that the locations    61 Shawnee  
   65 Shawnee  
   59 Shawnee

were all in the original CAF II grant. If it is determined that there are dwellings at these addresses, each could mean \$4,260 in CAF II funds to the town over 10 years. Brian said that the cost to build underground to each would be \$2,410. There could still be a net gain to Heath over 10 years if we build to them.

Brian said that if it turns out that these lots on Shawnee should have been built to but are not, then Heath would have  $3 \times \$4,260 = \$12,780$  would be subtracted its CAF II funds as a penalty.

Anne will look at the Assessors' list, Bill will visit Shawnee for visual checks, and Sheila will see whether there has been a renumbering of dwellings.

#### Internet Outage March 1<sup>st</sup>

David reported there was a certain amount of anxiety in the town regarding the outage during the hours 12 am – 6 am on March 1<sup>st</sup> due to maintenance work for Local Linx. David asked whether there could be more than a week's notice the next time an outage is being planned?

Chris said that WCF is sort of at the mercy of Local Linx. He said that they understand the importance of this matter given the lack of cellphone service and the number of customers whose phone is by internet. He said he will talk to John Leary about it.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf