

Minutes of the Heath MLB Meeting
August 6, 2025 at 10 am
Virtual meeting

Present: Art Schwenger (MLB Chair), Anne Emmet, David Gordon, Dave Peterson, Ned Wolf, and MLP Manager Bailey Cole

Art called the meeting to order at 10.

Members read the minutes of the July 8 MLB meeting. David Gordon made a motion that the minutes be accepted with edits. Dave Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

MLP Manager's Report

Bailey sent us by email on August 5 his Monthly Performance Report for July showing how he spent his 34.5 total hours worked.

Bailey said that United Concrete can't find our invoice for the hut. David Gordon said that there should be a construction file containing the invoice. United Concrete says that if the invoice is found, the warranty will hold.

Jaime Cincotta of Whip City Fiber (WCF) has thanked us for the information we have sent about National Grid's three phase electric project. WCF has not yet provided a quote for transferring the broadband cable to the new poles. Robert Ide, National Grid's Corporate Affairs Manager, has been on paternity leave. Any new information that arrives from National Grid will be forwarded to WCF by Hilma.

Once the installation of the new poles is complete and we have a quote from WCF we may or may not receive a competitive bid for the transfer. WiredWest can help us know if we can get another bid. Bailey said he will bring the matter up at the August 6 WiredWest meeting. Heath and Rowe are the WiredWest towns affected by the project. The cost of the transfers will be shared by all the WiredWest towns. David Gordon said the project is already underway in Charlemont and will be in Heath in the early fall.

Bailey said that he and Anne have updated the website. Members expressed thanks for their work. The WCF page still needs some work.

Bailey has done one of the customer service interviews that he plans to do. The user was happy overall but did speak of having inconsistent internet speed. David Gordon recommended that a customer concerned about internet speed contact WCF. They've been good at explaining why the speed might not be as expected.

The MLB encouraged Bailey to follow up on his idea of asking Heath Fair attendees about their broadband experience.

Bailey said he will send expense reports to Art before sending them to WiredWest. Art asked that he report after sending them to WiredWest.

Art said that the Selectboard has approved Bailey's position and wage as in the proposal approved by the MLB on July 8.

Financials

David Gordon said that the Heath portion of the net WiredWest Revenue is \$98,758.79. After deduction of the unique Heath expenses paid by WiredWest the actual distribution to Heath is \$88,967.19.

The Cash Flow Sheet for FY26 will include 2 distributions for the Depreciation Reserve to compensate for the missed distribution for FY25.

Solar Winds

Solar Winds is a network monitoring tool. David Gordon said that it shows WCF whether traffic goes through Rowe or Charlemont. There are 30 GB among the 5 WiredWest towns to share. Heath's peaks for usage exceed 1 GB. We have far more capacity than we're expected to use.

Grants

Dave Peterson expressed interest in grants that might be available for drops. At least one potential customer has asked whether such grants exist.

Anne moved and David Gordon seconded a motion to adjourn at 11:29. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf