

Minutes of the Heath MLB Meeting
June 4, 2026 at 10 am
Virtual meeting

Present: Art Schwenger (MLB Chair), David Gordon, Dave Peterson,
Bill Fontes (at 12:03), Ned Wolf, and MLP Manager Bailey Cole

Art called the meeting to order at 10:04.

Members read the minutes of the meeting on May 7. Dave Peterson moved that the minutes be accepted as edited. David Gordon seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

MLP Manager's Report

Bailey said that someone dumped off tractor tires near the hut. Mia has notified the Highway Department. There is no record on the security camera of tires being left off.

Generator maintenance has been done. That includes topping off fluids. The generator is working well. The invoice for the maintenance goes to Wired West.

David Gordon said that for 2 months he has not received emailed notifications when the weekly generator tests occur.

This could be related to Kohler's having been taken over by Rehlko. David requested that Bailey send an email to the Wired West delegates from the other towns to ask whether they also have stopped getting emails from Kinsley.

Bailey will add David Gordon to the list of contacts notified of alerts from the monitoring system installed by Hackworth.

Bailey spoke of the rideout data from WCF that he sent to the MLB in 2 emails of June 2 which list tree work, lashing repair, and 17 pole transfers having an estimated total cost of \$19,548. We got our rideout done early.

MLB members said that the photos included with the rideout report make the needs listed appear legitimate. None of the poles listed are part of the 3 phase power project.

There could be cost savings if WCF lumps its maintenance trips to the Wired West towns.

Action Taken *David Gordon moved to direct Bailey to notify Whip City Fiber to do the work specified on the rideout report sent to Heath Broadband.
Dave Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.*

Bailey has heard via Mia that we are awaiting a group town meeting involving Charlemont, Rowe, and Heath. There may be more information at this meeting about the costs of pole transfers resulting from the 3 phase electric project.

Bailey said that no Stripe conversions remain.

He reported no customer complaints and no terminations.

Wired West Meeting

Bailey said they have worked on the job description for a new executive director. Doug has taken over communications with WCF. Kent has pitched in with financial matters. Meeting minutes are posted online.

Broadband Finances and the FinCom

Bailey will send the bylaws of Wired West to Dena Briggs, Chair of the FinCom.

A recent P&L statement produced by Wired West might interest Dena. As for particular accounts, one needs to know which are shared accounts and which are town specific.

We pay about 12% of shared costs, including maintenance and repair, based upon the amount each town has contributed. The P&L does not specify how much of the shared costs are attributable to each town.

David volunteered to put together information to try to address FinCom's question about the cost of membership in WiredWest.

.

We requested that when Bailey gets notified by something that involves WCF, and that has financial impact such as the confirmation of CAF II, he please notify the whole MLB.

Bailey has asked the town coordinator and accountant about the status of the CAF II check three times, but he has not received verification of receipt of the check and correct booking.

MLB Organization

Action Taken *David Gordon nominated Dave Peterson to be the alternate delegate to Wired West. Ned seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.*

Action Taken *David Gordon nominated Art Schwenger to be Chair of the MLB.
Dave Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by
unanimous vote.*

Action Taken *David Gordon nominated Ned Wolf to be Note Taker of the MLB.
Dave Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous
vote.*

David Gordon will orchestrate changes to the Drop Policy by getting in touch with Anne Emmet.

Dave Peterson noted that the Wired West page for Heath is out of date. For example, Mohawk Estates is not 'ready for signup.'

There is possible confusion in seeking MLB minutes depending on whether one first clicks on 'Municipal Light Board' or on 'Broadband' under 'Boards and Committees'. Ned will get in touch with Anne about this.

Is there a need to archive the MLPAC minutes and the listing of upcoming meetings?

Depreciation

David Gordon shared on the screen the letter drafted by Dave Peterson to Kris Nartowicz, Treasurer, from Art Schwenger, Chair, MLB. In the letter Art asks that the recently booked FY25 and FY26 MLP depreciation reserve amounts be deposited to the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust (MMDT).

Action Taken *David Gordon moved that the above letter be sent to Treasurer, Kris Nartowicz. Dave Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.*

Art will get his signature on the letter before it is sent and before a copy is attached to the minutes.

Bailey will assist in saving the letter to the Heath Broadband Google Drive.

MLB members expressed their thanks to Dave Peterson for drafting the letter.

Problems with Ooma

Customers have had difficulties with the Ooma phone option. The current system reflects poorly on our promise of voice over internet. David Gordon encouraged asking WCF through Wired West about an alternate phone solution. Bailey will bring this up with WiredWest.

Date of Next Meeting Thursday, July 9 at 10 AM

Art will remove 'Executive Session' from the Agenda. He will go over what we want from a group meeting.

Bailey will notify David Dvornik in order that Dave Peterson receives emails as Heath's alternate delegate.

David Gordon recommended that a review of access privileges to the hut and shared drive be put on the calendar for June.

Also, added in June should be the MLB organizational meeting to determine the MLB chair, the MLB minute taker, and the alternate Wired West delegate.

Finally, Bailey will add Generator maintenance to the calendar for June.

Bill Fontes joined the meeting at 12:03.

David Gordon said we can expect the Wired West distribution by our August meeting.

Bill Fontes moved that the meeting be adjourned at 12:06. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf