

Minutes of the Heath MLB Meeting

August 13, 2026 at 10 am

Virtual meeting

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

Art called the meeting to order at 10 am.

Members read the minutes of the July 9 meeting. Bill moved that the minutes be accepted with edits. Dave P. seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

MLP Manager's Report:

Bailey said that WCF completed a hut inspection report. No issues were detected.

WCF's maintenance suggestions were approved for work. The report says that the batteries are OK. Bailey said that although the report was sent only to him, he has not seen sensitive information. He offered to upload the documents to Google Drive.

David G. offered to send last year's report, which is now on the Google Drive, to any interested MLB member.

Wired West Board Meeting

Bailey said that a draft of a job description for Assistant Executive Director is being prepared. The plan is to search for an Assistant Executive Director who can work with the current Executive Director Jim Drawe to transition into the job..

Doug McNally, who is the most involved in the process, will collect applications. Interviews will be scheduled. Jim Drawe will be present during the training period until the conclusion of transition.

The amount of the FY 26 WW distribution check for Heath is \$112,495.56.

Treasurer Kris Nartowicz was asked for her input as to how to receive the check. The check was sent to Jessica, Wired West's accountant. Bailey picked the check up at her house and delivered it to Town Accountant Mia Francesconi,

Bailey said that Kris has confirmed that Heath received its FY 26 CAF II distribution of \$58,408.05 on January 23, 2026.

There will be a National Grid information meeting at 6 pm on August 31 at 18 Jacobs Rd. Robyn, Art, Mia, and Bailey are requested to attend.

Date of Next Heath MLB Meeting: Thursday, September 10 at 10 am

David G. requested that the agenda for the September 10 meeting include an opportunity to go into Executive Session concerning the 3 Phase Power Project.

WiFi at the Hut

Bailey said that he picked up from Dave P. a WiFi router, but that it is not yet installed. There was a consensus to install it on the municipal network so that there will be a separate, private subnetwork of the municipal network. Bailey will put a label on the new router. The password will be given to MLB members and to a contractor who might need it.

Bailey will send Mia an email asking her to notify NEIT of this installation.

Drop Policy

David G. said he has received no comments back about the current MLB Drop Policy that he emailed us on August 11.

Bill recommended an added statement that WCF should be consulted before any microduct self-install. There was a consensus that Appendix A, which is related to installation of microduct, be removed, and anyone wanting to do a self-install of the microduct should first contact WCF and the MLP Manager.

Art advised Bailey to inform WCF of the adopted changes to the MLB Drop Policy.

David G. will make the above changes and send the revised Drop Policy to us for comments.

Bill questions whether new Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) could result in a strain on the fiber network. The MLB asked Bailey to bring it up at the WW Board meeting.

Transfer to the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust (MMDT)

On July 13 Dave P. emailed us the MMDT statement from Kris Nartowicz confirming a balance of \$184,576.80, the sum of the credits from the Depreciation Reserve accounts made annually including FY 26 credits. The \$600. credit received in June represents interest at a rate of approximately 3.9% on an annual basis.

Process for Distribution

Dave P. noted that we have the FY 26 numbers for CAF II as well as the WW Distribution.

David G. said he will produce a new Cash Flow sheet to be sent out for our review.

Ooma Problems

There are MLB members who have had problems with Ooma and have received technical support from WCF in resolving them.

Still, MLB members would like to communicate to our customers that Ooma is not the only option for phone service over fiber.

Finance Committee Questions about Broadband

Ned said that he will send to other members of the Finance Committee copies of a document prepared by David G. in January of 2024 and made available to the public the following month: 'Cost Benefit Analysis of WiredWest Membership.'

There was agreement that Art should contact Dena Briggs, Chair of the Finance Committee, about having a joint meeting with the MLB about broadband related questions provided that the Finance Committee sends their questions to the MLB ahead of the meeting.

Bailey's Performance Evaluation

Dave P. said that he has emailed to MLB members a form related to Bailey's evaluation.

Bill moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:06 pm. David G. seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted, Ned Wolf

