

## Minutes of the Heath MLPAC Conference Call

June 16, 2020 at 11 am

Present: Art Schwenger, Sheila Litchfield, Jan Carr, Margo Newton, and Ned Wolf

Art called the meeting to order at 11:04 am. Members read the minutes of June 9. Jan made a motion seconded by Margo to approve the minutes with emendations. The motion passed unanimously.

Sheila told members of the following DocuSign:

6/9/20 WG&E for engineering \$1,222.

Sheila made a motion seconded by Ned to approve the DocuSign. The motion passed unanimously.

Sheila has sent our PDU numbers to Rich who expressed concern about a high number of seasonal customers paying the economy rate. This could be a burden on the network's viability. Jan noted that there are towns that charge a seasonal customer for 6 months and offer only the higher rate. Sheila suggested that we get Wired West's seasonal policy and think what that would mean in terms of revenue and return on investment. Art will get the seasonal policy and send it to Jan who will verify the number of potential seasonal customers.

Members reviewed a Drop Policy sent to Art by Kent Lew of Washington. Sheila has made edits appropriate for Heath. In the section on installations Jan recommended using the words "in a basement or other interior location" for those people who have no basement. In the section headed 'Options for Seasonal Customers' the committee recommended inserting Wired West's policy and other incentives to encourage seasonal customers to subscribe.

The Town of Washington did not offer cold drops until after the build to full time residences in order to assure revenue flow. We agreed to indicate in Heath's drop policy that cold drops are available. Bill Ennen has told the committee that cold drops are eligible for the \$500 subsidy from the State.

Art reported on meeting with the MLB on June 9. He noted 4 things:

1. Brian and Robyn asked for an explanation of the construction schedule that is simplified.
2. The Select Board favors adding the requirement to attend MLB meetings to the MLP Manager Job description. (not sure what this means?)
3. Robyn asked whether the MLP Manager would be on call 24/7.
4. The Select Board asked how much the drop subsidy would be.

Art and the committee agreed that the answer to #3 is "No", however "Whip City Fiber" emergency response is. Art said that the MLB had shown interest in deliberating the MLP

Manager's salary but that on June 9 they appeared to accept the MLPAC's recommendation. Sheila said that once the Town Meeting approves compensation we can start seeking an MLP Manager and transition from Construction Project Liaison to MLP Manager can begin.

In the Narrative part of the application for additional Make-Ready funds Sheila has written a justification for the reimbursement of \$6,500 of Bob Bourke's compensation for non-hut related work. We will ask Bill whether requesting this will cause harmful delay. We will also check with Bill as to the security of state funds during a time of economic crisis.

Sheila will make a reimbursement request to Verizon for \$2,175.05 for pole fees we don't have to pay until the network is operational.

We're hoping to have a letter from Bill ready to sign at the meeting with the MLB on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, however that depends upon closeout of the remaining Verizon pole application, which is out of our hands. Margo said that on June 9<sup>th</sup> the MLB voted to make someone available right way to sign the letter.

Sheila made a motion seconded by Jan to adjourn at 12:47 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf