

Minutes of the Meeting of the Heath MLPAC with WG&E and TriWire
May 4, 2021 at 2 pm

Present: MLPAC: Art Schwenger, Jan Carr, Anne Emmet, Paul Dabrody, and Ned Wolf
with Dave Gordon and Bill Fontes visiting

MLP Manager, Sheila Litchfield

WG&E: Joe Parda, Tom Kolek, Dave Loiko, Caitrin Ferriter

TriWire: Jordan Hawes whose connection went in and out, Dave Libbey, and Dave Poplawski

Jordan reported there being 2 crews installing MST's. Some are on South Road. The burn marred area on Taylor Brook Road has been fixed. They used an extra thousand feet of fiber.

They have brought cable into the school building where they had previously mounted the FDP panels.

They plan a run tomorrow to Bassett Road. Sheila said that we are still negotiating with Charlemont the 3rd edge case. Joe said that Jordan will be alerted not to go beyond the Heath/Charlemont border. Dave Poplawski said he'll be sure Jordan knows not to go all the way to the 3rd house. Sheila said that no decision on the 3rd edge case is likely for 2 weeks.

Sheila said we are interested in whether FSA 2 has been fully released and in when the installations there will be complete. Caitrin said that there are 34 more installations to be done there.

Sheila reported that something has come from Chris LaVertu related to the cases where the cost of the drop exceeds the town subsidy. We need to learn how to read what Chris has sent.

Jordan said that they still need to go to the FDP panels at the fire and highway garage for splicing and testing. The plan is that it be done by May 18.

Art asked about the underground work in FSA 2. Jordan said that they are still doing consults. The bulk of undergrounds have yet to be done. Caitrin said that 31 undergrounds waiting for construction have been approved. Joe urged Caitrin and Chris to coordinate and accelerate the pace.

Dave Libbey said that they've pushed crews into Heath for testings as of yesterday. Full bidirectional testing of MST's will require a crew of 4. The testing in FSA 1 is 70% done.

Joe asked Dave about the repeater. Dave said he's had numerous conversations with the vendor about the repeater. He's been making do with a cell phone booster. There are 40 more fibers to test. People can work Saturday and Sunday on splicing and retesting. Joe asked whether the final OPM release would be May 11. He asked whether every day there would be 4 techs working in Heath. Dave said that by noon on Saturday 2 techs from Chesterfield would be shifted to Heath for a total of 4 that day.

Dave said that redoing the vertical entry for a cabinet entry in the hub is something he won't get to till later. Joe said that because of improper alignment it may take a slight modification. It's a 2 person job.

Dave said that in FSA 1 there are 38 undergrounds. Joe urged the crew that finishes FSA 2 undergrounds to carry on into FSA 1.

Caitrin said that a marketing meeting for Heath is scheduled for Thursday, May 13.

TriWire is expected to release FSA 3 to WG&E on August 28th. The complete release of FSA 3 is expected on September 20th.

TriWire left the meeting at 2:50.

Art reported on the April 29th beginning of the walkthrough of Mohawk Estates. He said there was a resolve to get 911 addresses clarified. Ken will help with that when he returns around May 20th from North Carolina. Joe said that he knows of nothing that will change the design. Sheila said that Jaime and Chris proposed there be both a router and an ONT on a stub-pole. She asked Joe how the cost analysis might be different.

Joe said that since he wasn't there on April 29th, he doesn't really know what happened. An indoor ONT would be the lowest cost solution. Art said that it sounded as though the best solution would be having both the ONT and the router on a stub-pole to avoid having to pierce the trailer. Joe said that an outdoor router leads to neighborly sharing and a drop in subscriptions.

Bill said that having an outdoor ONT and router would mean higher costs and still higher if there is a buried cable into the trailer.

Dave asked whether Joe will be part of a discussion with Jaime and Chris as to the best option. He said he would be.

Joe said that Shaun Weaver presented him with various equipment options and asked him for comments. Joe declined saying it would be at additional cost.

Bill volunteered to sit in a meeting with WG&E and Shaun. He will reach out to Shaun.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf