

March 16, 2022

“Communication District” Planning Committee organizational meeting None Meeting MINUTES

Rick Hiland (Co-Chair CCB) called the meeting order at 10:04AM.

Rick thanked Matt Plache, Mellisa Seamans and Bob Murray from the County for the arrangements to utilize the County Annex Cafeteria and ZOOM virtual set-up for our meetings.

Rick conducted a roll call for attendance. 21 of 24 Representatives were present in person and by ZOOM. See attached roll call attendance sheet.

Rick announced to the group that he had forgotten to post the public meeting properly and apologized. And announced that the meeting would go forward as planned and scheduled but as an informational meeting only.

Rick announced that the Carroll County Broadband Committee would continue to operate until it is not needed in order to maintain communications with our many contacts and possible future partners/ISP providers. Rick has sent out to all the representatives a pdf copy of the Carroll County Feasibility Study that was just completed to aid the committee in their work to form a communication district.

Rick & Matt Plache (Vice – Chair CCB & Commissioner) explained to those present the reason for forming a communication district.

Rick introduced to the members, Jeff McIver and Mary Ellen Player, representatives of Consolidated Communication/ Fidium to say a few words about their 2022 plans for fiber optic broadband in Carroll County. Q&A followed.

Rick introduced to the members & public present, Leo Dwyer, the representative from NH Broadband / NHEC to say a few words about their 2022 plans for fiber optic broadband in the Town of Sandwich and the county moving forward. Q & A followed.

Items of information & discussion:

- NH RSA 91A – Right to Know Law and Access to Governmental Records.
- NH RSA 53-G – Communication District and planning committee job description and responsibilities.
- \$30,000 ARPA Fund Grant from the County for a consultant to assist the committee.
- Deliverable list for a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a consultant (s) – legal and technical
- ValleyNet (Carole Monroe) and Rural Innovations (RISI) (Alex Kelley) will be available for some assistance regarding broadband until about July 2022 – conducted the Feasibility Study

- General discussion and Q&A

Rick asked for volunteers for the positions of Chairperson, Clerk, and Treasurer per the statute. Diane Jarecki volunteered for Chairperson, Linda Mailhot volunteered for Clerk, and Stephen Berry volunteered for Treasurer. Rick let everyone know that these officers will need to formally voted in at the next properly called and noticed meeting by a roll call vote. Rick asked for an unofficial show hands of support for this slate of officers and the shop of hands was unanimous.

Last item of business was to determine date, time of day and place for the next meeting. It was determined after some discussion that the next meeting will be on March 23, 2022 at 10AM at the Carroll County Complex Annex cafeteria where today's meeting was held. All present were reminded of the need for an in-person quorum will need to be present and all present indicated that they could attend. Rick promised to properly notice the meeting!

Rick and the committee again thanked the County, Matt Plache, Mellisa Seamans and Bob Murray for their help & assistance.

Rick declared the meeting adjourned at 12:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Hiland

Non-Meeting Organizer