

Carroll County Communication District Planning Committee (CCCDPC)

09/07/2022 Meeting Minutes

Location: Administration Building, Carroll County Complex, 95 Water Village Rd., Ossipee, NH

Meeting opened by Chair Diane Jarecki at 10:02AM.

1. Roll Call – Present: Rick Hiland (Albany), Stephen Berry (Brookfield), Bert Weiss (Chatham), Stanley Dudrick (Eaton), Chuck Fuller (Effingham), Diane Jarecki (Effingham), Linda Mailhot (Freedom), Ben Klaus (Hales Location), David Walker (Harts Location), Bill Lord (Madison), Jean Beadle (Moultonborough), Andrew Chehayl (Tamworth); Zoom – John Gallagher (Harts Location), Mary Cronin (Madison), Bill Gassman (Moultonborough); Others Present – Matthew Plache; Others on Zoom – Glenn Coppelman, Maureen McCarthy Diamond, Richard Douchette
2. Minutes – Minutes of the 8/10/22 meeting were circulated electronically prior to the meeting. Chuck Fuller motioned to approve. Second by Rick Hiland. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report – Chuck Fuller donated a total of \$150.00. The fee paid to the Secretary of State of NH to register our name was \$50.00. There is a balance of \$100.00 in the operating account. Rick Hiland motioned to direct the Executive Committee to contact the Carroll County Commissioners and formally request the \$30,000.00 in funds that were previously allocated to this committee and to deposit them into the operating account. Said request should include a list of the requirements attached to the grant to ensure compliance. Second by Jean Beadle. Motion carried 14-0.
4. Chairman's Updates – We have officially signed the contract with Matthew Plache. The Executive Committee met just prior to this meeting for that purpose. A copy of the agreement was circulated. Linda Mailhot pointed out that Matthew Plache dropped his billable rate from \$200 per hour in his proposal to \$160 per hour in this signed agreement.
5. Next Steps/Discussion – Matt Plache said that the next steps are to put together the timeline. He needs to know what the exact dates of each town's annual meeting as well as their deadline for warranty articles to be on their ballots. Linda Mailhot will send out an email to gather exact dates. She does have some dates already. Matt said that he did reach out to the Attorney General's office as they need to approve the proposed agreement to create a Communications District per NH RSA 53-G:4. We will need to draw up the necessary documents outlining the purpose and powers of the Communications District. There was a consensus that the proposed Communications District would be more of a facilitator in terms of bringing in grants and working with operators to provide high speed internet service to residents. Andrew Chehayl indicated that he has seen this type of thing done in VT but as an operational organization. Bert Weiss said he wants to see everyone get served appropriately. Rick Hiland made a motion to direct the Executive Committee and Matt Plache to work together and come up with a preliminary draft of the statutory agreement/bylaws and for that draft to be emailed out to the entire committee by the Friday before the next meeting. Chuck Fuller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Rick made another motion for the Executive Committee and Matt Plache to work together and provide a timeline including when the town annual meetings are,

their deadlines for the submission of warrant articles and subsequent public hearings. Andrew Chehayl seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ben Klaus said that Hales Location is considering whether they want to continue being a part of this committee. Rick said that he encourages all towns to be involved as there are strength in numbers and some of the reason that small towns are beginning to be engaged by internet service providers is because of the groundwork that was done by the Carroll County Broadband Committee and this CCCDPC. Matt said benefits to being in the Communications District include grant money and legislation. Diane Jarecki said that the other Carroll County towns not presently members of this CCCDPC will be approached again for possible inclusion. We are committed to ensuring there will not be a cost to towns to be a part of it. Andrew said this Communications District can endure to serve for future needs as technology and standards change. Rick indicated that when they started the process of forming the Carroll County Broadband Committee they were thinking of wireless 5G, and over the course of time due to technology standards improving it has changed to broadband. Matt said a general outline of events will be presentations to each town, get feedback from those towns, decide if changes need to be made, get the Attorney General's office to approve the Communications District agreement, and have one more public meeting in the county.

6. Other Business – Executive Committee will be meeting on September 21st at 10AM with CCI/Fidium. Access to the meeting will be available via Zoom, and that information will be sent out prior to the meeting for those interested in listening in.
7. Next Meeting –Diane Jarecki scheduled the next meeting for September 28th at 10AM at the Administration Building of the Carroll County Complex.
8. Meeting adjourned at 11:31AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Mailhot, Clerk