Central Vermont
INTERNET

June 12, 2018 Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Berlin Elementary School Library
372 Paine Turnpike N, Berlin, VT

6:00pm

Present: Governing Board Delegates: Chris Riddell (Barre City), Jeremy Hansen (Chair, Berlin), Andrew Gilbert (Cabot), David Healy (Calais), Bob Klein (East Montpelier), Bob Burley (Elmore), Jim Barlow (Marshfield), Phil Hyjek (Vice Chair, Middlesex), Dan Jones (Montpelier, participating remotely, arrived at 7:15 and left at 8:25), Stephen Whitaker (Montpelier – in place of Dan Jones from 8:25 onward), Mark Farley (Northfield – in place of John Quinn), Michael Birnbaum (Plainfield), Jon Guiffre (Roxbury, arrived at 6:20), Rama Schneider (Williamstown), Allen Gilbert (Worcester); **Alternates:** Elliott Bent (Barre City), Scott Bassage (Calais), Tom Fisher (East Montpelier), Becca Schrader (Clerk, East Montpelier alternate); **Other Attendees:** ORCA camera person

Absent: Barre Town delegate (not yet appointed)

Agenda:

Meeting call to order:
Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. The meeting started with introductions. Quorum was established.

Additions or changes to the agenda: None

Public comment: None

Report back about Certificate of Organization:
Certifications of vote need to be submitted to the Secretary of State, who will then

distribute notice to town clerks. Schrader will follow up with Secretary of State's office to make sure this takes place.

Michael Birnbaum broadband primer presentation:
Birnbaum gave an abbreviated presentation of his slides that have been posted in the CVI Google drive, including digital building blocks, the internet, broadband, wireline broadband, wireless broadband, ISPs, "cellular," delivery options, necessary ISP back office functions, and possible future topics.

Jeremy Hansen presentation (vision/ECFiber background):
ECFiber is the first CUD in Vermont, public-private partnership. Our territory abuts theirs and there may be an opportunity to share network. Presentation included history, phases, and financing, as well as what is needed to be successful and ideas on how to move forward. CVI vision: connecting Central Vermont residences with extremely high-speed fiber Internet service (definition of high speed is shifting, vision is 100+/100+). Vision also included highest priorities, next steps, and rough timeline. Healy passed out a Broadband Statistics Summary from the VT Dept of Public Service. This has also been posted on the Google drive, as have both presentations (ECFiber and CVI Vision). Discussion followed as to how to address differences of opinion about the vision, this will be incorporated into the agenda of the next Governing Board meeting.

CVI Rules of Procedure (report back from Bylaw/Policy Committee):
Barlow led discussion of drafted Rules of Procedure (posted to Google Drive). Sources included VT Cities and Towns, Public Meeting Law, statute for Communications Utility Districts. There was discussion about when alternates may speak, the desire to increase the size of committees, and public participation, including adding a clause addressing the Chair's discretion to curtail public comment on agenda items. Barlow will include suggested changes into a new draft and distribute it to the Governing Board, with a goal of voting on the Rules at the next regular meeting.

CVI Conflict of Interest Policy (Bylaw/Policy Committee):
ACTION: Motion by Gilbert (Worcester), second by Schneider to adopt the policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Other presentations/connections:
Healy will bring the preliminary mapping he's completed to the next meeting. Whitaker will provide articles by an expert from Boston on active vs. passive fiber so the board can decide whether it wants to invite him. Bent suggested inviting Matt Dunne and will talk to him about possible topics. Whitaker suggested

inviting someone from Burlington Telecom, Hansen will follow up.

Backburner/pending items & assignment of committee tasks:
Existing:
- Barre Town appointment to Board
- Orange Town considering application
- Irv Thomae & Carole Monroe, ECFiber
- Business Development Committee report back
- Internet2 connection
- Rural Broadband Access Loan/Loan Guarantee
  https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-broadband-access-loan-and-loan-guarantee

Added:
- Net neutrality
- Relationship to 10 year plan
- Public safety

Approval of May 8th meeting minutes:
ACTION: Motion by Gilbert (Worcester), second by Hyjek to adopt the minutes as submitted. Vote was unanimous with one abstention (Guiffre – Roxbury, was not present at last meeting).

Roundtable:
The group went around the table to share anything they want to.

Adjourn:
ACTION: Motion by Riddell, second by Schneider to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Next meeting: July 10th @ 6pm, BES