



**CV FIBER
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Maple Corner Community Center
84 W County Rd, Calais, VT
Virtual: GoToMeeting
June 28, 2021

Planning & Development Committee Members Present:

David Healy (Calais), Michael Birnbaum (Plainfield), Ray Pelletier (Northfield), Siobhan Perricone (Orange), Kenneth Jones (Montpelier), Tom Fisher (East Montpelier), Jeremy Hansen (Berlin), Jeremy Matt (Plainfield)

Planning & Development Committee Members Absent:

Greg Kelly (Barre City)

Others Present:

Jerry Diamantides (Project Manager)

Called to order: 5:30PM by David Healy

Additions to the Agenda:

- Jeremy Matt asked if the DRAFT minutes of the June 15, 2021 the previous meeting could be sent around.

Public comment:

- None

Approval of 6/15/21 Communications Committee minutes:

- The June 15, 2021 minutes had not been circulated to the committee so this item is tabled until the next meeting.

Operator RFP-Recommendation to Board:

- David Healy summarized the work that has been done to date to prepare the operator RFP.
- MOTION (David Healy second Tom Fisher) The Planning and Development Committee recommends that the Board of Delegates approve the issuance of a Request for Proposals for an FTTP Developer and Operator and authorize the Executive Committee to take such actions as necessary to issue and publicize

the RFP subject to minor edits that do not change the substance of the document (as amended). Passed unanimously. Discussion:

- Ray Pelletier noted that some technical wordsmithing needs to take place around the confidentiality agreements and some other minor things. David Healy noted that the timetable is another thing that needs to be firmed up.
- JD suggested a friendly amendment to allow for minor edits that does not change the substance of the document (accepted as a friendly amendment).
- Michael Birnbaum compared this RFP to other similar RFPs and suggested that some edits for clarity be made with regards to who is responsible for what roles. Michael Birnbaum said that he would not provide specific edits to avoid any appearance of conflicts of interest.

High Level Design Contractor Recommendation to Board:

- MOTION (David Healy second Jeremy Hansen) to find that pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A) that we find that premature public knowledge of our discussions relating to contracts for the High-Level Design would put CVFiber at competitive disadvantage. Passed unanimously. Discussion:
 - Jeremy Matt asked what about this would require going into executive session. David Healy said that we would be discussing hiring a specific contractor and that we would be talking about specific dollar amounts.
- MOTION (David Healy second Jeremy Matt) to go into executive session. Passed unanimously. No discussion:
 - Enter: 5:46
 - Exit: 6:11
- MOTION (David Healy second Tom Fisher) Subject to successful final reference checks, the Planning and Development Committee recommends that the CVFiber Governing Board award the WEC-3CUD WEC Territory high level design and the CVFiber District non-WEC area high-level design and detailed design contracts to that firm recommended by the WEC-3CUD and PDC HLD RFP Review Teams subject to successful negotiations and authorize the Executive Committee to enter into negotiations with said firm (as amended). Passed unanimously. Discussion:
 - Ray Pelletier said that he wanted to see the detailed design included. David Healy said that he would not be comfortable with that.
 - Jeremy Hansen noted that there is no “board of delegates”. This should be the Governing Board (accepted as friendly amendment. There followed additional wordsmithing of the motion.
 - Michael Birnbaum asked about the existing projects (the VELCO project and CVFiber’s two small projects) and how those will dovetail with this. David Healy said that so far he’s been told that VELCO will do the design for their project.

Roundtable:

- Michael Birnbaum noted that a few days ago the Department of Public Service and RISI held a hearing on the 10-year broadband plan. One topic that jumped out at Michael Birnbaum is that the planners/consultants find that the RDOF awards have complicated the objectives/goals/methods for CUDs. Michael Birnbaum noted he made the comment that RDOF areas should be eligible for additional subsidies commensurate with the degree of RDOF awards to keep these areas from either being unfairly advantaged or disadvantaged.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:22PM

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy Matt, Clerk