

CV FIBER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2022

Planning & Development Committee Members Present:

Ray Pelletier (Northfield), David Healy (Calais), Linda Gravell (Waterbury), Tom Fisher (East Montpelier), Jerry Diamantides (Berlin) Henry Amistadi (Duxbury)

Planning & Development Committee Members Absent:

Christopher Shenk (Waterbury), Jeremy Matt (Plainfield), Siobhan Perricone (Orange)

Others Present:

Phil Cecchini,

Called to order: 6:01 by David Healy

Additions to the Agenda:

• None

Public comment:

• None

Approval of February 15, 2022 Planning & Development Committee minutes:

• Adopted Unanimously with no changes.

Review and update PDC Charter:

• David Healy provided a discussion of the proposed changes to the Planning and Development Committee Charter. After general agreement to forward the revision to Executive Committee for action and harmonization.

Discussion of NRTC's Design and Construction Sequencing

• Executive Session

Discussion of WEC Partnership

Executive Session

Construction Grant Application/Grant Update:

- Ray Pelletier provide an update on the eligibility pre-application. He noted that VCUDA wants business plans submitted and reviewed. CV Fiber had a business plan completed last summer, but coming out of work with EEPP and NRTC will generate a 65-70 page plan, which will become part of CV Fiber's business plan. Ray noted this is a dynamic document that will always be changing. He noted the eligibility application should be wrapped up in two weeks, business plan in three weeks, and RFP for construction grant application in five to six weeks. He also noted an estimate has been requested for 200 miles of billable materials approximately 2M with drops; 1.6M without drops, and that they are looking at options for bulk buy for fiber.
- Further discussion ensued on the business plan requirements and if it should it be handled by the Finance Committee vs. Planning and Development Committee.

Town ARPA Fund Requests-Delegate Progress:

• Ray Pelletier advised he will be finalizing a one-sheet soon for sharing with Selectboards. They would like to attach cost information with it (i.e. cost for home connection) and Jerry Diamantides has developed a letter from the Chair that is being finalized which might also be included as an attachment.

Roundtable:

- Linda Gravell made note that she was in the newspaper recently.
- Phil Cecchini noted he is in awe of the amount of work that is being done.
- Ray Pelletier noted Mission Broadband Contract's final call is Friday to close out and obtain signature.
- Ray Pelletier advised a Request for Bids has been submitted for ROW permitting services.
- Ray Pelletier provided a brief update on the status of the Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom contract
- Henry also noted he was in awe of the amount of work and that he is available to assist as needed.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:03

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Chartrand, CVRPC