



CVFIBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Virtually on MS Teams

September 15, 2022

Present:

Executive Committee Delegates: Jerry Diamantides (Berlin), Allen Gilbert (Worcester), Siobhan Perricone (Orange), Jeremy Matt (Plainfield), Chuck Burt (Moretown)

Absent: Ray Pelletier (Northfield), David Healy (Calais)

Others Present: Jennille Smith (Executive Director), Laurie Beth Putnam (Treasurer)

Call to order: Jerry Diamantides called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm

Additions to the agenda:

- Allen Gilbert asked to add a discussion on ARPA funds and Jerry Diamantides advised they would include it in the item Town ARPA funds already on the agenda.

Public comment

- None

Prior Meeting Minutes

- MOTION (Jeremy Matt, second Siobhan Perricone) *to approve the August 29, 2022 meeting minutes as drafted.* No discussion. Passed unanimously.
- MOTION (Jeremy Matt, second Siobhan Perricone) *to approve the August 11, 2022 meeting minutes as drafted.* No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report & Bills to Pay

- Laurie Beth Putnam provided an overview of the bills to pay and Jerry Diamantides provided additional detail on the ECFiber invoice.

Make Ready Update

- Jennille Smith provided an overview of the status of make ready. It was noted that tree trimming has been holding up progress, a few applications to Hardwick Electric have been completed, and some ride-outs and applications have been completed with Green Mountain Power. Overall noted that the organization was in a good place with make ready.

Construction Materials Cooperation

- Jerry Diamantides reported that there are no official agreements yet, but due to a possible imbalance among the CUDs with having materials on hand for construction there may be a need to enter into cooperative agreements to loan materials that are available for construction. It is a consideration at this time to enter into in-kind agreements at some point in the future. Discussion ensued regarding potential price increases and how that might impact such agreements and the proposed inventory management system that may be used to track materials utilization.

Technical Specifications

- Allen Gilbert initiated a discussion on how the organization wants to address underground conduit technical specifications and a process for review. It was suggested that specifications should already be in line with what Waitsfield Telecom has, and any additions should be addressed with Waitsfield Telecom. There was discussion on a need to rely on our experts for this type of review. Jennille Smith was requested to discuss further with Waitsfield Telecom.

Contractor negotiations

- Jerry Diamantides reported there is nothing new to report in addition to what was reported at the Governing Board meeting held on 9/13. Jennille Smith further advised information has been sent to outside counsel and they are expecting a response by Tuesday.

Town ARPA funds

- Chuck Burt has sent the fully executed MOU to the Town of Moretown.
- Laurie Beth Putnam reported that several invoices have gone out to municipalities.
- Jeremy Matt advised he will be participating in the Selectboard meeting in Plainfield tonight to try and obtain status.
- Significant discussion ensued regarding towns being able to determine how their specific funds will be spent and the need for that to be negotiated with the organization and what that might entail. Jennille advised she proposes to do this town by town considering their own goals and expectations. It was further suggested that committee or municipal members be involved with the process as part of a working group. It was also suggested that the organization bring a pre-determined recommendation to the towns that can then be further amended. Such a recommendation needs to be approved by the Executive Committee. The Committee requested that Jennille Smith come up with a plan on how to address the issue and further discuss at the next meeting on September 26th.

2023 Budget

- Jerry Diamantides reported they do not yet have all the information available to hold this discussion tonight.

Laurie Beth Putnam requested action on the previously discussed invoice that was shared in the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION (Siobhan Perricone, second Jeremy Matt) to approve payment of the bill discussed earlier in the meeting (\$30,002.50). See attachment 1. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Adjourn

- Adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Chartrand, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Attachment 1: Bills to Pay

**CVFiber Executive Board Meeting:
Treasurer's Report 9/15/2022**

ECFiber

\$30,002.50

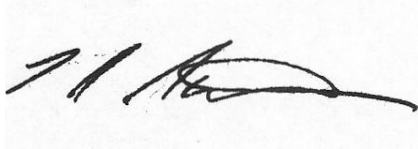
Grant PreC-09 Draw

To be approved for pay't 8/11/2022

\$30,002.50

This is the only invoice to be approved for payment by the board.
All other invoices fell under the acceptance & approval by the Executive Director this period.

Respectively Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie Beth Putnam", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Laurie Beth Putnam