



CV FIBER
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2022

Planning & Development Committee Members Present:

Ray Pelletier (Northfield), David Healy (Calais), Christopher Shenk (Waterbury), Linda Gravell (Waterbury), Jeremy Matt (Plainfield), Siobhan Perricone (Orange), Tom Fisher (East Montpelier)

Planning & Development Committee Members Absent: Jeremy Hansen (Berlin)

Others Present:

Jennille Smith (Executive Director), Henry Amistadi (Duxbury), Jerry Diamantides (Berlin)

Called to order:

David Healy called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Additions to the Agenda:

- None

Public comment:

- Linda Gravell noted that we're starting to test our website and that she has asked for volunteers

Minutes

- Linda noted a couple of corrections for the October 18, 2022 meeting minutes. These were made.
- MOTION (Jeremy Matt, second Siobhan Perricone) to approve October 18, 2022 minutes of Planning and Development Committee with revisions suggested by Linda Gravell. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

Updates:

NRTC Design

- David Healy reported that NRTC is progressing and is moving into the Plainfield O3 distribution area. They're moving quite rapidly.

Pole Inventory

- David Healy reported that Tilson reported its last pole inventory yesterday. Henry and David will review the data. We also need to decide about a pole inventory for Montpelier and Berlin. David noted that Tilson has been a challenge to work with and that there have been problems both with

Tilson and Tilson's subcontractors.

Make Ready Progress

- Jennille noted that we had our first rideout with Hardwick Electric and we're continuing to do rideouts with WEC and Green Mountain Power. WEC is short of 50-foot poles, which might delay makeready.
- Jennille also reported on the status of other license applications.

WCVT Update

- Jennille reported on our work with WCVT to get up and running.
- David Healy noted that WCVT has been excellent to work with.

Construction Contract Status and Start Date

- Ray Pelletier reported on the status of construction contracts and noted that we have a kit for construction of our first OLT pad.
- Jerry Diamantides noted that he's very close to submitting the application for our first grant disbursement.

Materials Updates

- Jennille reported that we're swimming in materials at the moment. We received 5 tractor trailer loads of materials and are having to get very creative about storage. We're looking at expanding storage space. However, OLT cabinets are still on back order; we're looking at industry identical cabinets. We ordered the cabinets in July and they're delayed until March.
- Christopher Schenk noted that City Electric Supply might be an option for cabinets.

CrowdFiber Live Date

- Jennille reported that we've started testing crowd fiber. We've identified some bugs, but overall she's impressed with how far along we are and with the work that Linda and Chuck have done. Hopefully it'll be going live next week.

Crawford Group Work Update

- Jennille reported on Crawford's progress. They've started their qualitative research to develop short and long-term marketing plans.

Webinar Discussion

- Jerry Diamantides provided an update on the webinar that is scheduled tomorrow. He did get input from Chuck Burt regarding the capabilities of the website. He also noted that he's going to start with our commitment to safety.

New PSD Broadband Status Data - Implications

- David Healy reported that the Public Service Department has issued updated broadband access data. This is based on data provided to the PSD by the ISPs. He noted that the number of underserved locations in CVFiber went down. David Healy noted that it doesn't seem like the VCBB wants to change existing construction plans based on this data. David Healy also discussed other potential funding sources and implications of the PSD broadband access data and the FCC broadband access data. In particular, the FCC data is accepting challenges from anyone (organizations, individuals, etc) and the BEAD money will not be available until all challenges have been addressed. Therefore we're unlikely to see any BEAD money until 2025.
- Jeremy Matt suggested that rather than doing individual challenges to the FCC broadband data. There followed additional discussions regarding broadband access data.

Round Table

- Tom Fisher asked if we need to spin up an operations committee

Meeting Adjourned 6:19:

MOTION (Jeremy Matt, second Siobhan Perricone) to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy Matt, Clerk