



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - approved June 5, 2025

Thursday, May 22, 2025 on Zoom and at 306 Meadow Street, Brighton VT

5:30 pm

Attendees:

Executive Committee Members: Nick Anzalone, Brian Machesney, Chuck Burt, Mary Metcalf, Sally Vallat, Siobhan Perricone, Mike Strait, and Christa Shute

Governing Board Members: Jock Gill, Rudy Chase, Henry Amistadi, Mike Gaiss, Mark Fulton

Guests: Jose Aguayo, VCBB

Additional Staff: Tonya Ozone, Danielle Sukkaew

5:32 pm. The meeting started with a quorum.

Agenda Review

Approval of Draft Minutes for April 24, 2025

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| Motioned: Mary Metcalf Seconded: Chuck Burt | Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed |
| Motion: to approve the April 24, 2025 Minutes | Passed with no objections. |

Public Comment: None.

Grant and Partnership Updates

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| Motioned: Mary Metcalf Seconded: Sally Vallat | Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed |
| Motion: to go into Executive Session under the provisions of 1 VSA §313 with staff, consultants and Board Members in order to discuss grant and partnership, finding that premature disclosure could substantially disadvantage the CUD if it were to be made public at this time. | Passed with no objections. |

Executive session was entered at 5:36 pm and ended at 6:08pm. No action was taken.

Discussion Summary: Christa reiterated that the RDOF agreement is in place, although work is still being done to put the process for payment in place.

American Association of Public Broadband Conference Update:

Discussion Summary: Christa reported that she went to Washington DC to attend this conference and spoke on the second panel. Ellie de Villiers, Executive Director of Maple Broadband (and Chair of VCUDA) spoke on the first panel. Christa noted how valuable the experience was for our organization and the connections were made, such as the connection with an entity which has a device program where they will finance the device, and if the customer ever becomes a non-customer, then one does not have to pay the device money back. Christa also had conversations with entities that work in the bond market and the different types of ways they may be able to work with us. In addition, Christa was able to talk with the person that headed the capital projects fund for the Biden Administration and who now is running SHLB (Schools, Health, Library Broadband Coalition). Christa and Ellie then spent time doing visits on Capitol Hill, including meetings with Republican and Democrat Congressional members/staff. At the end of the day, they met with staff from the Vermont Congressional delegation. Christa said that universally (Republicans and Democrats), everybody supports broadband, no one was opposed to public broadband, and she and Ellie had multiple opportunities to share what changes they think would be helpful.

Discussion of Metrics:

Discussion Summary: Chuck Burt mentioned that what Christa said at the May 9 dinner about the cancellation by the Trump Administration of the Digital Equity Act (DEA) and how it will not impact our construction has been very helpful. He has had a number of community members reach out to him in a panic and he was able to reassure them that we applied to the BEAD program for construction funding not the DEA. Christa said that we should and will be sharing that information on a wider basis. She also clarified that the DEA's demise will not impact our immediate workforce development program either.

Adjourn

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| Motioned: Chuck Burt Seconded: Siobhan Perricone | Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed |
| Motion: To adjourn at 6:30 pm. | Passed with no objections |

Drafted by Kitty Ufford-Chase