



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - approved 7/10/25

Thursday, June 26, 2025 on Zoom and at 306 Meadow St., Brighton

5:30 pm

Attendees:

Executive Committee Members: Nick Anzalone, Christa Shute, Ray Lanier, Mary Metcalf, Paul Fixx, Chuck Burt, Sally Vallat, Siobhan Perricone, Jeremy Matt, Mike Strait

Governing Board Members: Rebecca Wallace, Richard Schiller, Henry Amistadi, David Lawrence, Bill Davis, David Healy

Additional Staff: Chris Fortuna, Kitty Ufford-Chase, Matt Hubbard, Danielle Sukkaew, Sweeney Grabin,

Guest: K. Atwood

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

Agenda Review

Approval of Draft Minutes for June 5, 2025

Motioned: Jeremy Matt Seconded: Chuck Burt	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: to approve the June 5, 2025 Minutes	Passed with no objections.

Discussion Summary: Paul noted his concern that the June 5, 2025 Executive Committee meeting agenda was not warned a full 48 hours ahead of time. He also asked about how NEKCV keeps track of the date and time of when its meetings are warned. Mike encouraged the putting of the warning date on the top of each agenda that is warned. Christa agreed that some system of tracking will be put in place going forward to document adherence to the open meeting law.

Public Comment: None.

Introductions: Christa introduced a few new faces: Sweeney Grabin, the new project manager for NEKCV and Everett McGinley from Montgomery

Montgomery Membership to NEKCV:

Discussion Summary: Christa explained that Montgomery is right next to Westfield and since we are going to build in West Westfield, we will need to build in the eastern Montgomery area to get there. Thus, it makes sense for Montgomery to join our CUD. The selectboard of Montgomery voted to ask to join NEKCV at their June 16, 2025 meeting. Christa reviewed the By-laws and determined that this is something the Executive Committee can vote on. The Governing Board was provided seven days notice and an opportunity to express concerns. They will also be ratifying the vote at the next Governing Board meeting as part of the Executive Committee Action items. The remainder of Montgomery where we will not be building is covered under an existing ARPA grant to Northwest Fiberworx.

Motioned: Chuck Burt Seconded: Siobhan Perricone	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
<p>Motion: WHEREAS, the Town of Montgomery, at a meeting of the selectboard thereof held on June 16, 2025 voted to join the NEKCV Communications Union District ("District", "NEKCV") under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. chapter 82; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Town of Montgomery confirms it will also maintain membership in the Northwest Fiberworx Communications Union District; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, as provided in sections 3082 the NEKCV Board of Directors may authorize the inclusion of this additional district member into the communications union district after considering the financial, economic, governance, and operational effects of admission of the additional town; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, NEKCV needs to build through the eastern portion of Montgomery from the VELCO substation in Montgomery Center up Route 242 in order to get to the western portion of Westfield; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Route 242 portion of Montgomery is roughly 11 miles with 145 passings and is the only portion that does not yet have a funding source because the remainder of Montgomery's unserved addresses are fully funded under an ARPA grant to Northwest Fiberworx; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, under section 3052 the NEKCV shall determine the financial, economic, governance, and operational effects that are likely to occur if such municipality is admitted; and</p>	Passed unanimously.

Motioned: Chuck Burt Seconded: Siobhan Perricone	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
<p>WHEREAS, the financial and economic effect are likely to be positive because we will now be able to serve the residents of Montgomery we will be passing to get to Westfield and for other reasons stated above, the governance impact will mean that a quorum will be 37 rather than 36 members, and operationally the town of Montgomery is adjacent to our district; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has been given seven days notice of the vote of the Executive Committee (sent June 19, 2025) to accept Montgomery into the district for ratification by the Governing Board at its next Governing Board meeting, and members have been asked to attend the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for June 26th in order to voice any concerns;</p> <p>NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:</p> <p>(1) The Executive Committee of NEKCV, acting on behalf of the Board of Directors of the communications union district accepts the Town of Montgomery's petition to join NEK Community Broadband dba NEKCV Communications Union District under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. chapter 82, and</p> <p>(2) The Executive Committee of NEKCV, acting on behalf of the Board of Directors of the communications union district accepts the Town of Montgomery's appointment of the following representative and one or more alternates to the Governing Board of NEKCV: Representative: Everett McGinley, and</p> <p>(3) The Governing Board of the district having been given notice and an opportunity to speak at the executive committee meeting will vote to ratify this acceptance at the next regularly scheduled meeting in October of 2025.</p>	

The notice of this proposed action was sent to the Governing Board on June 19, at 9:47pm.

Grant Update & Strategy

Motioned: Jeremy Matt Seconded: Mike Strait	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
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Motion: to go into Executive Session under the provisions of 1 VSA §313 with staff, consultants and Board Members and designated guest - Everett McGinley, in order to discuss grant updates and strategy, finding that premature disclosure could substantially disadvantage the CUD if it were to be made public at this time.	Passed with no objections.
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Executive session was entered at 5:54 pm and ended at 6:35 pm. No action was taken.

Siobhan Perricone left at 6:01pm. Everett McGinley left at 6:17pm.

Discussion Summary: Nick said he would like the record to show that during the grant strategy discussion, there was a realization that the Wolcott opportunity was part of the grant strategy so it was discussed during the executive session. Therefore, the Wolcott opportunity agenda item which appeared further down on the agenda will be removed.

Motioned: Sally Vallat Seconded: Jeremy Matt	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: Authorize the Executive Director to implement the grant strategy related to Wolcott.	Passed unanimously

Business Opportunity

Motioned: Paul Fixx Seconded: Jeremy Matt	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 a business opportunity, 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 6:38 pm and ended at 6:56 pm. No action was taken.

Matt Hubbard left at 6:56pm.

Operational Update

Motioned: Jeremy Matt Seconded: Mike Strait	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
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Motion: to go into Executive Session under the provisions of 1 VSA §313 with staff, consultants and Board Members in order to discuss the operational update, finding that premature disclosure could substantially disadvantage the CUD if it were to be made public at this time.	Passed with no objections.
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Executive session was entered at 6:58 pm and ended at 7:09 pm. No action was taken.
Sweeney Grabin left at 7:01pm. David Healy left at 7:01pm.

Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

Discussion Summary: After a short discussion, it was decided to cancel the regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting on July 3 and that staff would notify the Executive Committee about when the next meeting would take place. It was also agreed to make it a two-hour meeting from 5:30-7:30 pm so that there would be ample time to cover the items that are usually discussed at the meeting on the first Thursday of the month (now cancelled) as well as subsequent items.

Sally left at 7:09 pm.

Adjourn

Motioned: Paul Fixx Seconded: Chuck Burt	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: To adjourn at 7:14 pm.	Passed with no objections

Drafted by Kitty Ufford-Chase