

Telecommunications & Connectivity Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

May 18th, 2017 Meeting

10:30 am – DPS 112 State Street, GIGA Conference Room, Montpelier, VT

Attendees:

1. David Snedeker – Chair of the Board, Northeastern Vermont Development Association
2. Ken Jones- Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development
3. Tim Lueders-Dumont - State Treasurer designee
4. Robert T. White- AOT
5. Theresa Membrino
6. Heidi Spear
7. Clay Purvis- Director of Telecommunications & Connectivity, Dept. of Public Service
8. Sunni Eriksen, Corey Chase, Steph Magnan- Telecommunications & Connectivity Staff, DPS
9. Active Member of Public: Steven Whitaker

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| **Item** | **Item Description** | **Action By** |
| 1.0 | Call to Order at 10:37 am | Chair Snedeker |
| 2.0 | Review of meeting minutes from 10/11/2016 | Committee |
| 2.1 | Motion: Oct. 11, 2016 meeting minutes will remain in draft form as many of those who participated are no longer part of the CAB. | Chair Snedeker |
| 2.2 | Public Comment: Noted that the 11/2015 minutes were unapproved due to change in board members. | Stephen Whitaker |
| 3.0 | DPS Business:   1. Introduction of DPS staff. 2. Desire to have regularly scheduled CAB meetings. TCAB discussed benefits of regular meetings. TCAB decided to meet quarterly, with special meetings as needed. 3. Connectivity Division Report: report and action plan re: the rollout of broadband internet. 4. Ten Year Telecom Plan: Advise on the TYTP, overview of process and what has been done to date. Info on inter-agency collaboration with AG, ACCD, Dept of Health, and Dept of Labor (H. 347).   Review of USF funding and Connectivity funding in the fiscal year.  Review Connectivity Division Public Engagement efforts. Clay | Clay Purvis |
| 4.0 | Motion to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Connectivity Initiative grant proposals. | TCAB- Chair Snedeker |
| 4.1 | Motion was seconded and the Committee unanimously voted in favor of entering executive session. | Seconded by Ken Jones |
| 4.2 | Committee moved into Executive Session | Committee |
| 5.0 | Committee moved to end the Executive Session | Chair Snedeker |
| 6.0 | Call for vote | Chair Snedeker |
| 6.1 | Move to vote on grants individually | Chair Snedeker |
| 6.2 | Motion to approve | TCAB |
| 6.3 | Vote on FairPoint: Reading/Woodstock | Motion to vote: Heidi Spear  Second: TLD  In Favor: 4  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 1 |
| 6.4 | Vote on FairPoint: Whitingham | Motion to vote: Ken Jones  Second: Theresa Membrino  In Favor: 5  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 1 |
| 6.5 | Vote on ECFiber: Royalton | Motion to vote: Theresa Membrino  Second: Heidi Spear  In Favor: 5  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 6.6 | Vote on ECFiber: Stockbridge | Motion to vote: Heidi Spear  Second: Theresa Membrino  In Favor: 3  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 6.7 | Vote on Comcast: Cavendish | Motion to **table** vote: Heidi Spear  Second: TLD  In Favor: 5  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 6.8 | Vote on ECFiber: Randolph | Motion to vote: TLD  Second: Theresa Membrino  In Favor: 5  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 6.9 | Special Meeting: The TCAB will call a special meeting to further discuss Comcast’s proposal. | TCAB |
| 7.0 | Board recommendations: The TCAB recommends approval of five projects. TCAB would like further discussion of concerns re: the cost of Comcast’s Cavendish project proposal. | Chair Snedeker |
| 8.0 | Public Comments:   1. Upset that past recommendations were not noted on the agenda 2. Commenter feels that the criteria on which TCAB will evaluate proposals should be open to public and not part of Exec. Session 3. Commenter feels that transparency is limited re: grants. Feels there should be a way to test service availability. 4. TYTP: Commenter feels 2014 plan lacked objectives and was rushed. 5. Commenter feels FirstNet, VIT, 911, and cell coverage should be included in TYTP. 6. Commenter feels a new propagation study is needed. | Steven Whitaker |
| 9.0 | TCAB Response to Public Comments | The TCAB requested that the Commenter provide his suggestions in writing.  Discussion that in future TCAB meetings, public comment will be limited to 3-5 minutes. |
| 10.0 | Motion to End Meeting | Chair Snedeker |
| 11.0 | Discussion of future of CAB  Clay Purvis indicated CAB can meet as often as they’d like, and DPS can provide information/data as needed. | Committee  Clay Purvis |
| 12.0 | Meeting Closed at 12:22 pm | Chair Snedeker |

\*\*\*Minutes Subject to Approval\*\*\*