

Vermont Community Broadband Board Meeting
Monday, July 29, 2024, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Special Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Agenda

Patty Richards called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm, and completed roll call:

- Patty Richards
- Dan Nelson
- Holly Groschner (arrived at 3:04pm)
- Brian Otley
- Laura Sibilila
- Christine Hallquist - Staff
- Rob Fish – Staff
- Toni Clithero – Staff
- Alexei Monsarrat – Staff
- Alissa Matthews – Staff
- Ginny Raboin – Staff

The Chair moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Nelson and asked for discussion. With no discussion, on a vote of 5-0 the agenda was approved.

2. Minutes Approval – 06.10.2024, 07.08.2024- The Chair made a motion to approve the minutes of 06.10.2024, noting that Mr. Otley was not at the 06.10.2024 meeting, seconded by Ms. Groschner and asked for discussion. Ms. Groschner asked for clarification on the process for action items. Ms. Richards clarified that everything on the list is being added to the parking lot, that is what was agreed upon at the last meeting, Ms. Hallquist concurred. Ms. Sibilila asked if the discussion on the Board's authority to issue an affordability policy would be on the August agenda, Ms. Hallquist noted the agenda will be determined with input from Ms. Richards. With no other discussion on a vote of 4-0 with Mr. Otley abstaining because he was not in attendance, the meeting minutes of 06.10.2024 were approved. The Chair made a motion to approve the 07.08.2024 meeting minutes seconded by Mr. Otley and asked for discussion. With no discussion on a vote of 4-0 with Mr. Nelson abstaining because he was not in attendance, the minutes were approved.

3. Public Comment- No public comment.

4. Deliberation and Vote on proposed Motion to Establish the Methodology for Allocating the \$30M Appropriated for Providing Matching Funds to Eligible Providers for Federal Broadband Grant Programs- Mr. Fish read the motion into the record for the Board's deliberation. The Chair made a motion to approve the Motion, seconded by Ms. Groschner, and asked for discussion. Ms. Sibilila asked whether Staff had circulated the Motion for review by any other parties.

Mr. Fish noted that the Motion met the requirements provided to Staff by the NTIA. Ms. Richards further advised that the Motion had been posted on the website for public review and comment as part of the Board packet. Ms. Groschner further noted that a letter had been sent to eligible providers asking if they were interested in participating in a federal grant program. Ms. Groschner also noted that this Motion allows the Staff to allocate the funds if approved. Ms. Groschner stated if the board is authorizing Staff to make the award, Staff should be required to give the Board a certificate of compliance with existing grant awards and alert the Board for any noncompliance. Ms. Hallquist noted Staff will complete a review for compliance and have a process to do so. The Chair called the vote and the Motion carried, 5-0.

- 5. Confirm next meeting date August 12, 2024; In person** The Chair confirmed Board members could attend the August 12, 2024, meeting in person in Montpelier and/or virtually. Ms. Sibilias advised that she will not be in person but virtual on August 12, 2024.
- 6. Adjourn-** With unanimous vote, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:26 pm.