



Telecommunications & Connectivity Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

September 30th, 2020 Special Meeting

2:00pm – 3:00 pm Remote Meeting

Attendees:

1. David Snedeker – Chair of the Board, Northeastern Vermont Development Association
2. Michael Clasen – Deputy State Treasurer
3. Clay Purvis – Director, Connectivity Division, Dept. of Public Service
4. Michael DeHart - Telecommunications & Connectivity Staff, Dept. of Public Service
5. Evan Carlson – NEK CUD
6. Costa Pappis - AOT
7. Katherine Sims – NEK Collaborative
8. Corey Chase – Department of Public Service
9. Robert Fish – Dept of Public Service
10. June Tierney – Commissioner, Dept of Public Service
11. Kenneth Jones - ACCD

Members of public:

Steve Hubbard – RTO Wireless

Kevin Reagan – RTO Wireless

Steven Whitaker

Item	Item Description	Action By
1.0	Call to Order at 10:08am	Chair Snedeker
2.0	Meeting Minutes 9.17.20 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corrections: Tierney's comments Meeting Minutes 9.21.20	Moved to approve jointly: Sims Second: Jones Approved unanimous
3.0	New Business: COVID-19 Connectivity Initiative R3 Award Recommendations Department made best efforts to select most competitive, highest scoring projects. Problems arose from CUD objections. Lamoille has	Clay Purvis

retracted their objection to one project.

Lamoille is reconsidering their objection to the NEW Co project in Lowell.

Recommendations are heavy on wireless projects- they score very well due to the cost and number served. Some smaller projects also selected due to low cost.

Lowest scoring proposal is recommended because it received direct support from the overlapping CUD and the difficulty to build in that area. It only plans to build to 55 locations, but will likely hit many more locations due to the number of road miles encompassed by the proposal.

RTO Brandon Aerostat project was well-supported by the CUD.

Carlson: Is the town or selectboard supportive of that proposal?

Fish: The chair of that CUD is on the selectboard if I recall correctly.

Sims: Moved to enter executive session to discuss in more detail the specific proposals that may be awarded contracts by the Dept.

Seconded: Jones
Unanimous approved.

Entered Executive Session 2:19PM
Concluded executive session 3:13PM
Reconvened TCAB Special Meeting at 3:14PM

Chair Snedeker departed meeting at 3:00pm during the Executive Session.
Evan Carlson agreed to act as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Board recommended changes to Dept award recommendations.

Sims Move to recommend: Remove RTO Brandon, Comcast Peru, Comcast Waterbury,

	<p>Comcast Morristown</p> <p>Replace with WCVT Bridport, CCI Elmore (pending CVFiber objection withdrawal and availability of CCI) OR Tilson West Danville project if CCI is no longer available.</p> <p>Seconded: Jones Approved unanimous</p> <p>Jones: We are running out of time. What is the fate of un-expended funds? Is there a secondary path for those funds to avoid relinquishing to Federal Govt?</p> <p>Tierney: A lot of that depends on developments in the executive branch, so I'm not prepared to speak to that today.</p>	
4	<p>Public Comment:</p> <p>Steve Hubbard: Could anyone share why the Advisory Board recommended removing RTO from the award recommendation?</p> <p>Clasen: I think that's a conversation that would be more appropriately held after the grants are executed. If the Department has additional questions of the bidders, they should be in touch.</p> <p>Whitaker: Board needs to be guided by 202c as if it were the north star in the age before compasses. If open access and competitive choice are not in the proposals, you should insist that they be imposed as conditions on the contracts.</p>	
5	Adjournment 3:25pm	<p>Motion: Sims Second: Clasen Unanimous</p>

Minutes Subject to Approval

DRAFT