

## NEK Community Broadband

# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2020

**Attendees: Evan Carlson, Kristen Fountain, Nicolas Anzalone, Noah Armstrong, Bill Piper, Katherine Sims (3:22 p.m.), Mike Strait, Annie McLean**

Evan C. (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:09.

### Agenda Review

Evan C. provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

### Last Week's Action Items

Evan C. reviewed last week's action items.

### Administrative Update

- Bank cards and checks will be distributed to Evan C. and Annie M. next week.
- NEK Broadband is now in possession of 30 plus documents from the Northern Enterprise Board that need to be reviewed.

### Meeting Roundup

- VCUDA meeting on Thursday: All CUDs intend to sign the interlocal agreement.
- Call with Krista Scutes (sp???) re: CUD management - Krista recommended reaching out to Christine Hallquist as a possible consultant.
- Call with Christine Hallquist provided some helpful RDOF feedback; Evan C. and Kristen F. have a followup call with Chirstine next week.
- VELCO, GMP, & Tilson call re: RDOF re: Where NEK Broadband fits in the picture and if IRUs are available (see RDOF Partnership agenda item below).

## RDOF Partnership

NRTC consortium closed out yesterday: Kingdom Fiber), Washington Electric Co-op (WEC), Vermont Electric Co-op (VEC), and National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC). Tilson is planning to sign teaming agreements with Green Mountain Power (GMP), Vermont Power Supply Authority (VPPSA), and VELCO. Tilson is flexible on what type of partnership NEK Broadband might want, but is not willing to negotiate until we are at the table. Joining would provide a community-oriented voice at the table and position NEK Broadband to advocate for both NRTC and Tilson groups interests that best serve our District. Going to RDOF with Tilson will not jeopardize NRTC consortium relationships as NEK Broadband has an embedded relationship with WEC through Northern Enterprise. NEK Broadband can pull out of the teaming agreement anytime with 5 days notice.

**Motion to join Tilson at RDOF by signing the teaming agreement after additional revisions. (M: Katherine S., S: Bill P.) – motion carried 6-0.**

## Governing Board Recap

Last night's Governing Board meeting went well! NEK Broadband needs to allocate \$2,000-\$3,000 to address alternate technologies in RFP scope...a few paragraphs on each item. H:966 engagement activity went really well. It became clear that the Executive Committee has been deeply entrenched in H:966 and soliciting project ideas from member communities via Governing Board members is unrealistic without offering members additional guidance.

## Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

## Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:05p.m. Next meeting is July 17, 2020.

## Action Items

- Reorganize Drive folders - Annie M., Nick A. will help if time permits
- Feedback on CUD job descriptions - Executive Committee
- Share Northern Enterprise documents - Kristen F.
- Formal Recommendation on technology research for RFP scope of work - Technology Committee
- Discuss H:966 project guidelines and create overview of potential projects for Governing Board - Next EC meeting
- RDOF Tilson partnership rationale summary for Governing Board - Executive Committee
- Comment on RDOF Teaming Agreement - Executive Committee (within 24 hours)

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Annie McLean, NEK Community Broadband Clerk*