



# Governing Board Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2022 - 5:30pm

**Attendees: see attached list**

**Role Call & Agenda Review**

**Public Comment**

No public comment was made.

**Consent Agenda**

<b>Motioned: Kathleen Monroe Seconded: Morgan Wade</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: to approve the Consent Agenda</b>	37	0	0

**Updates**

**Executive Committee Action Review & Affirmation**

<b>Motioned: Jennifer Barone Seconded: Barb Nolan</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: that the Governing Board affirms receipt and confirmation, with no proposed revision or alteration, of the Executive Committee Actions document.</b>	37	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** No discussion took place

**Executive Director Update**

- **Discussion Summary:** The first of three tranches of VCBB Construction Grant funds were released: \$35 million has been assigned to the NEK Broadband area which is roughly 31% of the \$116 million released,. The results of the Audit will be given at the next meeting. We

successfully made another connection to a family with a daughter in an online college program and no existing broadband option. NEK Broadband was able to serve the family with 250/250. We look forward to hearing back on the Associated Press interview on it. Christa will be hosting open office hours on Tuesdays and Fridays. Christa gave a brief update on the Town Hall meetings.

## New Business

### Transition Communications and Technology Committees to Working Groups

Motioned: Caro Thompson Seconded: Kathleen Monroe	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to dissolve the Communication Committee and Technology Committee into working groups of the larger Governing Board.	37	0	0

- Discussion Summary:** The Communications and Technology Committees wish to become working groups. This will provide quick effectiveness and expediency throughout the business of NEK Broadband. The communications subgroup will continue to meet regularly.

### Community Relations Manager

- Discussion Summary:** The position would communicate with the communities, town clerks and developing areas. They will work with the Communications subgroup to do media releases, newsletters, social media postings, etc. The salary will be commensurate with experience and budget of the CUD.

### Reconnect Grant Update and Net Neutrality Resolution

Motioned: John Kellogg Seconded: Dale Urie	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to approve the Net Neutrality Resolution.	37	0	0

- Discussion Summary:** Christa gave an overview of the ReConnect applicable area. By applying for the 50/50 grant/loan application, NEK Broadband was able to expand the funded areas. The Governing Board has already approved the idea of Net Neutrality. As an extension of that ideal, the board would like to approve a formal resolution for the Reconnect Grant and the Construction Grants. Find the approved Resolution: [here](#).

### Build Strategy and Questions

<b>Motioned: Jennifer Barone Seconded: Kathleen Monroe</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: find that the premature disclosure of the build strategy would substantially disadvantage the NEK Broadband CUD.</b>	37	0	0

<b>Motioned: John Kellogg Seconded: Marjorie Kramer</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: to enter Executive Session under 1 VSA 313 to discuss build strategy.</b>	37	0	0

<b>Motioned: Morgan Wade Seconded: Barb Nolan</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: to exit Executive Session.</b>	37	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** No preliminary discussion took place. No action was taken in Executive Session. The Board exited Executive Session at 6:20pm.

### ARPA and Town Halls

<b>Motioned: Dana Casperson Seconded: John Kellogg</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: find that the premature disclosure of the ARPA Funding and Town Halls discussion would substantially disadvantage the NEK Broadband CUD were it to be made public.</b>	37	0	0

<b>Motioned: Jennifer Barone Seconded: Morgan Wade</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
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<b>Motion: to enter Executive Session under 1 VSA 313 to discuss ARPA funding and the Town Hall meetings.</b>	37	0	0
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<b>Motioned: Michael Strait Seconded: Barb Nolan</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: to exit Executive Session.</b>	37	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** No preliminary discussion took place. No action was taken in Executive Session. The Board exited Executive Session at 6:38pm

### Break-out Sessions: How is the organization doing?

- **Discussion Summary:** The Board broke out into groups to discuss the NEK Broadband organization. The groups reported back during the meeting. An Executive Committee member was in each group and will be taking back the feedback to the Executive Committee to develop an action plan. Feedback included the desire to be well informed, increasing communication and clarity between the board and the organization. It also included a proposal to add additional office hours to Christa’s schedule. The representatives were also excited about all of the work being done and some would like to find clear ways to be involved in the process.

### Adjourn

<b>Motioned: William Piper Seconded: Noah Armstrong</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>Motion: to adjourn</b>	37	0	0



*Respectfully Submitted,  
Jami Jones, NEK Broadband, Clerk*

Town	Delegate	P	V	Alternate	P	V	Alternate	P	V
Albany	Rob Dewees	v	v						
Barnet	Kathleen Monroe	v	v	Jerri Kohl					
Barton									
Bloomfield	Nate Nugent								
Brighton	Michael Strait	v	v	Jonah Petre					
Brownington	Calvin Page			William Davis					
Brunswick	David Caron			Theresa Caron					
Burke	Jennifer Barone	v	v	Todd Vendituoli					
Canaan	Ann Morgan Wade	v	v	Alfred Buckley			Frank Sawicki, Jr		
Charleston	John Kellogg	v	v	Peter Moskovites					
Concord	Dale Urie	v	v	Bill Humphrey					
Coventry	David Barlow	v	v	Phil Marquette					
Craftsbury	Rudy Chase	v	v	Katherine Sims					
Danville	Jonathan Baker			Sean Frason					
Derby	Karen Chitambar	v	v	Bob Kelley			Grant Spates		
East Haven				Kerri Fillion					
Glover	Noah Armstrong	v	v	Shaun Campbell					
Granby	Sonia Peters	v	v	Sheryl Brown			Terri Williams	x	x
Greensboro	Carol Fairbank	v	v	Mary Metcalf	x	x			
Groton	Mike Gaiss	v	v	Michael Nahmias					
Guildhall	Susan McVetty	v	v	George Blakeslee					
Hardwick	Paul Fixx	v	v	Doug McClure					
Holland	Andrew Bouchard			Ed Brady	v	v			
Irasburg									
Jay	Lynnette Deaette	v	v	Le-Ann Tetrault			Tara Morse	x	x
Kirby	Dana Caspersen	v	v	Malcom Doak					
Lemington	William Gilbert	v	v						
Lowell	Marjorie Kramer	v	v	Faye Starr					
Lyndon	Shawn Tester			Marty Feltus	v	v			
Lunenburg	Harry Williams			James Peyton					
Maidstone	James Mewkill	v	v						
Morgan	Eric Pope	v	v						
Newark	Ben Tilford	v	v	Mark Whitworth	x	x			
Newport City	Woodman Page			Chris Vachon			Paul Monette		
Newport Town	Wendy Matthews	v	v	Cameron Thompson			David Ghelli		
Norton	Christina Duffy	v	v	Kenn Stransky	x	x			
Peacham	Jock Gill								
Ryegate	Shawn Burroughs			Nelson Elder					
Sheffield	Claire Polfus	v	v	Annie Mclean	x	x			
St. Johnsbury	Nicolas Anzalone	v	v	Scott Campbell					
Stannard	Steve Pickard			Johanna Polsenberg					
Sutton	Evan Carlson	v	v	David Tucker	x	x	Robert Simms	x	x
Troy	Robert Langlands			Gary Taylor			Mark Sanville		
UTGs	Barb Nolan	v	v	Gina Vigneault					
Victory									
Walden	Caro Thompson	v	v						
Waterford	Bill Piper	v	v	Fred Saar					
Westfield	Carrie Glessner	v	v	Laura Emery	x	x			
Westmore	Erik Townsend	v	v	Linda Michniewicz			Ray Lanier	x	x
Wheelock	David Stahler Jr.	v	v	Stephen Amos	x	x			
Wolcott	Michael Davidson	v	v	Bruce Wheeler	x	x			

Date: 12-9-2021

	P	V		
Delegates P/V	35	35	Member Towns	48
Alternates P/V	14	2	Towns Represente	37
Votes total	37		Quorum	Yes
Votes to pass	19			

**Members of the Public**

Kal Saffron

**Staff in Attendance:**

Christa Shute (ED)

Jami Jones (Clerk)

Kristen Foutnain (Treasurer)