



Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

December 22, 2022, 4-5:30 pm (EST)

Attendees: Morgan Wade (Chair), Paul Fixx, Ray Lanier, Michael Strait, Nick Anzalone, Jonathan Baker, Bill Piper

Staff: Christa Shute, Danielle Sukkaew

Agenda

Roll Call, Agenda Review, and Review of Minutes

Motioned: Paul Fixx Seconded: Ray Lanier	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: To approve the minutes from 12/15.	5	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** During agenda review, Christa asked for changes to the agenda to include HR Discussion and Pole Inventory Bid to both be held in Executive Session.

HR Discussion and Benefits

Motioned: Michael Straight Seconded: Paul Fixx	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to enter into Executive Session without staff, finding that the discussion of employee hiring would disadvantage the parties involved were it to be made public at this time.	5	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** no action was taken in Executive Session. Jonathan and Bill joined during executive session. The Committee left Executive Session at 4:50.

HR Discussion and Benefits

Motioned: Paul Fixx Seconded: Michael Strait	For	Against	Abstain
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Motion: to accept the modification to the Executive Director's compensation package.	7	0	0
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- **Discussion Summary:** The modification included changes to the CTO to 35 days per year, change to the CTO carry over from year to year and one-time additional CTO because of extraordinary work hours in 2022.

Accounting Services Bid Review & Approval

Motioned: Nick Anzalone Seconded: Michael Strait	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to give Christa authority to negotiate an enter into a contract as appropriate with Berry Dunn for services as described.	7	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** We sent this bid out to six contractors. We received two responses. This work needs to be done quickly, accurately, and with telecommunications and grant work in mind. Berry Dunn has the expertise and familiarity with our systems but their prices is higher than the other bid. Christa is recommending we negotiate a contract with BarryDunn for pre-audit services.

Pole Inventory Services Bid Review & Approval to Contract for Services

Motioned: Michael Strait Seconded: Nick Anzalone	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to enter into Executive Session with staff, as premature disclosure of Pole Inventory Services Bid Review & Approval would disadvantage NEK Broadband if it were to be made public at this time.	7	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** no action was taken in Executive Session. The Committee left Executive Session at 5:05 pm. The Executive Director will be seeking additional information from respondents primarily on timing because it is a critical issue.

Legislative Session & Lobbyist

Motioned: Nick Anzalone	For	Against	Abstain
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Seconded: Bill Piper			
Motion: to authorize Christa to enter negotiations with a qualified individual regarding services as a lobbyist using non-federal funding.	7	0	0

Discussion Summary: There is a lobbyist who has been recommended to us, who we will be able to meet with after the start of the New Year. At this point, we plan on exploring this route solely as NEK Broadband, and we'll follow up with the executive committee again after talking with the potential candidate. We will continue to do our best to have a united front on behalf of CUDs but if VCUDA does not make an effort to contribute funds it is the preference of the funder and the executive committee to move forward independently with the lobbyist.

FCC Bead Challenge Process & Direction

Motioned: Paul Fixx Seconded: Michael Strait	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to enter into Executive Session with staff to discuss the FCC Bead Challenge Process as premature disclosure would disadvantage NEK Broadband if it were it to be made public at this time.	6	0	0

- **Discussion Summary:** no action was taken in Executive Session. The Committee left Executive Session at 5:41 pm.

Adjourn

Motioned: Paul Fixx Seconded: Michael Strait	For	Against	Abstain
Motion: to adjourn.	6	0	0

Drafted by:

Nedah Warstler, NEK Broadband, Clerk