

# Joint Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - approved 9/5/24

Thursday, August 1, 2024

5:30 pm

#### Attendees:

NEK Broadband Voting Executive Committee Members: Brian Machesney, Mike Strait, Jonathan Baker, Sally Vallat, Nick Anzalone, Ray Lanier
NEK Broadband Non-Voting Executive Committee Members: Denise Sullivan (Treasurer); Christa Shute (Executive Director); Kitty Ufford-Chase (Clerk)
Additional NEK Broadband Staff: Danielle Sukkaew and Tonya Ozone
Additional NEK Broadband Board Members: Rudy Chase, Mike Gaiss
Additional NEK Broadband Contractors: Deb Shannon

CVFiber Voting Executive Committee Members: Siobhan Perricone, John Reid, John Russell, Chuck Burt, Jeremy Matt
CVFiber Non-Voting Executive Committee Members: Laurie Beth (Treasurer)
CV Fiber Governing Board Members: Sybil Schlesinger
CVFiber Staff: Jennille Smith, Olivia Kantyka

5:34 pm Meeting started with quorum.

# Agenda Review

Motioned: Sally Vallat Seconded: Mike Strait	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: to approve agenda as drafted.	Passed with no objections

CV Fiber Board members also approved the agenda with no objections.

# **Approval of Minutes**

Motioned: Mike Strait Seconded: Sally Vallat	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: to approve July 25, 2024 minutes as drafted.	Passed with no objections

CVFiber Board members also approved the minutes with no objections

Ray Lanier entered 5:39pm

### **Public Comment: None**

#### **Partnership Updates**

Motioned: Ray Lanier Seconded: Sally Vallat	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: Voted to go into Executive Session under the provisions of 1 VSA §313 with NEK Broadband and CVFiber EC Members and Board Members, staff, and consultants, in order to discuss partnership updates, finding that premature disclosure could substantially disadvantage the CUD if it were to be made public at this time.	Passed with no objections

CVFiber EC Members also voted to go into executive session. Executive session was entered at 5:44pm and exited at 6:23pm. No action was taken.

#### **NEK Broadband Vote on Pear Networks Agreement**

Motioned: Mike Strait Seconded: Sally Vallat	Passed with no objections Passed with objections Failed
Motion: to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a wholesale agreement with Pear Networks LLC dba Kingdom Fiber upon approval of the contract by the Chair and Vice-Chair	Passed with no objections

#### **Grant Updates**

**Discussion Summary:** Christa reported that today, the NTIA, along with the state of VT, announced that VT's Volume II proposal for the BEAD funding has been approved. We have submitted an amendment request for assignment of the CVFiber construction grant to NEK Broadband effective upon the final merger vote. In that amendment request, we also requested the ability to use the inventory purchased under the CVFiber construction grant in the NEK area, and that will off-set the additional operational cost that NEK Broadband will pay for through our construction grant.

Motioned: Mike Strait	Passed with no objections	
Seconded: Sally Vallat	Passed with objections Failed	

Motion: Voted to go into Executive Session under the provisions of 1 VSA §313 with NEK Broadband and CVFiber EC	Passed with no objections	
Members and Board Members, staff, and consultants, in order to discuss grants and loans related to our strategy ,		
finding that premature disclosure could substantially		
disadvantage the CUD if it were to be made public at this time.		

CVFiber EC Members also voted to go into executive session. Executive session was entered at 6:31 pm and ended at 7:05 pm. No action was taken.

#### **Other Business**

**Discussion Summary:** The second meeting of the month for the EC is happening at the same time as the Aug.15 Governing Board meeting for the final merger vote. The merger would be official the next day, so if we had an EC meeting on Aug.15 as well, it would be a joint meeting. Christa proposed and there seemed to be general agreement that any business that needed to happen at that point could be done as part of a combined Governing Board meeting. Also, at that Governing Board meeting we could do updates on construction, customers, take rate, etc.

# Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm

Drafted by Kitty Ufford-Chase, Clerk, NEK Broadband