

Maple Broadband
Addison County Communications Union District

Monthly Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2022

5:00 p.m. – 6:30p.m.

VIA ZOOM

To attend the meeting via your computer or mobile device:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81445345166?pwd=Y1hIVFEwU2VSQnhRdHNya0ZCbXdqUT09>

Meeting ID: 81445345166

Passcode: 047046

Join by phone: +1 646 558 8656

Steve Huffaker, Chair of Maple Broadband opened the meeting at 5:03 p.m. and welcomed the representatives of the member towns.

1. Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order. The following people were present:

Paul Nikolich, Delegate Addison;
Rick Scott, Delegate Bridport;
Mike Sheets, Alternate Bridport;
Dan Sonneborn, Delegate Bristol;
Magna Dodge, Delegate Cornwall;
Steve Huffaker, Delegate Ferrisburgh;
Ross Conrad, Delegate Middlebury;
Ellie DeVillers, Delegate New Haven;
Jim Robinson, Delegate Orwell;
Billy Sneed, Alternate Ripton;
Paul Vaczy, Delegate Salisbury;
Carl Seibecker, Delegate Shoreham;
Shannon Haggett, Delegate Vergennes;
Andrew Martin, Delegate Waltham;
Spence Putnam, Delegate Weybridge;

Adam Lougee, Clerk, non-member representing Addison County Regional Planning Commission
Cy Tall, Treasurer Cornwall
Sophia Holm, Middlebury College Intern

- 2. Agenda Approval:** Steve asked for additions or changes to the agenda. **Magna Dodge moved approval of the agenda. Ellie DeVillers seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by a voice vote/show of hands.**
- 3. Public Comments:** No members of the public attended to make comments.

4. Construction Grant Update: Steve noted that our construction grant was approved by VCBB Friday July 15th. He thanked Ellie and Magna for their work and turned the meeting over to Ellie. Ellie informed the Board that VCBB awarded Maple Broadband a construction grant of \$8.69M. She noted there is a contingency on the money related to GoNetSpeed. The contingency deals with incidental overbuild and Maple Broadband not using grant funds to build to currently served addresses. If Maple Broadband gets to an area first, we may build there. If Go Net Speed builds prior to MapleBroad then we will not use grant funds to reach those addresses. Maple Broadband will go back and pick up those addresses later, but using its own capital. Maple Broadband plans to go back to and pass all addresses.

5. Construction Bid Report and Vote: Ellie reported that although we only had two bidders, the pricing was very good, especially on the ariel miles. The low bidder, Syracuse Utilities Inc., bid \$1.89M responding to Maple Broadband's Phase 1A bid RFP. Eustis Cable Enterprises was the next bidder at about \$2.34M. VPS, our engineering firm, has provided very positive feedback after reference checks on Syracuse Utilities. The Executive Board recommends taking Syracuse Utilities low bid. **Ellie moved to award the Phase 1A construction award to Syracuse Utilities, Inc for a total maximum price of \$1,995,203. Carl Seibecker seconded the motion. After some questions and discussion, the Full Board voted unanimously in favor of awarding the construction bid to Syracuse Utilities, Inc. by a voice vote/raise of hands.**

Ross asked about a start date. Steve noted that we are working on that. He expects it will be in September, but will let us know as we work things out with the contractor.

6. Other Business: None.

7. Future Meeting: Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 7th, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** WCVT will join us in September.

8. Adjourn: **Magna Dodge moved to adjourn. Spence Putnam seconded the motion and the members voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:41 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Lougee, Clerk