



Carroll County Broadband
Rick Hiland and Steve Knox, Co-Chairmen
Town of Albany NH
1972-B NH Route 16
Albany, NH 03818-7442 USA

MINUTES of December 12, 2019

Wolfeboro Town Hall

DRAFT MINUTES

Call to order by Rick Hiland & Steve Knox at 10AM

Members Present- Co-Chairmen, Rick Hiland, Steve Knox- Albany, Clerk, Ken Robichaud Carroll County, John Gallagher- Harts Location, Glenn Coppleman -North Country Council, Paul Obrien- Wolfeboro, Rebecca Mason -Tamworth, Chuck Fuller -Effingham, Denise Roy-Palmer- WEDCO, John Colbath -Conway, Mary Carey Seavey -Conway, Leo Dwyer -Sandwich, Matthew Plache -Carroll County, Bill Gassman- Moultonborough, Carole Munroe -Valley Net, Kathy Tetreault- Wolfeboro, Chip Albee- Tuftonboro, John Border -Eaton, Kelly Collins -Wakefield, Grace Fuller- Effingham, Julie Dolan - Sandwich, Rick Zacher- Brookfield, Sen. Jeb Bradley -Wolfeboro, Representative Jerry Knirk- Freedom, Sean Doucette-Bartlett/Jackson Representative, Bert Weiss- Chatham Representative, Joy Gagnon- Ossipee Representative.

Public Attendees- Richard Cary Tuftonboro, Stan Janiak Tuftonboro, Nancy Byrd Wolfeboro, Bob Ness, Wolfeboro, Bob Sterndale Wolfeboro, Dick Byrd Wolfeboro, Joe Kenney Wakefield, Benoit Lamontagne State of NH, Marie Bryant Wolfeboro, Keith Simpson Wolfeboro, Sue Belanger Gilford, Brian Cyr Brookfield, R. Vail Wolfeboro, Peter Holland Brookfield, Marshall Goldberg Brookfield.

Speakers/Guests- Consolidated Communications- Rob Koester, Jeff Nevins, Ellen Scarponi, Jeff McIver.

Approximately 50-55 people present.

Rick welcomed 3 new members to the Carroll County Broadband Committee-

Sean Doucette: Bartlett/Jackson Representative
Bert Weiss- Chatham Representative
Joy Gagnon- Ossipee Representative

Everyone welcomed the new members to the committee.

Rick Hiland introduced guest speaker Rob Koester from Consolidated Communications.

Rob and his team presented handouts to the committee and gave an overview of Carroll County from Consolidated Communications perspective on how we would accomplish getting fiber to every connection in the county.

Consolidated Communication is represented in 23 states and most have dense rural areas, some much like Carroll County. Consolidated has over 4000 employees, which help maintain the 37,000 miles of fiber and the more than 1.5 million connections. Along with the Fiber lines, Consolidated has over 4000 cell towers, 2000 towers alone in the New England states.

The New Hampshire Network currently has approximately 7000 miles of fiber. 500,000 plus possible connections or as they refer to (passing's). These passing are primarily VDSL based w/max speeds of 100mb. In addition, 100,000 plus fiber passing's of speeds to 1Gig symmetrical.

Consolidated has upgraded 247,100 passing's since July 2018, 147,000 VDSL upgrades on Copper, 98,000 1 gig upgrades on fiber.

The Carroll County Network has 300 route miles of fiber. 24 central offices, approximately 47,000 total passing's with an average subscribed speed of 16Mb/s, in which 31% of the subscribers are at the maximum available speeds.

Rob also discussed a case study in Chatham NY, in which Consolidated Communications built a backbone fiber project for the county. 660 square miles of county with initially 700 fiber miles, 38,000 passing's, and 28% of subscribers at maximum available speed.

This was a state sponsored, grant program to provide a minimum of 25M/3M to a specific group of unserved/underserved customers. Consolidated Communications built 1,178 miles of backbone fiber; total build passing's of 22,000 connections. \$46 million dollar total project, which \$37 million was state funding and \$9 million were Consolidated Communication funding.

Consolidated Communication answered questions from the audience and the presentation ended at 11:30am.

Motion to accept minutes; from 11/14/2019 meeting made by Steve Knox, seconded by Becky Mason, all in favor.

Other business- have not received Jackson, Bartlett and Conway's municipal buildings count yet.

Matrix Design has reached out to Steve and Rick reconsidering their decision on providing an RFP.

Legislative update from Senator Bradley and Representative Knirk on LSR-2811, Communication Districts. Also; discussed space on poles and payments in lieu of taxes.

Motion to adjourn; made by Becky Mason, seconded by John Colbath, all in favor.

Next meeting as needed at the call of the co-chairmen.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM

Sincerely,
Ken Robichaud
Clerk

Rick Hiland – Co-Chairman 447-4833 r.hiland@myfairpoint.net
Steve Knox - Co-Chairman 447-2887 s_knox@roadrunner.com