

Valley Community Fibre Network
Board of Directors Meeting April 20, 2009
Minutes

Present: Shirley Pineo, Janet Newton, David Seeley, Bruce MacDougall, Erin Beaudin, Geoff Muttart, Kathleen Leslie, Faye Hill, Don Clarke, Hugh Simpson, Chris Butt, Dale Facey, Bill McKennan, Mat Povah, Terry Yuill, Louis Coutinho

Regrets: Neil Carruthers, Lorraine Glendenning, Terry Dalton

1. Call to Order: Mr. Clarke called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2. Adoption of Agenda: It was moved that the Agenda be adopted with the addition of two items under new business consisting of discussion of the “Build Canada” funding and second topic of the “Role of the CAO” with respect to VCFN. The motion was carried.
Simpson/Hill

3. Adoption of Minutes – March 16, 2009: It was moved that the minutes of March 16, 2009 be adopted. Newton/Simpson. The motion was carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes:

ACORN Day

- Dale Facey summarized the ACORN Day event and activities. He mentioned that there would be a DVD available. It was noted that the ACORN presentations were streamed over the Internet.

- Shirley Pineo distributed a written explanation of what the ACORN and CANARIE organisations were. She indicated that she liked the video conference experience. It was noted that it was very technical

ACORN Meetings

-Don Clarke stated that it was difficult for him to attend the ACORN meetings and asked if IAI could attend on VCFN’s behalf. Bruce MacDougall responded that IAI was a commercial carrier and that IAI could not represent VCFN at ACORN.

Kentville Request for VCFN Connectivity

-Hugh Simpson and Bill McKennan were to contact Keith Robicheau (Kentville CAO)

-Shirley Pineo asked why Kentville could not get service. Bruce explained it was a question of what Kentville was requesting (point to point connections or service between municipalities using the Common Infrastructure)

- Geoff Muttart advised that if Kentville were to be involved it would be at the VCFA level and require approval at VCFA and VCFN.

-Bill McKennan stated that the initiative had come from Kentville directly without solicitation from any VCFN representative.

-Erin Beaudin agreed to review previous communications with Kentville regarding involvement in VCFN initiative.

Common Infrastructure Proposal

-Shirley Pineo asked when the Municipalities' were going to be connected and that she did not want to wait any longer. Bruce MacDougall replied stating that IAI has proposed the solution to the CAO's and that we are waiting on their response.

Legal Matters

-Hug Simpson asked for an update on the legal proceeding with NSPI. Geoff Muttart replied that there was no progress since the last update

5. Operations of the VCFN

Sales and Marketing Mr. Terry Yuill of IAI presented a report of marketing and sales activities for the period March 16th, 2009 to April 20th, 2009. The report of activities was distributed to those present.

- Occupancy Agreements signed
- Presented progress on the Common Infrastructure(CI)
 - o Faye Hill asked what the financial commitment was for the CI initiative. Louis Coutinho replied that they were waiting on a couple of Municipalities' to decide. Bill McKennan explained that they were working through some cost sharing issues.
 - o Bruce MacDougall explained the CI model in detail.

Network Operational Status: Mr. Butt of IAI presented a report of network operations and project completion. There was a planned outage in Windsor due to road work and no customers were affected. Both the operations report and the report of project completion were distributed to those present.

6. Financial Affairs: VCFN treasurer Bill McKennan presented a financial update. He noted that there were two outstanding bills from the build. The partners contribution along with cash on hand will cover the outstanding debts. A formal budget for 2009/10 is to be presented at the next VCFN Board meeting.

7. Additional Items:

7a. Build Canada Fund

Bob Ashley reported that he and Terry Yuill had explored options for use of this fund and it was determined that the fund was not available for communications infrastructure projects.

7b. Role of CAO vs. VCFN Board

Shirley Pineo asked for clarity on the role of the CAO and the VCFN Board, stating that it needed to be clear. Mr. Louis Coutinho responded that the CAO had an existing meeting and added an item to their agenda to address a time sensitive issue with respect to financed installation fees. He clearly stated that the CAO's recognize that the direction for IAI comes from the VCFN Board.

9. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday May 25, 2009 at 10:00 am at KCED.

REVISED NEW DATE – June 1, 2009 at 10am ant KCED

10. Adjournment: Motion for adjournment carried at 11:20. Simpson/Pineo.