

# MINUTES

Valley Community Fibre Network

Feb 9, 2009

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Present: Hugh Simpson, Dale Facey, Don Clarke, Chris Butt, Terry Yuill, Patti McNeil, Meg Cumming, Janet Newton, Bob Ashley, Kathleen Leslie, Terry Dalton, Shirley Pineo, Dave Seeley, Louis Coutinho, Lorraine Glendenning, Faye Hill, Bruce MacDougall

Regrets: Brian Smith, Bill McKennan

Guests: Jody Walker ( IAI)

**1. Call to Order:** Don Clarke called the meeting to order at 10: 00 am.

**2. Adoption of Agenda:** Faye Hill moved that the Agenda be adopted with the removal of item 7 and the addition of “Budget” to item 8. Seconded by Janet Newton. Motion carried.

**3. Adoption of Minutes – November 17, 2008:** Hugh Simpson moved that the minutes of November 17, 2008 be adopted. Seconded by Shirley Pineo. Motion Carried.

Round table introductions for the benefit of the new and existing board members

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

None

**5a. Sales and Marketing** Terry Yuill of IAI presented status report

i: Contracts

- a) Terry presented the occupancy agreements for Windsor, Kings, and NSCC Middleton. Meg Cumming provided context as to her review and authorisation of contract content.

Janet Newton moved to give the VCFN Chairman authority to approve the NSCC Middleton occupancy agreement. Seconded by Shirley Pineo. Motion carried

Faye Hill moved to give the VCFN Chairman authority to approve the Windsor occupancy agreement. Seconded by Hugh Simpson. Motion carried

Janet Newton moved to give the VCFN Chairman authority to approve the Municipality of Kings County occupancy agreement. Seconded by Shirley Pineo. Motion carried

b) Terry discussed the list of signed customers currently operating on the VCFN.

ii: Terry discussed sales opportunities & prospects

iii: Terry marketing activities

**5b: Network Status:** Chris Butt of IAI presented a status.

- Presented project completion report
- Presented and explained network operations service report (NOSR)
  - Middleton power outage described

Patti McNeil asked for clarification on the term “services” listed in the report

Hugh Simpson commended IAI that the VCFN has taken a step forward. Wants to have a media event. Bruce MacDougall discussed creating a press release after March 15, 2009.

Dale Facey mentioned the ACORN awareness day event on March 19, 2009 as a publicity event.

Don suggested that the board members who are municipal councillors should share this news with their councils.

**6. Financial Update:** None

Shirley Pineo expressed her frustration with the lack of financial information updates being provided to the board and asked if Don Clarke could address the issue.

**7. Removed from agenda**

**8. Additional Items:**

- a. Don Clarke discussed the ACORN meetings he had attended on behalf of VCFN
  - Attended meetings in June, December and January 2009
  - ACORN Awareness day on March 19, 2009
  - ACORN has ½ a technical resource available (Chris Fournier)
  - VCFN/IAI asked to host next ACORN meeting
  
- b. Bob Ashley described the CAO on interim financing.

Patti McNeil asked for legal to followup on the ownership issues related to IAI providing financing for a VCFN asset

Hugh Simpson commented that it was a great idea but was concerned about the previous concerns raised about tax implications for VCFN

Don Clarke noted that Bill McKennan was at the CAO meeting and that he was to get a response on his request for tax advice.

Bob Ashley noted that the CAO's wanted to move forward with this Interim financing model.

Janet Newton commented that the board needs to know where they fall within the Income Tax Act

Shirley commented that she needs financials, needs to understand what impact the financing would have on the operating budget

Bob suggested that the budget needs to be updated with current economic impacts

Hugh Simpson motioned for the board to approve the "Interim Financing Model"

Shirley Pineo opposed stating that CAO's do not make recommendations to budget and that NSCC and Acadia have not had the opportunity to understand impact.

Louis Coutinho clarified that the laterals would be owned by the VCFN and that IAI would request approval to the board for each use of the "Interim Financing Model".

Shirley was satisfied with answers

Janet Newton called for the question – Approved

**9. Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2009 at 10:00 am at KCED

**10. Adjournment:** Don Clarke moved to adjourn at 11:30 am. Seconded by Hugh Simpson