

Southern Vermont Communications Union District

Draft Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2023

Town Name	Representative Name	Voting = V Present = P Absent = A	Alternate Name	Voting = V Present = P Absent = A	2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate Name	Voting = V Present = P Absent = A
Arlington	Cynthia Browning	A	Jamie Paustian	A		
Bennington	Eric Hatch	V	Ron Dubreuil	A	Beth Hardesty	A
Dorset	Mike Chase	A	Jim Salsgiver	A	Bob Meszaros	A
Landgrove	Jim Swartzentruber	A	Susan Lenox	A		
Londonderry	John Hankin	A				
Manchester	Terrence Dorsey	V	Kathleen James	A		
Peru	Ben Foltz	A	Peter Bradford	A		
Pownal	Caitlin Randall	V	Karlan Eberhardt	P		
Rupert	Bill Meyer	V	Jed Rubin	P	Arlene Bentley	A
Sandgate	Sheila Kearns	V	Betsy Rathbun-Gunn	A	Logan Weurslin	A
Shaftsbury	Tim Scoggins	V	Michael Corey	A		
Sunderland	Andrew McKeever	A				
Winhall	Fred Schwacke	A				
Woodford						

Also present: Jonathan Cooper (BCRC), Al Bashevkin (treasurer), Michael Fitzgerald (North Bennington - member of the public)

1. Call to order  
The chair called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.
2. Roll call  
Jonathan Cooper called roll. A quorum of the board was not present.
3. Conflict of interest  
None
4. Additions to or deletions from the agenda [1 V.S.A. § 312]  
None
5. Review and approval of draft minutes from February 8, and March 8, 2023  
*Postponed due to lack of quorum*

6. Public comments

Michael Fitzgerald of North Bennington asked about the status of the Phase 2 Fidium Fiber build and expressed difficulties with getting his address to be recognized as eligible for service. The CUD executive committee will follow up on the situation with CCI.

7. Announcements

Eric Hatch has scheduled a meeting with NEK Broadband on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss marketing and fiber buildout in Southern VT.

8. Act 71 Grant Updates

The first quarterly report is almost ready and will be submitted by the April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Several required permits for highway crossings, railroad crossings, and pole attachments have been approved with a few others pending.

9. Town Outreach About Construction Phases

CCI has begun direct outreach to town staff and officials about construction, which will begin on April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Manchester, South Londonderry, Stratton wire centers.

Customers served by those wire centers should be eligible for service by November 1, 2023. Other upcoming wire center construction dates:

Arlington – 6/15/23

Pownal – 7/15/23

Dorset – 5/15/23

Rupert – 7/17/23

Field inspection of each wire center by VCBB should occur approximately three months after construction begins.

Board representatives are encouraged to share these dates with residents and town officials.

CCI is doing direct outreach to towns about upcoming construction and may be available to attend select board meetings as requested.

10. Other Business

None

*Motion to adjourn by Bill Meyer, seconded by Tim Scoggins. Passed unanimously.*