

Southern Vermont Communications Union District

Draft Meeting Minutes

August 9, 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	V
Landgrove	Jim Swartzentruber	A	Susan Lenox	A		
Londonderry	John Hankin	A	James Wilbur	A		
Manchester	Terrence Dorsey	V	Kathleen James	A		
Peru	Ben Foltz	A	Peter Bradford	A		
Pownal	Caitlin Randall	V	Karlan Eberhardt	A		
Rupert	Bill Meyer	V	Jed Rubin	P	Arlene Bentley	P
Sandgate	Sheila Kearns	V	Betsy Rathbun-Gunn	A	Logan Weurslin	P
Shaftsbury	Tim Scoggins	A	Michael Corey	V		
Sunderland	Andrew McKeever	V				
Winhall	Fred Schwacke	A				
Woodford						

Also present: Callie Fishburn (BCRC)

1. Call to order  
The chair called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.
2. Roll call  
Callie Fishburn called roll. A quorum of the board was 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 July 12, 2023  
*Motion to approve the minutes as circulated by Sheila Kearns, seconded by Bob Meszaros. Passed unanimously with one abstention (B Meyer).*

6. Public comments  
None

7. Announcements

The CUD and CCI held a ribbon-cutting celebration at Bromley Mountain on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Coverage of the event made it into some local and state media outlets. The event was well-attended and successful, overall, and featured remarks from Senator Peter Welch, and Rob Fish of VCBB. Each CUD town received a Gig Town certificate which will be distributed to the towns in the coming weeks. There will be a smaller follow-up media event to celebrate completion of the build in the Northshire.

8. Act 71 Grant & Construction Updates

Throughout the CUD territory, approximately 90% of the fiber has been strung. The remaining 10% is mostly in Pownal. Updated information about service availability in each town will be added to the CUD website.

9. Review of Phase 3 Hardest to Reach Addresses

The board reviewed the list of 20 remaining addresses that are not covered by Phase 2 of the build. Sheila Kearns has found the mailing address for most of these addresses so that the CUD can send a letter to the property owners and ask them for information about their service. Some of the addresses could not be found in town grand lists; the two addresses in Rupert and Dorset may actually be in Pawlet. Once the CUD has established which addresses are unserved and underserved, they will need to come up with a plan for providing service, potentially by applying for BEAD funding. Michael Corey did some research on the addresses in Pownal and found that they are served out of Williamstown, MA, which may only necessitate a simple line extension. Callie and Jonathan will work with executive committee on a letter to send to the property owners.

10. Other Business

None

*Motion to adjourn by Bill Meyer, seconded by Sheila Kearns. Passed unanimously.*