

Southern Vermont Communications Union District

Draft Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2025

Town Name	Representative Name	Voting = V Present = P Absent = A	Alternate Name	Voting = V Present = P Absent = A	2 nd Alternate Name	Voting = V Present = P Absent = A
Arlington	Cynthia Browning	A	Jamie Paustian	A	Nick Zaiac	A
Bennington	Eric Hatch	V	Ron Dubreuil	A	Beth Hardesty	A
Dorset	Jim Salsgiver	V	Rob Gaiotti	A		
Landgrove	Susan Lenox	V				
Londonderry	John Hankin	V				
Manchester	Terrence Dorsey	V				
Peru	Jon Mowry	V	Ben Foltz	A		
Pownal	Caitlin Randall	A	Karlan Eberhardt	A		
Rupert	Bill Meyer	V	Jed Rubin	P		
Sandgate	Sheila Kearns	V	Logan Weurslin	P		
Shaftsbury	Tim Scoggins	V	Michael Corey	A		
Sunderland	Andrew McKeever	V	Todd Lawrence	P		
Winhall	Lissa Stark	A				
Woodford	Arlene Bentley	V				

Also present: Callie Fishburn (BCRC)

1. Call to order
The chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
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 Minutes from the October 23, 2024 meeting
Motion to approve the minutes by Tim Scoggins, seconded by Jim Salsgiver. Passed unanimously.

6. Public comments

None

7. Announcements

There have been some complaints on Front Porch Forum about high-pressure sales tactics from Fidium representatives. This information has been forwarded to CCI. There is also a possible phishing email that some customers received which was forwarded to CCI as potentially suspicious.

Callie Fishburn reminded everyone that the CUD's annual letter was sent out to member towns in early January for inclusion in town reports.

8. Chair Report

9. Vote on Bylaw Amendment

Tim Scoggins introduced a proposed bylaw amendment to Section 24 (below). As the bylaws currently read, they could be changed by less than a quorum. Striking "present and eligible to vote" will require that a super majority of all members (10) is required to change the bylaws.

SECTION 24. AMENDMENT

Amendments to these bylaws must be proposed and warned by written notice to all members before or at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, and to become effective, must then be adopted by two thirds of members ~~present and eligible to vote~~ at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting no less than three weeks later.

Motion to amend Section 24 of the bylaws by striking the phrase "present and eligible to vote" by Tim Scoggins, seconded by Bill Meyer. Passed unanimously.

10. Review of Draft Contract with BCRC

Callie shared a draft contract between the CUD and BCRC. The contract covers a two-year performance period to align with the Act 71 Preconstruction Grant and includes the required contract provisions for preconstruction grants. The contract is pending legal review by the CUD's counsel.

Motion to approve the contract with BCRC subject to legal review by Sheila Kearns, seconded by Eric Hatch. Passed unanimously.

If any changes are recommended by counsel, the contract will be brought back to the board for additional review.

11. Committee Updates

Finance/Audit: Jim has spoken to the accounting firm for the Town of Dorset, and they are interested in bidding on an audit RFP from the CUD. An RFP will be finalized for review at the next meeting.

Sustainability: No update this month.

Governance: No update this month.

12. Other Business

None

Motion to adjourn by Bill Meyer, seconded by Arlene Bentley. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.