



## Carroll County Communication District (CCCD) 10/09/2024 Meeting Minutes

**Location: Annex Meeting Room, Carroll County Complex, 10 County Farm Rd., Ossipee, NH 03864 Meeting was called to order by CCCD Chairperson Linda Mailhot at 10:00 AM.**

1. **Roll Call** – List of all Governing Board Members present: Rick Hiland (Albany), Jason Garber (Bartlett), Marshall Goldberg (Brookfield), John Border (Eaton), Chuck Fuller (Effingham), Rich Comer (Effingham), Linda Mailhot (Freedom), John Gallagher (Harts Location), Jay Buckley (Madison), Bill Gassman (Moultonboro), Jean Beadle (Moultonboro), Matt Sawyer (Ossipee), Sherryl Hitte (Tamworth), Bob Murray (Tuftonboro). Governing Board Members present on Zoom: Pam Hearne (Tamworth), Vicki Garland (Bartlett), Melissa Florio (Freedom), Bill Houk (Hales Location)

NOTE: The (12) voting Governing Board Town Members present in person made a quorum.

2. **Guest Speakers:** Jeff McIver CCI/Fidium provided an update on fiber pipeline build outs from the NH ARPA funds \$40M awarded from the 05/23 bid including upgrades to 24,469 households with 25/3 speeds and hope to pass a total of 54,826 homes by YE 2025. The next round of NH BEAD funding (\$198M) is progressing as the ISP providers deadline submissions for address challenges were due by mid-October 2024 and will target work completion when identified by YE 2026. The remaining balance of households needing broadband coverage are in very remote areas of the state.
3. **Minutes** – The January 07/17/24, minutes were distributed to all Board Members by email in advance of the meeting. Rick Hiland motioned to approve the July 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes presented, 2nd by Sherryl Hitte. There was no further discussion, errors or omissions and it passed unanimously by a voice vote (12–0).
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Sherryl Hitte reported on three months of CCCD checking account activity at Bank of NH (June 29, 2024 -July 31, 2024) the starting balance was \$15,001.18 and a check was distributed to Primex Insurance for \$1,300 leaving an ending balance of \$13,701.18 (August 1-September 30 ) we had no expenses or income and an ending balance of \$13,701.18 Rick Hiland motioned to approve the Treasurer's report, 2nd by Linda Mailhot. There was no further discussion, errors or omissions and it passed unanimously by a voice vote (12–0).
5. **Annual Report Including Budget** – Linda Mailhot distributed the CCCD 2024 Annual Report to all board members via email in advance of the meeting. In addition, the administrators for all member-Towns of the CCCD received a copy of the annual report electronically on 09/30. Linda thanked the Carroll County Commissioners for their continued support as well as the Executive Committee and all of the CCCD representatives. The annual audit for FY24 has been completed, and those financials are incorporated into the annual report. The FY25 budget is in the annual report as well. There was no further discussion or questions, and it passed unanimously by a voice vote. (12-0)

Linda indicated the need to ask for an extension of the balance of ARPA funds in the CCCD bank account from 2024 to 2025. If the extension is not granted we may be able to prepay operating

expenses like the insurance. The quote for next year's insurance won't be available until sometime within the next month.

The invoice for the annual audit from Plodzik & Sanderson, P.A. is not in yet, but it should be approximately \$3,250 based on their quote to us. We have two other expenses to be paid at this time: (1) reimbursement to Bill Gassman in the amount of \$12.00 for his payment of the annual domain name fee; and (2) \$72.00 to USPS for the post office box rental. Rick Hiland motioned to couple all three of these expenses in one motion with the payment to Plodzik & Sanderson "not to exceed amount" of \$3,500.00. Bob Murray 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was no further discussion or questions, and it passed unanimously (12-0).

6. **Other Business** - Bill Gassman conducted another training seminar at the Ossipee library to improve knowledge of streaming, cable, and other computer/internet services. He also indicated that several people in Carroll County seek to watch Channel 9 from Boston as opposed to receiving the Maine channel news that is currently offered by cable and fiber providers in the county. It should be noted that channel offerings are managed and regulated by the FCC.

Rick suggested looking into legislation to modify RSA 53G relative to the audit process. The fee for the annual audit is quite costly because it cannot be done by any C.P.A. That amount on an annual basis cannot be sustained by our funds. Matt Sawyer made a motion to investigate a legislative change to modify the audit process as well as to authorize the Executive Committee to send a letter of support of such modification. It was seconded by Sherryl Hitte. It passed unanimously by a voice vote (12-0).

7. **Next Meeting – January 15, 2025, at 10AM** at the Carroll County Annex Meeting Room. Rick Hiland will invite Spectrum and NH Co-Op to provide updates on broadband installations throughout Carroll County.
8. **Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn by Rick Hiland 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Mailhot, passed unanimously by a voice vote and the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall J. Goldberg  
Secretary