

1 **Northwest Vermont Communications Union District**
2 **Finance Subcommittee Meeting**
3 **August 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**
4 **Hybrid Meeting**
5

6 The hybrid meeting was hosted at the NRPC Office located at 75 Fairfield Street in Saint Albans.
7

8 Attendance: Stu McGowan (Alburgh), Everett McGinley (Montgomery), Emily Klofft (NRPC)
9

10 Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM.
11

12 Adjustments to the Agenda – None.
13

14 Finance Subcommittee Goals & Responsibilities

15 E. McGinley stated that he believed the primary responsibility of the Finance Subcommittee
16 would be to raise the capital required to build out a fiber to the premise network. There will
17 likely be three phases, grant funds, subordinated debt and municipal bonds. Preconstruction
18 funding and initial seed construction funding will come from state and federal grants. Currently
19 there is roughly \$30 million for preconstruction and \$150 million for construction statewide to be
20 distributed between the CUDs and other qualified entities. After this funding, it will need to be
21 determined whether additional grant-based capital will be needed, or whether it will be possible
22 to move to raising subordinated debt. Once there is cash flow from subscribers, the CUD will be
23 able to issue municipal bonds.
24

25 E. McGinley stated that the Finance Subcommittee will likely also have a role oversee the
26 finances and accounting functions of the CUD.
27

28 S. McGowan stated that he agreed, and that the reality was that it was likely that the current the
29 federal and state money were going to be the only available grant sources and the NWCUD will
30 need to pursue those funds.
31

32 S. McGowan stated that the subcommittee should develop a rough timeline of when they expect
33 the funding to come in. E. McGinley stated that it will be important coordinate with PMO to
34 align when funding is coming in with the timing of projects.
35

36 E. Klofft brought up that H. 360 preconstruction funds likely expected soon, and that it is likely
37 that administrative costs will be allowable under this grant which may allow this to support the
38 executive director position. The subcommittee discussed the Executive Director position and
39 hiring timeline. All agreed that hiring an executive director was key towards being prepared for
40 upcoming funding opportunities.
41

42 Other Business

43 None.
44

45 Public Comment

46 None

47

48 Adjourn

49 E. McGinley motioned to adjourn. S. McGowan second. Motion carried.

50

51 Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.