

1 **Northwest Communications Union District**
2 **Executive Committee Regular Meeting**
3 **October 12, 2022 at 12:30pm**
4 **Virtual Meeting**
5

6 **Attendance**

7 Sean Kio (ED), Chasidy Benjamin (Admin), Zachary Burdick (Georgia, Chair), Cathy Ainsworth (Fairfield,
8 Vice Chair), Elisabeth Nance (Swanton Town and Swanton Village, Clerk), Ken Millman (Alburgh,
9 Member at Large)

10
11 **Call to Order, Roll Call, Adjustments to Agenda**

12 Chair Z. Burdick called the meeting to order at 12:30pm, a roll call was conducted, and a quorum was
13 present to conduct business. There were no adjustments to agenda.
14

15 **Public Comment**

16 No members of the public present, therefore no public comment.
17

18 **Approval of Minutes 9/14/22**

19 *K. Millman motioned to approve 9/14/22 minutes. Z. Burdick seconded. Motion carried.*
20

21 **2023 Budget**

22 S. Kio shared the 2023 budget via shared screen and explained, now that we have had a full year of
23 operations, we were able to identify many new categories. He provided an explanation of the new line
24 items, as well as the items that were either rolled into a new category or eliminated. S. Kio informed the
25 committee of the timeline that we must follow for the budget including board approval, public hearing,
26 and the board to adopt the budget. The Executive Committee agreed this was a solid budget proposal.
27

28 **Board Development**

29 S. Kio stated that staff sent out letters via USPS to the communities that we have had concerns with
30 participation, as well as communities that do not have an alternate representative. We have received a
31 couple responses, but we hope to receive more.
32

33 S. Kio noted that the Code of Ethics was sent out to be signed by each board member and has almost
34 been completed by everyone.
35

36 **Grants**

37 S. Kio provided an update for two grants that we could receive.
38

39 The USDA Reconnect is a grant that we technically qualify for, but he does not believe we are a good
40 candidate. The last USDA grant we had required a substantial amount of work and effort from staff for
41 reporting and closeout. S. Kio recommended that we begin construction and operations before we
42 consider this grant.
43

44 The NTIA grant is part of the BEAD money, it is a middle mile program. This could potentially be a
45 beneficial grant; it would mean the backbone of our network would be paid for and operated. We have
46 provided a letter of support, and there are several other CUDs participating.
47

48 **Project Status Update**

49 S. Kio noted that NRTC has provided us with the first version of the licensing rates, he has a meeting
50 with them this week to review and refine this, but overall, it is solid.

51

52 NRTC's project management team completed an analysis on a sequencing plan. NWFX staff finalized
53 some of the ranking as well as weighted scores. S. Kio confirmed that we essentially have a path for our
54 build.

55

56 **Other Business**

57 None.

58

59 **Adjourn**

60 *Z. Burdick motioned to adjourn. C. Ainsworth seconded. Motion carried.*

61

62 Meeting adjourned at 12:55pm.

63