

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the MINET Board of Directors, April 27, 2022, 5:00 PM

In attendance:

Board Members, present: David Ritchey, Marty Wine, Chris Lopez, Robert Mason, Michael Hicks, Tom Takacs

Not present: None

Staff Present: PJ Armstrong, John Cooper, Dakota Snow

Guests Present: Attorney Chad Stokes, Anne Scheck

Recording: Marilyn Morton

Chair David Ritchey opened the meeting at 5:05 PM.

Public comment

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the March 24th meeting. **Tom Takacs moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Chris Lopez 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report – John Cooper

John presented financial reports for March. He noted the revenue was nearly identical to March 2021, when cable service was still being sold. For the year the projected budget has been significantly exceeded.

Sales/Marketing/CSS Report - Jason Saunders

Jason reported on current monthly sales number. A new WVF Honesty & Integrity ad was shared.

Network Operations Report – Dakota Snow

Dakota reported that the customer phone service conversion project is nearly completed with only minor cleanups remaining

Field Operations – PJ Armstrong

PJ Armstrong reported on the build outs being done at the Riddell Road apartments, Edwards Phase 9, and the new Polk CDC building

Flagging training is being conducted.

Dave Karr's Public Works project for ballfield beautification was discussed

GM Report – PJ Armstrong

PJ reported that the County Commission/MINET relationship had a good mention in the Itemizer Observer.

There have been challenges from our competition, especially with door tagging and surveying in Falls City, voice transition, and false information marketing, as Jason mentioned earlier. These are all standard tactics practiced by competition.

PJ met with director of COG and later met Scott Dadson, Executive Director. MINET will be joining COG for a \$500 annual fee. This is great exposure for MINET, will help develop relationships, and gives MINET access to grant-writing expertise.

Rickreall: We are receiving inventory, submitting pole attachment permits, and beginning network design. No start-construction date established yet, but soon.

Falls City: 65 responses received to survey. MINET is working with Commissioner Gordon on a possible utility bill stuffer and hard copy version of the survey to be posted at the City Hall.

Community Wi-Fi: The 25-30 sites set up for Central School District have not been used so far. CSD may have future but unknown plans. PJ proposed making this a free public Wi-Fi opportunity. After further discussion, the BOD came to consensus that MINET should give free Wi-Fi to the community through these sites, let it operate for 90 days, then revisit the issue. Notify the BOD when sites are live so they can contact their constituents. This will be advertised as "Free Wi-Fi provided by MINET."

Board Discussion Items:

1. General Expansion, Polk County Grant.

At 5:50 PM, Chair David Ritchey took the meeting into executive session, citing:

(The MINET Board of Directors will now meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (f); To consider information or records that are exempt from public inspection.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the room.

Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on or otherwise disclose any of the deliberations or anything said about these subjects during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.)

At 6:02 PM the Chair ended the executive session and return to open session.

David Ritchey moved to authorize the GM to sign agreements with Polk County for the SW Dallas project. Chris Lopez 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

2. GM Search.

Marty Wine & Bob Mason spoke with Doug Dawson about this process.

Bob Mason proposed the City of Independence taking over the management process for the GM recruitment process utilizing NeoGov and shared the position announcement. There was board discussion regarding Doug Dawson's role and the hiring process.

There was Board consensus for the City of Independence to host the search with Doug Dawson doing the final recommendations back to the BOD.

Board Business

1. Franchise Agreement.

Chad is in process of developing this document

2. Updated IGA.

Marty Wine shared that the IGA is in the final legal review process and will be presented at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

Next regular scheduled meeting to be Wednesday, May 25, 2022 @ 5:00.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM.