

A Checklist To Ensure Meetings Are Compliant
With The Right-to-Know Law During The State Of Emergency
Coös Broadband Committee Meeting
January 27, 2021

Due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

Utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting and all members of the Committee have the ability to communicate during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # (929 436 2866) and Meeting ID: 874 2593 8489 and Pass Code: 287248, or by clicking on the Zoom Meeting link provided in the agenda.

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically.

If anybody has a problem, please call (603) 444-6303 ext 2014 or email at mmoren@nccouncil.org.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

We will start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. Please state your full name, the entity being represented, and whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to Know law.

Pamela Laflamme	Berlin	y	Kathleen Kelley	Randolph	n
Sharon Geller	Carroll	y	Clayton Macdonald	Stratford	n
John White	Clarksville	n	Peter Corey	Town of Whitefield	y
Sharon Penney	Colebrook	y	Lori Langlois	NCES	y
Norman Cloutier	Columbia	y	Gregor Stocks	Technical Assistanc	y
Erik Johnson	Dalton	n	Lise Howsen	CEDC	n
Wayne Moynihan	Dummer	y	Jennifer Fish	Coös County Administrator	y
Julia Gilmore	Jefferson	y	Michelle Moren-Grey	RPC/EDD	y
Joe Marshall	Jefferson	y	Carol Miller	Technical Assistance	y
Ben Gaetjens-Oleson	Lancaster	n	Linda Harris	Coös County Admin Asst	y
Robin Irving	Northumberland	y			

The meeting was called to order by Michelle Moren-Grey at 9:03 a.m.

Committee Members: Ms. Moren-Grey reported that there were two new communities to the committee: Sharon Gellor/Town of Carroll; Peter Corey/Town of Whitefield; Julia Gilmore and Joe Marshall/Town of Jefferson; Norman Cloutier/Town of Columbia; Gregor Stock. The new communities on board Town of Dalton and John White/Town of Clarksville. Thirteen communities have joined from the initial outreach. There are seven communities that have not responded and she will reach out to them. Carol Miller stated that she would reach out to the Town of Gorham and offer to be that town's representative. Michelle reported that two new member sessions were held prior to the meeting to bring everyone up to date.

Michelle provided updates on the USDA Rural Development Business Grant which is a feasibility study and a CDBG grants. A letter of intent was submitted by Coös County to the USDA RDBG and the application is due at the end of February. The City of Berlin also submitted a letter of intent. The ask was \$30,000 from each. Both Coös County and the City of Berlin will be applying for CDBG in the amount of \$25,000 each.

Pam Laflamme reported that she had spoken with a representative at USDA and this is a good round to be applying for funds. Both, Michelle and Pam will strategize to determine resources needed. Also, the grant application can be done at any time but both entities should submit at the same time. The funds cannot be co-mingled.

Carol Miller provided an overview of closing the homework gap. First she reported that FCC funded awards in December to be spent in New Hampshire over 10 years.

Consolidated Communications was awarded \$7.3 million to bring connectivity or broadband to 4,644 locations statewide. She was not sure what is allocated for Coös County but will provide the information once the funds are released.

Spectrum in Coös County was awarded \$2.1 million for 1,044 locations in this area.

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative was awarded \$6.8 million for territories in Coös, Grafton and Carroll counties

Space Exploration Technology was awarded \$8.8 million for 4,389 locations statewide.

Northern Border Regional Commission announced forest economy awards. Vermont Department of Public Service was awarded \$1 million to expand broadband across the state of Vermont. She will obtain further information.

The Northern Forest Center was awarded \$1 million. This group is also restoring the Noyes Building in Lancaster and received \$189,000 for broadband work.

Carol is working with a group from UNH on a civics project that involves six towns in NH which include Groveton, Gorham and maybe Whitefield. The group is concerned on homework gap and issues with students who have remote learning and have difficulties with internet access. The project would consist of 30 homes in a grid area which would be difficult in northern New Hampshire. The grant funds would only be available to the towns that are part of the project.

Carol is also researching a company called Kajeet. Kajeet uses cellular to create hotspots for connectivity. This interim system is available with cell service. Good interim project during covid19.

Guest Presentations:

Michelle this will be an opportunity for the group to bring in guests. She suggested holding guest presentations at every other meeting. She and Carol shared some of the ideas that they brainstormed:

- homework gap
- funding structures and opportunities
- collaborative on digital inequity
- legislation and funding
- broadband study committee

Wayne asked that the house bill numbers be circulated. Those interest could follow and communicate on the house bills.

Peter Corey offered to update the committee on NCIC. Carol thought it was a great idea.

Wayne asked for more information on Starlink. Carol will research to see who would be available for a presentation.

Carol inquired from Sharon Penney for an update relating to NH Electric Coop. Sharon replied that the town had received a request for a letter of support which the Town of Colebrook provided. She has not received any information since.

Michelle asked that members check with their community to be sure that their request for information (RFI) and E911 requests be completed. Also asked that members who are representing a town be officially appointed by their Selectboards if they have not done so.

The minutes will be posted on the Coös County website and Linda will distribute to all members.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2021.

Michelle asked that the members report back to their Selectboards.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m. by roll call.

Pamela Laflamme	Berlin	y	Peter Corey	Town of Whitefield	y
Sharon Geller	Carroll	y	Lori Langlois	NCES	y
Sharon Penney	Colebrook	y	Gregor Stocks	Technical Assistanc	y
Norman Cloutier	Columbia	y	Jennifer Fish	Coös County Administrator	y
Wayne Moynihan	Dummer	y	Michelle Moren-Grey	RPC/EDD	y
Julia Gilmore	Jefferson	y	Carol Miller	Technical Assistance	y
Joe Marshall	Jefferson	y			
Robin Irving	Northumberland	y			

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Harris, Coös County Admin. Asst.