

A Checklist to Ensure Meetings Are Compliant
With the Right-to-Know Law During The State of Emergency
Coös Broadband Committee Meeting
April 28, 2021

Jennifer Fish read the following:

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.

Clayton Macdonald	Stratford	Y	John White	Clarksville	Y
Carol Miller	Gorham	Y	Kathleen Kelley	Randolph	Y
Joe Marshall	Jefferson	Y	Lise Howsen	CEDC	Y
Jennifer Fish	Coös County Administrator	Y	Robin Irving	Northumberland	Y
Peter Corey	Whitefield	Y	Sharon Geller	Carroll	Y
Lori Langlois	NCES	Y	Kaela Tavares	North Country Council	Y
Julia Gilmore	Jefferson	Y	Gregor Stocks	County Commissioners	Y
Lisa Gilmore Morris	Milan	Y	Lee Dube	Milan	Y
Jeff McIver	Consolidated Communications	Y	Sharon Penney	Colebrook	Y

Approval of February 24, 2021 meeting minutes: A motion was made by Lise Howsen, seconded by Jennifer Fish to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by roll call.

Clayton Macdonald	Stratford	A	John White	Clarksville	A
Carol Miller	Gorham	Y	Kathleen Kelley	Randolph	Y
Joe Marshall	Jefferson	Y	Lise Howsen	CEDC	Y
Jennifer Fish	Coös County Administrator	Y	Robin Irving	Northumberland	Y
Peter Corey	Whitefield	A	Sharon Geller	Carroll	Y
Lori Langlois	NCES	Y	Kaela Tavares	North Country Council	A
Julia Gilmore	Jefferson	Y	Gregor Stocks	County Commissioners	Y
Lisa Gilmore Morris	Milan	A	Lee Dube	Milan & Broadband Committee	A

Carol introduced Jeff McIver from Consolidated Communications – presentation on next generation of services that Consolidated is working within the state. Jeff provided the Committee with an overview on Consolidated Communications Company and public private partnerships in New Hampshire. Jeff reviewed the Chesterfield project as the first and discussed additional towns that followed the same process.

Jeff gave an update on the 2020 CARES funding which supported total of 5 Towns Erroll was one (construction September and needed to be completed by December 2020). Future will be a 1.6M fiber passing's (4000,000 NH) and over 11,000 miles of fiber (4,000 NH) it will be a 5-year build program.

Discussion

In the public private partnerships what business model is being used and what makes a Town attractive to Consolidated Towns will Bond, Consolidated will determine a fiber infrastructure fee \$8 to \$10 passed to customer as a surcharge. Consolidated pays the town operating fee which is more than the yearly town bond payments – therefore Town is not increasing taxes.

Who owns the asset can impact the bonding capacity. After 20-year partnership if the Town owns the asset decision will be needed: to plan own and operate on own, send RFP to all providers for maintenance or renegotiate new agreement with Consolidated to continue.

Speeds that are delivered 1,000M over 1,000M speed opportunity fiber. Cost to user for service is the same only portion, different will be the subscriber fee.

Fewer subscribers than projected – break even point may not happen immediate it is up to Consolidated to provide and cover operating fee any shortages fall on Consolidated.

RFI process submitted to Jeff which would ideally lead to and RFP. Consolidated has partnerships with local contractors and national contractors that help to increase capacity to implement as needed.

Community owning assets – do they then have an interested ownership in poles? Follow-up answer is needed.

Can one entity (Coos) negotiate for the 20 municipalities in Coos. Discussion as to if the County can enter into this and how it would work with RSA/communication district. Jeff has indicated that this is in

process as a communication district in areas but has not seen on county level. Towns can not bond for areas already served.

Gregor will be leaving New Hampshire in August. Lisa updated that Milan was getting their RFIs.

Peter the Grafton County project partnered with NCIC and a collaborative RFP to hire a consultant to do mapping. Bristol area is building out fiber and working to connect into PSU. The RFP is to assist in the mapping for 4 communities.

Google Drive for the committee to share articles, documents, and information all in one place and will remind Michelle to send out the link again to everyone to have access.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mikala Woods
North Country Council