



DRIVE Board Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Megan Brosious, Justin Ross, Dan Knorr, Dave Park, Joe Kantz, Jeff, Erdly, John Uehling, Jeb Stotter, Jeff Reber, Jennifer Wakeman, Trevor Finn, James Pachuki, Leslie Temple, Sam Schiccatano, Chris Young

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bashar Hanna

GUESTS PRESENT:

Tim Hippensteel (Project Manager), Amanda Craig Bradley (Business Outreach Manager), Aidan McDonald (Facilities Manager), Colleen McCollum (Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper)

The meeting was called to order by Jeb Stotter at 8:39am.

Mr. Stotter asked for public comment on agenda items. Hearing none, Jennifer Wakeman gave the Committee Assignments for the new year. Jeb Stotter moved on to approval of last month's minutes.

MINUTES:

- December 7, 2022 Board Meeting: Motion by Joe Kantz to accept the minutes Jeff Erdly seconded the motion; carried unanimously. It was noted by Jeff Reber that the minutes need updated to say Joe Kantz was present. Everyone agreed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Dan Knorr presented the Treasurer's Report. He said there was nothing to note. He thanked Megan Brosious for joining the Board and the Finance Committee. He briefly explained what the Finance Committee does.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Dave Park, seconded by John Uehling; carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Executive Director Report:

Jennifer Wakeman presented the Executive Director's Report. She spoke about the Daily Items article reviewing DRIVE's accomplishments for 2022. Jennifer has completed one year on the Geisinger Advisory Counsel. At the last Geisinger meeting Tim Hippensteel presented the

Broadband project. Jennifer will now be on the board for the NREDA and will be chairing the Publications & Marketing Committee. Amanda Craig Bradley has attended two ARCALI Sessions, she then presented information from those sessions. These sessions have helped her network with people across the country including Gayle Connelly Manchin. During the Asheville, NC session she got to see a demonstration on 3D printing houses, go to a trout farm hatchery and went to the Governors Residence. During the Chattanooga TN session she went to the Volkswagen Plant where she watched a demonstration on battery operated cars and watched how they test the batteries for all weather conditions. She also went to the Caverns which is an outdoor music festival space. Her next session will be in Birmingham AZ. Trevor Finn asked Amanda if she has found anything from these sessions that she would like to use at DRIVE. Amanda said that a few things that really resonated with her was the technical school that Volkswagen offers to high school students, training programs for employees, and the onsite healthcare and childcare facilities that they have for their employees. Jennifer Wakeman agreed that the tech schools/training programs is a great way to get new hires and keep current employees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Property Committee:

Jeb Stotter presented the Property Committee Report.

Project NEWCO: He read the proposed Resolution Agreement.

Motion to ratify the resolution of the NEWCO Project made by Jeff Erdly, seconded by Dan Knorr, passed unanimously.

Jeff Reber asked if the resolution should say Bill French or Newco LLC. Jennifer Wakeman said that the Newco LLC was not created yet and that was why it said Bill French since he will be the owner of Newco LLC.

Project Prairie Dog: He read the proposed Resolution Agreement.

Motion to ratify the resolution of the Prairie Dog Project made by Dave Park, seconded by Jeff Reber, passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trevor Finn presented information on adding 4x4 equipment to the Columbia 02 Tower. He gave background to the Broadband project and how the upgrade would improve signal strength and range. A tower crew was already going to be on site so it makes sense to do this now rather than later. The update would cost \$15,393.00.

Trevor Finn made a motion to add the Broadband Tower Update to the agenda, seconded by Joe Kantz; carried unanimously.

Trevor Finn made a motion to approve the funding of the Tower Update, seconded by Leslie Temple; carried unanimously.

Joe Kantz made a statement regarding the Broadband Project stating that he was proud about the decision to create the project, it was the right thing to do. Trevor Finn thanked Geisinger for the initial funding for the broadband project. Dave Park asked about the waiting list for people to sign up for the broadband, asking how long they will have to wait. Trevor Finn said the estimate for how many families/businesses per year can start to use the broadband system after this update is 1000. Joe Kantz stated that the only complaints he has received about the broadband system from the community is that they are on a waiting list, everyone using the system are extremely pleased with it. Dave Park asked when will the crew start the update. Tim Hippensteel said the crew will start next week. Jennifer Wakeman stated that the FCC put out new maps and to check them out to make sure they are accurate. Jeff Reber says the maps had been made on 6/30/2022 but overall, they are very accurate, you can find the maps on the Union County website. Trevor Finn requested Jeff Reber to email him on how he got the word out to the county about the maps and the broadband system. Jeff Reber said they spoke about them in their public meetings and had the information published in the newspapers. Jennifer Wakeman said Senator Casey sent an email to extend the funding deadline, the state is guaranteed to receive about 100 million dollars.

Jeb Stotter adjourned the meeting at 9:22 am.

NEXT MEETING: The DRIVE Board meets again on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at 418 Railroad Street, Danville PA 17821.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Park, Acting Secretary