



MINUTES

QLife Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 28, 2021
Via Google Hangouts

Call to Order President Hege calls the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.

Roll Call Scott Hege, Rod Runyon, Dale Lepper, Lee Weinstein, John Amery, Tom McGowan, Keith Mobley, Carrie Pipinich, Joseph Franell, Dan McNeely, Erik Orton, Kristen Campbell, Tyler Stone, Stephanie Krell, Matthew Klebes, and Mike Middleton.

Changes to the Agenda

There are no changes to the agenda.

[[Mr. Weinstein moves to approve the agenda. President Hege seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Approval of the Consent Agenda

There are no changes to the consent agenda.

[[Mr. Weinstein moves to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Finance

Financial Report, Analysis and Reconciliation

Mr. Middleton presents his report to the Board included in the packet. He notes that interest rates are cratering and the Maupin fund has more interest than anticipated because of this. The only expenses from the Maupin fund are from the monthly Wi-Fi contract.

The Operations fund is catching up a \$44,000 delinquent bill and staff are working through that. We are also awaiting payment for the buildout to Water's Edge. When you take out the outliers, the fund is executing at 54%.

President Hege asks about the two invoices for \$87,500 and Mr. Middleton explains that they cover the buildout cost to Water's Edge which was split between two entities. Mr. Lepper adds that he turned in the request for payment.

Mr. Middleton makes note that the header in the December report was not updated from October.

Audit Report

Mr. Middleton informs the Board that the auditors felt that there was no reason to meet to discuss last fiscal year because everything looked good and they were very happy with the audit.

President Hege remarks that the current QLife financial position is more positive than it has been in the past.

Mr. Mobley asks to what extent Maupin was involved in the audit and Mr. Middleton responds that they were not involved in at all because we treat them as a customer and vendor. Mr. Mobley asks for an update on cash flow from the providers in Maupin and Mr. Middleton responds that nothing has come through from them. Mr. Stone adds that we are supposed to be paid quarterly by Gorge Net and annually by LS Networks and directs Mr. Middleton to keep pushing them.

Action Items

Order 21-001 Reappointment of Budget Officer

President Hege refers to the reappointment document in the board packet and asks if there are any thoughts or questions. There are none.

[[Mr. Weinstein moves to approve Order 21-001 to reappoint Mike Middleton as Budget Officer for fiscal year 2021-2022. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

PUD Pole Attachment Agreement

Mr. Klebes informs the Board that he has been working with Northern Wasco PUD for the past year on a pole attachment agreement. He notes that as a non-government entity, we are not required to be in such agreement but found that there may be significant benefits. The term is for one year with renewal but includes termination language if the agreement becomes a hindrance. Mr. Klebes is looking for the approval of the Board to sign the agreement.

Mr. McGowan adds that the meetings brought good discussion and understanding of protocols so processing times will be efficient.

President Hege notes that he is glad to see we were able to work through those discussions and draft an agreement. Mr. Stone remarks that he is not in favor of regulation where it does not have to be but sees value in the document. He supports signing the agreement and thinks we should evaluate how well it worked next year.

Mr. Lepper asks for more detail on the cancellation terms and Mr. Klebes clarifies that it is a one-year agreement with year-to-year renewal and 30 days notice to cancel.

[[Mr. Weinstein moves to approve the Wireline Pole Attachment Agreement between Northern Wasco PUD and QLife. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Commstructure Work Order #27 Downtown Bypass Project

Mr. Klebes reminds the Board that they previously authorized a work order for feasibility for a downtown overbuild project to strengthen the downtown corridor and is seeking approval for this new work order for fielding, design and permitting of the project.

President Hege asks if this project is different from the Annex C project and Mr. Klebes confirms that is different but connected. President Hege asks for a status update on the Annex C project and Mr. Klebes informs the Board that North Sky has completed the run to Annex C and the Liberty Street handoff. We are still working on the room build out.

President Hege asks if the downtown bypass project has to do with capacity issues and Mr. Amery explains that the area has the most usage of our network and uses the most capacity. New fiber will be built on our existing network.

Mr. Lepper wonders why there is a planned diversion from 3rd Street on the project map and Mr. McNeely explains that the route follows pole lines.

[[Mr. Weinstein moves to approve Work Order #27 for fielding, design and permitting of the Downtown Bypass Project. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Discussion Items

Aristo Management Report

Mr. Amery updates the Board on the fiber damaged by the City of The Dalles dump truck. New cases have been developed and splicers can now be brought in to repair the damage. He adds that we are waiting to hear back from Ms. Long-Curtiss on her conversation with the city manager.

Mr. Amery updates the Board on the Curtis Homes project and informs them that it is still delayed but hopes that it will be complete next week. It is usable but the final cleanup work remains.

Administrative Updates

Mr. Klebes updated the Board on continued work on the Liberty Street project. It is taking longer than anticipated but PLA's and some engineering questions are being addressed by QLife and Blue Mountain Network. Mr. Franell adds that they are anxiously awaiting the backbone extension to be complete so they can begin work on their part. President Hege wonders if we have an estimated completion date and Mr. Klebes responds that he is hoping for movement soon.

Mr. Klebes informs the Board that he has submitted the BRIC sub application from QLife to the state and now the state will submit it to the federal government.

Mr. Klebes has reconnected with the city manager of Maupin to discuss CARES funding as a potential source of the Grey Eagle work.

Mr. Stone adds that he will be discussing potential opportunities for broadband deployment with Google in upcoming meetings.

The meeting is adjourned at 12:57 PM

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is set for February 25, 2021.

These minutes were approved by the QLife Board on March 25, 2021.

Lee Weinstein, Secretary