



MINUTES

QLife Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 23, 2020
Via Google Hangouts

Call to Order President Hege calls the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.

Roll Call Scott Hege, Rod Runyon, Dale Lepper, Darcy Long-Curtiss, John Amery, Tom McGowan, Joe Franell, Diane Uto, Matthew Klebes, Tyler Stone, Stephanie Krell, Mike Middleton, Kristen Campbell, Erik Norton and Dan McNeely.

Changes to the Agenda

There are no changes to the agenda.

[[Ms. Long-Curtiss moves to approve the agenda. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Approval of the Consent Agenda

[[Mr. Lepper moves to approve the agenda. Ms. Long-Curtiss 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 mentions that this is the first review for the end of the fiscal year. The delayed payment issue in March related to COVID-19 has been straightened out.

Expenses in the Maupin fund are doing well. The LS Networks franchise fees have still not passed through to the Maupin fund but notes that he will be following up with the city of Maupin.

Finally, he adds that the reconciliations have not been reviewed by the County Administrator yet due to lack of time. There are no questions from the Board.

Action Items

Commstructure Work Order #24 – NESC OUPC Compliance

Mr. Klebes refers to the work order included in the packet and notes that it is a regular renewal for self-auditing of QLife. He asks for the Board's approval to move forward in the renewal process. President Hege wonders if there was a change in the fee from last year and Ms. Krell believes that there was not an increase.

[[Mr. Lepper moves to approve renewal of Commstructure Work Order #24 for NESC OUPC Compliance. Mr. Runyon seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Discussion Items

Aristo Management Report

Mr. Amery informs the Board that he has been busier lately with a lot of his time being spent working on the downtown overbuild project. He reminds the Board of the challenges at City Hall with capacity and notes that Commstructure is taking the lead on mitigating that issue. Blue Mountain Networks is also working with Mr. Amery and QLife staff to finalize the contract for the project.

President Hege asks for clarification on whom Blue Mountain Networks is and Mr. Franell explains that it is a holding company that was created when Gorge Net and Eastern Oregon Telecommunications merged. President Hege asks if Gorge Net will be on all the official paperwork since they won the bid and Mr. Amery confirms that they will be.

Mr. Amery updates the Board on the Curtis Homes project and that it continues to be at a standstill. Century Link has accepted the request to put in poles but had not created a schedule for when they will perform make ready. President Hege wonders if there is a way to encourage them to move forward and Mr. Amery responds that it was discussed that at some point we will move forward and deal with whatever the consequences may be.

Mr. Amery informs the Board that there are two known issues related to electronics and UPS. On July 4, they shut down but were back up within an hour and he has identified potential issue. Finally, he notes that the primary monitoring server is non responsive.

Northern Wasco PUD

President Hege asks Mr. McGowan if he has any updates for the Board. Mr. McGowan says that PUD sent termination notices for license agreements in December because they wanted all wirelines agreements to be consistent and current among attachers. PUD recently sent QLife a new agreement with terms and conditions for attaching to PUD poles and billing rental rates for next fiscal year. He adds that rental rates should decrease slightly from last year.

Mr. Klebes confirms that QLife has received the PUD agreement and it is currently under review.

Administration Updates

Mr. Klebes tells the Board that he has reached out to the new city manager of Maupin to follow up on LS Network franchise fees. They also discussed the challenge of bringing fiber to a few private residents and will continue the discussion.

Mr. Stone informs the Board of a potential impact to QLife regarding the Wasco, Sherman and Gilliam County Unified Command Team. He explains that the school district may be bringing together various ISP and transport entities to figure out the best way to serve rural children with broadband access if they plan to begin school remotely. His hope is that QLife will rise to the occasion to provide access and notes that more information will be coming soon.

Mr. Klebes updates the Board on the OBDD grant submitted for the Maupin to Pine Hollow project. He had high hopes but found out that they received 130 applications totaling over \$49M in requests. Mr. Klebes asks if Mr. Franell has any insight on the timeline of approval and Mr. Franell notes that Business Oregon has completed a first review of applications and plans to do a second review with award notification going out this week or next.

Lone Pine Update

Mr. McNeely informs the Board that Segment 1 cable has been placed end to end and Segment 2 is now underway. C-2 has placed conduit and next week will be placing vaults. President Hege asks if he has a turn up date and Mr. McNeely says that splicing was not included in the bid project so Mr. Amery will need to schedule splicing and tie ins. Mr. Amery believes that it can be completed within a month.

Mr. Lepper adds that volume is back up since reopening and both Waters Edge and urgent care are picking up so the sooner the connection is ready, the better.

Additional Updates

Mr. Franell tells the Board that they have been working on the beta test design and adjusted the design for the capacity issues Mr. Amery mentioned earlier. They have increased the fiber count out of City Hall and increased the load on the poles.

President Hege asks if they have an estimated turn up date but Mr. Franell responds that they do not because they have not secured permits for attachments yet. President Hege wonders if it will be in 2020 and Mr. Franell confirms that it will be.

The Board enters Executive Session at 12:36 PM under ORS 192.660 (2)(g) Competitive trade or commerce negotiations and (2)(m)(D) & (E) Discuss information regarding security of telecom systems and data transmission.

Executive Session

The Board exits Executive Session at 12:50 PM.

The meeting is adjourned at 12:51 PM

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is set for August 27, 2020.

These minutes were approved by the QLife Board on 8/27/20.

Lee Weinstein, Secretary