

Decorah MetroNet 28E Board Meeting
March 7, 2019 12:00pm
Decorah City Hall Council Chambers

Minutes

Members attending:

Jon Lubke (representing Winneshiek County)
Brian Lensch (representing Winneshiek Medical)
Chad Bird (representing City of Decorah)
Mark Franz (representing Luther College)
Chopper Albert - City of Decorah
Adam Forsyth – Luther College

Also attending:

Adam Ramseth

Absent:

Steve Smith – Winneshiek County
Jim Schwan – Winneshiek Medical
Kurt DeVore (representing Decorah Schools)

Consider approval of December 21, 2018 regular meeting and the October 18, 2018 tech committee minutes

Motion by Franz and second by Lubke to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2018 regular meeting minutes and October 18, 2018 tech meeting minutes. No further discussion.

Roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

Consider approval of claims

- a. Fuse Technic, LLC BGP changes \$525.00
- b. R & S Fiber Optic Services troubleshooting / MicroTik and IRHTP route \$3,114.00

Motion by Franz and second by Lubke to approve and pay the claims as presented. No further discussion.

Roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Update on Telecommunications Utility Board progress

Bird and Albert updated the board on the work of the telco board. They noted the Board had presented their final findings to the city council on Monday, March 4, 2019. Bird noted he would send a final report to the DMN Board.

Albert noted the Board had four recommendations of the council:

1. *Maintain the Communications Utility Board's active status for the purpose of investigating, learning and making recommendations to the city council into the future anticipating changes that might alter the current feasibility assessment.*
2. *The creation of a legal vehicle to create a fund to designate dollars toward a FTTP project. Such a fund might include an internal reserve fund or a quasi-endowment type fund, which could receive contributions for a specific purpose.*
3. *Adoption of a policy that the City installs underground conduit when Alliant, or any other utility entity, digs trenches. This is potential for realized revenue to the city.*
4. *Establishing a franchise agreement between Alliant and the City of Decorah to enable the potential for partnership (or mutually beneficial agreements) on FTTP projects.*

There was general discussion about each recommendation and comments about reasons the network proposal is not feasible.

Discussion on possible dark fiber lease

Albert noted there is a vendor interested in a potential fiber lease and he explained some of the parameters of such a proposal. He noted there is the possibility the vendor would build spurs of fiber off the MetroNet network, donate those new builds to the MetroNet then seek a long-term lease of full path dark fiber access. The board spoke receptively of the concept and asked Albert to bring a map and formal proposal back for action.

Albert also mentioned to other possible proposals being developed and there was general discussion. One included obtaining some abandoned fiber line, the other may include obtaining additional bandwidth beyond 10Gig.

Discussion and update on other tech issues

- a. Fiber connectivity issues and possible repairs
- b. Router updates, timing, and task assignments / IP addressing project

There was general conversation about making additional changes over Luther College's spring break time frame. The tech members discussed timing and work tasks.

Other business

- c. Propose airport spur extension

Bird and Albert outlined a proposed fiber run to the airport and that they are working on funding for the build at this time.

Adjourn

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 1:28pm with motion and second by Lensch and Bird. respectively.

Respectfully submitted

