



February 21, 2024 – 5:00 PM

<https://meet.google.com/iwi-guxi-unz>

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Otter Creek Cud Governing Board Representatives & Alternates:					
TOWN	REP NAME / ALT NAME	P/A	TOWN	REP NAME / ALT NAME	P/A
Benson	Steve Murray	P	Pittsford	Brett Mullin / Greg Hiltz	P
Brandon	Peter Werner / Bill Moore	A	Poultney	Mark Teetor / Terry Williams	A
Castleton	Tim Munks	P	Rutland Town	<i>No Appointment Received</i>	
Chittenden	Andrew Quint	P	Rutland City	Alex Adams	A
Fair Haven	Tracy Richards	A	Shrewsbury	Laura Black, Chair / Alan Shelvey	P
Goshen	Tyler Davidson-Toman	P	Sudbury	Mike Small / Tom Myer (<i>appt. pending</i>)	P
Hubbardton	Chris Custer	P	Wells	Eleanor Jones, Secretary / Sharon Corey	P
Mendon	Larry Courcelle, Vice Chair	P	West Haven	Jennifer Book / Kerry Ellis	A
Pawlet	Jessica Van Oort	P	West Rutland	<i>No Appointment Received</i>	
Jackie Savela, OCCUD Treasurer		A			

Other attendees: Caleb Boone Vantage Point

1. Roll call, confirm quorum – Quorum confirmed.
2. Call to order - Start recording the meeting – Started @5:03 PM.
3. Welcome new members. – New members Brett Mullin and Greg Hiltz from Pittsford.
4. Approval of agenda – Motion by Larry, second by Steve, motion passed.
5. Public input (limited to 3 minutes per presenter) – None.
6. Scott Brooks, CCI Vermont rep visit (Town contacts for CCI construction). – Scott Brooks could not attend this meeting. Scott will collect contact information and will meet those contacts for each town (in person, via meet software or phone) prior to build.
7. Approval of previous meeting minutes –1/17/24 – Motion to approve Jan. 17 previous meeting minutes as presented by Larry, second by Tim, motion passed.
8. Financials (Treasurer/VP) Report:
 - MOTION to Approve Warrant dated 2/21/2024 – Motion to approve Warrant for \$16,932.63 dated 2/21/2024 as presented by Andrew, second by Larry, motion passed.
9. Chair Report: CCI Contract, GNS Agreement, and VCBB Construction Grant Agreement updates. Universal Service Plan Report Update (post on website, send to town selectboards, other). 2024 Task list, exec director search / Task list, – Contract with Consolidated (CCI) is signed. GoNetSpeed(GNS) agreement is being put into a docusign agreement. Occud had been waiting for a map and an address list, both of which have been received and are in a shared folder on google drive. Mike would also like

We are only meeting virtually.

By Video <https://meet.google.com/iwi-guxi-unz>

By Phone: <tel:+1-417-685-1176> PIN:545521485

an address list that shows addresses and project phases. Occud still does not have Construction Grant from VCBB. Universal Service Plan – no update. Task list and Exec Dir search – Occud has a task list and Laura has spoken to contacts at a couple of companies who provide searches for folks like Executive Directors. Both contacts says that the position is part time, temporary and specialized so is hard to fill. They suggest we match the companies or persons to the specific tasks (like financial operations, construction, other) listed by Occud. Vantage Point (Christie) feels they are a good match for financial procedures, financial operations and audits. There is also a Construction Engineer position to be documented and filled. Occud Sustainability Plan needs work (perhaps with Southern Vermont, Chittenden and Lamoille) to identify shared tasks and where we can work together. Laura would like to enhance relationship with RRPC (Rutland Regional Planning Commission) and Rutland Chamber of Commerce for sharing services. Laura will get back to consultants regarding Exec. Dir. search specifics. Laura has put together a members resources sheet in the google shared folder and sent it out just before the meeting. It includes organization documents like feasibility study, Bylaws and procurement policies, member list, reappointment form, address list (CCI and GNS), NDAs, VCBB info. and links for Vermont Statute for CUDs and VCBB and Act 71 and VCUDA. Please let Laura know of other documents that need to be in the shared folder. Mike would like to see contracts in the folder, Laura will ask attorneys about sharing contracts. CCI is being purchase by a private equity firm. The docket is filed with Public Utility Commission and attorney(Primmer Piper) is asking if we want to join with other CUDs during this transition and share the cost of monitoring an intervenor status. VCUDA will also have a status in this sale docket. Laura asks for a motion that Occud join on the CCI sale docket with Primmer Piper for representation and also sign on with VCUDA as long as VCUDA is no cost. Larry made the motion to approve. Second by Tyler. Motion passed.

10. Grant Reports (Vantage Point) – Caleb say the last few months have been similar. For month of January, he reported on agreements with CCI, VCBB and GNS as ongoing. He also just uploaded financials. We are still waiting for payment for VCBB on reimbursement from January 18. Hoping for payment this week or next.
11. Website committee report. – Chris says early website build phase is moving along. Chris likes the build partner and does not anticipate any problems. He says maps will provide the most challenge to building the new website.
12. VCUDA update (VCUDA Rep) – Larry reports that Chittenden resigned from VCUDA (not enough value to CUD). Maybe Occud could join up with Southern Vermont and share dues to VCUDA. CCI sale docket was also discussed.
13. VCBB update (Chair) – Digital Equity Plan has been submitted in draft form to NTIA and it did not include policies and can't be changed at this point. A few policies(Construction,etc) are posted on public website for comment. VCBB has purchase Ookla Speed Test to use for statewide tracking. The board packet has a presentation of Ookla. The software should be available to CUDs at no cost. Discussion of key indicators is still being worked for reporting. Lot of discussion of ACP(Affordable Connectivity Program); it runs out soon (this month??) and CCI will be charging a rate of \$35 for a 100/100 broadband connection to ACP qualified households. Lifeline will be available for \$9.25 for internet or phone.
14. Other Business – None.
15. Set Next Meeting – Mar 20, 2024

16. Adjournment. – Motion to adjourn by Mike. Second by Chris. Motion passed. Ended @6:20 PM.

* Executive Session - due to finding that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage, per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (1) (A).