

ConnectME Authority
April 15, 2014 – Meeting Notes

1. Introductions

Authority Board Members: Ralph Johnson, Greg McNeal, and Dick Thompson. Jean Wilson was absent. Tom Welch previously recused himself from discussion of the purpose of the Broadband Sustainability Fund portion of the meeting. Dick Thompson served as chair for this meeting.

Authority Staff: Phil Lindley, Lisa Leahy, and David Maxwell.

Thomas Knowlton, Assistant Attorney General

The meeting began at 10:19AM. Board members, Authority staff, and the public in attendance introduced themselves.

For this meeting, a telephone conference line was activated.

2. Broadband Sustainability Fund

In accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 1, Section 405 (6)(E), the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss the Broadband Sustainability Fund with Thomas Knowlton, AAG. Executive Session participants were determined to be Authority Board members, the Executive Director, and legal counsel. The public portion of the meeting was suspended at 10:29AM.

3. Executive Session Regarding the Broadband Sustainability Fund

Executive Session concluded and the meeting was re-opened to the public at 11:16AM. The Board advised meeting attendees of the result of the Executive Session; that the Authority Board requested that the Executive Director actively pursue payment and collection of funds due the Broadband Sustainability Fund.

4. Executive Director Report

It was reported that, to date, the Broadband Sustainability Fund has \$207,580 available (95% of the Fund balance) and \$208,170 in outstanding fees. It has disbursed approximately \$35,000 to date. Questions were asked relative to how the Fund can be used. Rather than respond to those questions, the topic will be included on the agenda for the next meeting; specifically regarding the use of the Fund for expansion in unserved and underserved territories.

It was also requested that the Broadband Sustainability Fund report (spreadsheet) be shared with the Telecommunications Association of Maine.

5. Public Comment

One clarifying question regarding the Executive Session outcome was asked.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28AM.