

ConnectME Authority
September 23, 2016 – Meeting Notes

1. Introductions

Authority Board Members: Dick Thompson, acting chair; Sandy Saunders; Denise Garland; and Sue Woods

Authority Staff: Phil Lindley, Executive Director; Lisa Leahy, Associate Executive Director; and David Maxwell

Members of the public were asked to introduce themselves.

2. Mapping and Data Gathering RFP

Three vendors submitted proposals for the work. Proposals were evaluated by a five member team including the ConnectME staff and Board member Susan Woods. The review and selection process was described to the Board members, with comments provided by some of the evaluation team members. The Board voted unanimously to authorize the staff to negotiate a contract with the James W. Sewall Company, the selected vendor.

3. Rulemaking, Chapter 101 – Work Session

Phil Lindley reviewed the proposed revision to the existing Chapter 101. Revisions are being proposed to reflect statutory changes made during the last legislative session. Board members asked questions about and offered comments on the draft. Phil Lindley also reviewed the proposed rulemaking schedule with the Board, including a planned public hearing during the November 18, 2016 Board meeting.

An opportunity to comment on the draft document and the proposed process was offered to audience members. Two individuals expressed their thoughts and requests regarding rule content and will again provide the information during the formal comment period once the rule has been posted for comment.

The Board unanimously voted to initiate the rulemaking process in accordance with the proposed schedule, including publishing the draft rule with changes requested during the meeting.

4. Executive Director Report

Phil Lindley reviewed financial information, including the status of the required independent annual audit conducted by MACPAGE. Formal documents will be provided in advance of consideration of acceptance by the Board at the next meeting, October 28th.

Staff informed the Board of an upcoming New England states meeting to discuss the FirstNet project in the region. Results of this meeting will be shared at a subsequent Board meeting.

Staff advised the Board that the Hall of Flags in the State House has been reserved on Thurs., January 19, 2017, in order to hold Broadband Day from 8:00AM to 12:00PM. More details on this will be provided through the fall.

5. Public Comment

There were no public comments offered.

The next Board meeting will occur on Fri., October 28, at 2:00PM at the PUC Building in Hallowell.

The meeting adjourned at 3:59PM.