

**ConnectME Authority**  
October 23, 2015 – Meeting Notes

1. Introductions

Authority Board Members: Dick Thompson; Ralph Johnson; Denise Garland; and Andy Hagler. In the absence of Board Chair Jean Wilson, Dick Thompson presided over the meeting.

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

Macpage Staff: Robert Dube; Jeffrey Hubert; and Steven Falco

Board members, Authority staff, and MACPAGE staff introduced themselves, as did members of the public.

2. Financial Audit Report from Macpage

Robert Dube of Macpage reviewed the various component documents prepared for the annual audit, including the financial report, the single audit report, and the management letter.

Board members asked questions, received responses to those questions, and unanimously approved the audit.

3. Introduction of Pending Board Member

Sue Woods, M.D., M.P.H., a candidate Board appointee to fill the position of member with significant knowledge of telemedicine, was introduced. She briefly spoke, reciting her background in Informatics, e-Health, and Telehealth.

4. Strategic Plan Update

After a brief introduction regarding the triennial strategic plan process by Phil Lindley, Frank O'Hara, a consultant assisting with the task, presented possible strategies as a gauge for Board member feedback. Board members offered thoughts, and members of the audience commented, as well. A next draft, a more comprehensive document, will be prepared for and discussed at the November 4, 2015 meeting.

5. Connect America Fund 2 Award – Fairpoint Presentation

Sarah Davis of Fairpoint presented a slide show regarding usage of the FCC-awarded funds of \$13.3M annually for six years. Fairpoint continues to refine its plans for implementation of the award. Board members and audience members asked questions.

## 6. Executive Director Report

Phil Lindley requested Board authorization to enter into an agreement with InforME for website enhancements. The value of the agreement is \$15,000.

The Board unanimously approved the request.

## 7. Public Comment

A question was asked regarding the intent to conduct rulemaking activities in advance of awarding planning grants in accordance with recently-enacted legislation. Phil Lindley will ask the Office of the Attorney General of the need to do so.

The meeting adjourned at 4:08PM.