

# Town of Florida, MA

Town Hall

379 Mohawk Trail, Drury, MA 01343

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FHMS Four Towns Broadband Committee Meeting

-and-

Town of Hawley Communications Committee Meeting (if quorum)

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There was a meeting of the FHMS Four Towns Broadband Committee at the Florida Town Hall on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 4:30 pm.

## MINUTES

- **In Attendance:**

|              |                                  |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Florida:     | Christine Dobbert*, Cindy Bosley |
| Hawley:      | Lark Thwing*, Chair, Rick Kean   |
| Monroe:      | David Gagne*                     |
| Savoy:       | John Tynan*                      |
| DesignNine:  | Jack Maytum                      |
| Interisle:   | Steve Harris                     |
| Middlefield: | Gita Jozef                       |

- **Not in Attendance:**

|           |               |
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| WiValley: | Brian Foucher |
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\* = Voting Member

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- **Call to Order:** FHMS Four Towns Chairman Lark Thwing declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:24 pm.
- **Minutes:** The group reviewed the minutes of the prior meeting (March 7, 2019) and accepted them with no changes.
- **Hand out signed copies of Network Service Agreement and Collateral Assignment in Respect of Contract to the Towns:** Lark handed out the Collateral Assignment and stated that the Network

Services Agreement had been sent to the members via email, and handed out the Collateral Assignment. There was no discussion about these two agreements themselves, as they had already been reviewed more than once. Lark made a comment about wanting to include them and other agreements in the summary that is going to be created by John Tynan. Lark asked all committee members to submit ideas to him by email within a week or so.

- **WiValley: Update on Savoy Monopole, et al.** As Brian had to cancel his attendance at the meeting at the last minute because of a mix up involving insurance documents for the 4-Towns project, the report included the following:
  - Discussion of the Savoy monopole at Chapel. Because of a question by the Savoy Town Building Inspector, there is a possibility it will be put up with guy wires.
  - Final steps have been taken for WiValley to receive a Notice to Proceed from MBI on Phases 1 and 1A of the project.
  - A 9' X 16' concrete electronics shed has been ID'd and has been scheduled for delivery to the Chapel site.
  - Some discussion ensued about OTELCO's rapid transition to a marketing mode, with particular reference to the selection of the marketing name. All members indicated their support the choice of "FHMS Broadband" as the best among the alternatives presented.
  
- **DesignNine: Update** – Jack Maytum reported on DesignNine's priorities with regard to the FHMS Four-Towns Project:
  - He said he is looking forward to the first weekly report from WiValley, as his first task would be to review the report for both content and format, as both would be important going forward.
  - He then expanded on the mapping software that DesignNine would use to create a detailed visual reference of connectivity speeds, including any lags, as the network was built. He said it would hopefully create more "reasonable" test results for WiValley and MBI.
  - Jack also recommended fiber for certain parts of the project, and particularly recommended conduit wherever capital road projects were underway.

➤ He also advised the group that 5G, while interesting and speedy, is not adaptable to terrain like that of the four towns.

- **Any other business not anticipated at the time of posting** – None.
- **Adjourn** – Lark adjourned the meeting at 5:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rick Kean  
March 31, 2019