

**DRAFT Minutes of Beaver Island Telecommunication Advisory Committee Meeting  
Peaine and St James Township, Beaver Island  
Beaver Island Community School | January 15, 2020, 5:00PM**

**Present**

Kevin Boyle, Kathleen McNamara, Wil Cwikiel, Neal Green, Theresa McDonough, Gary Conant  
via phone

**Absent**

Paul Welke

**Others**

Dick Mulvihill

5:02 pm, meeting begins with review of draft agenda. Motion to approve minutes. Motion by McDonough, second by Green, unanimous.

**Update on “Pools of Service”**

Discussion on NLEA Broadband Consortium Agreement. A good template for us to work from and develop our own. McNamara suggests a work session. Boyle, McNamara and McDonough will meet Wednesday, January 22 to develop Beaver Island’s Consortium Agreement. Once agreement is drafted, it will be sent to attorney for review.

Working on dates for a Consortium meeting: January 29 or 30 at the school for a lunch meeting at noon. Draft agreements could be sent out to possible participants before meeting. Our hope would be that participants would then return to their boards in the following weeks and allow us to have their answers (of commitment) by February 19<sup>th</sup> (our regularly scheduled meeting).

**\*\*Make sure to add some language to consortium agreement on the process of adding a participant into consortium, after the initial start date\*\***

Boyle continues to have conversation with the health center on whether they would like to be included. McNamara will reach out to Diane McDonough and Paul Welke (both are on the health center board) to see if they can provide insight/assistance. Boyle is available if further assistance is needed in understanding any technical aspects. BITAC also needs confirmation of county commitment.

Boyle and McNamara met with Bill Scott, Great Lakes Energy CEO and Scott Blecke, GLE CTO (whose expertise is power line engineering). (Mark Carson is the Charlevoix County representative on the GLE board) Boyle and McNamara briefed the committee on their productive meeting.

BITAC wonders if the Quickstart data could be compared with GLE data. Discussion follows on developing and conducting a survey with an education component. Could we partner with GLE on a survey and informational session to be held in the summer? (Future agenda item)

It is important to know what people/businesses want/need and are willing to commit to.

Brief discussion on AT&T and the tower lease agreement.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.

**Next Meeting Date** The next BITAC Meeting will be Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 5 pm.