



August 14, 2024 – 5:00 PM

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Video call link: <http://meet.google.com/dsx-okxj-foe>

| OTTER CREEK CUD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Town | Name | Term Ends | Present/Absent |
| Shrewsbury | Laura Black, Chair | 2025 | P |
| Mendon | Larry Courcelle, Vice Chair | 2025 | P |
| Benson | Steve Murray | 2026 | A |
| Sudbury | Mike Small | 2025 | P |
| Brandon | Peter Werner | 2025 | A |
| Hubbardton | Chris Custer | 2025 | P |
| vacant | vacant | 2025 | - |
| | Jackie Savela, Treasurer | 2025 | A |

1. **Call to order** - Start recording the meeting at 5:04pm
2. **Approval of agenda.** Motion by Larry, Second by Chris, Approved unanimously
3. **Approval of previous meeting minutes – 7/10/24.** – Motion by Larry, Second by Chris, Approved unanimously
4. **Chair Report on OCCUD business:**
 - a. **Clerk and Wells rep has resigned.** Laura has and will again follow-up with Wells selectboard for reps. Discussed nominations – suggestions were to ask Leslie Cadwell if she will accept a nomination to join the executive committee; Laura will contact Leslie. Laura mentioned that we could consider changing the bylaws at the next annual meeting to have fewer executive committee members; no further discussion on this. Laura says that she can take on the clerk duty of drafting minutes for the short term, at least.
 - b. **Budget for 2026 and Application to VCBB for additional funding and Sustainability Plan (for Sept 7 VCBB mtg).** Laura presented the 2026 Budget estimate and draft letter to VCBB to request an amendment to the pre-construction grant to fund year 2026. No approval need, just sharing the current draft. No discussion or suggestions were made by the committee. Laura reminded the committee that we will present the Sustainability Plan for the September 7 VCBB meeting, as per the terms of our construction grant agreement. Laura described the August VCBB meeting where Lamoille CUD presented the Sustainability Plan.
 - c. **Unservd address in Wells.** Laura has presented to VCBB the statement from CCI describing why they would not consider serving this address (very high cost in terms of dollars and resources to serve one address). Laura will contact VCBB

for next steps and whether OCCUD needs to request keeping some of our allotted funding to serve this address, or whether it may be removed from our USP.

- d. **Wheelerville Rd off-grid addresses.** Laura described that CCI has offered to serve these addresses at no additional cost, but VCBB hasn't said whether the addresses may be served under the grant funding yet. Laura will follow up.
 - e. **Additional items:** Laura describes that OCCUD needs to relinquish its remaining allocated funds to the VCBB so that they may be available for other Act 71 use. Discussion of why this is acceptable and extremely low risk per the executive committee include: GNS is required to serve its territory per terms of its EACAM funding; GNS has already built quite a bit of its territory so not much left to do so low risk; if GNS is bought by another company, the area would still need to be built (question are the EACAM funds available to the buy-out company?); OCCUD-CCI can apply for BEAD funding if needed to build what is left in the GNS territory; . . . Laura will request approval of the Governing Board meeting to submit our relinquishing of the remaining allocated construction funds.
5. **Chair Report on partner-providers:**
- a. GNS-update. Green Mountain Power(GMP) poles need to be set in several locations in Benson. This is holding up GNS' progress, so dates for service to be available have been pushed out. We decided to update the website to say "TBD" with text to say that schedule is pending GMP pole setting. Otherwise, construction is moving along and GNS reps are setting up meetings with Towns.
 - b. CCI-update. CCI is closing in on half-way through the OCCUD construction. Several towns will start to be released for sales. CCI reps told us that CCI is running promotional sales so some of their pricing information may be pulled from their website; they said they would send Laura an updated pricing sheet – Laura will follow up.
 - c. General – Laura shared and others concur that recent communications to OCCUD from the public through the OCCUD website and OCCUD members' follow-up actions in contacting our partners for response to issues/problems have proved:
 1. our very good relationship with our partners, and
 2. our strong/valuable position in representing and helping our constituents.
6. **Chair report on CUD-Triad Sustainability Committee.** Already reported on presentation to the VCBB (see above, item #4b).
7. **Warrant and Financials (Treasurer)** – Motion by Larry, Second by Chris, Approved unanimously. Laura met with Jackie last week and we have updated the bank signatures to include Jackie(treasurer) and Laura (chair) as bank signatories.
8. **Grant reports (Vantage Point).** Laura reported that Caleb (VP) said the reports went in on 8/15.



9. **Review Agenda Items for upcoming Governing Board meeting:** Chair Report (see above). Financial report. Grant reports. Courtesy Service locations and town contact. Mike will ask for suggestions for the next FPF post.
10. **VCUDA update (VCUDA Rep).** VCUDA Affordability pledge. Last meeting was on 8/13. legislative meeting – worked on the VCUDA Affordability Pledge wording.
11. **VCBB update (Chair)** - Laura described that at the 8/12 VCBB meeting, the VCBB has presented the newest draft of the VCBB Affordability Policy, which was approved unanimously. Also, VCBB is putting together a program to fund long drops.
12. **Other Business** - none
13. **Next meeting September 11, 2024**
14. **Adjournment** – at 6:18 pm

Google Meet joining info:

Video call link: <http://meet.google.com/dsx-okxj-foe>

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