

Bristol Economic Development Committee

May 12, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Present: Bill Dowey, Vincent Paul Migliore, Jeff Goodrum, Leslie Dion, Nik Coates, Ed Merrill (Metrocast General Manager), Carol Miller (DRED Director of Broadband Technology)

Bill opened the meeting at 6 pm.

Ed Merrill presented a wealth of information on services that Metrocast offers. They are all available now to our businesses and citizens. There are many levels available with varying speeds and functions. They are working on collaboration between all companies.

Bill explained that we are in need of cell service right now. Metrocast will be locating two hot spots in the community and Ed has asked that we give guidance on where we would like to see these placed. Bill suggested that Metrocast may want to offer some type of demo during the Legislative Bike Ride that is scheduled for July 15th.

Nik would like us to look through the lens of how will we use these tools to develop new businesses.

Carol Miller, Director of Broadband Technology in the NH Dept of Resources and Economic Development, visited with the EDC.

She discussed and forwarded the Coos County Cell service development plans and costs, for a interlinking Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS) with Cable backhaul. Of the \$0.5M project about 60% was funded through the Northern Border Regional Committee for a "distressed town". Of this \$160K was for equipment, the remainder (\$340K) labor.

Carol stressed that our project will not move ahead without carrier agreement to support and allocate the licensed frequencies. She also stressed that under the deregulation of cell service suppliers, we have no leverage over the carriers to supply these services. It will be solely reliant on their business model to deploy the frequencies. As such, the cost of equipment and deployment might fall on the town.

Cell signal strength mapping might be available from LRPC, at a cost to the township.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Dion