



MINUTES

QLife Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 29, 2019
511 Washington St, Deschutes Conference Room

Call to Order President Hege calls the meeting to order at 12:03 PM and begins by welcoming Scott Farrell, President of South Wasco Alliance to the meeting and leads introductions. President Hege also thanks Mr. Mobley for his many years of service to QLife as legal counsel and mentions that we will discuss a succession plan later in the meeting.

Roll Call Tyler Stone, Stephanie Krell, Scott Hege, Lee Weinstein, Dale Lepper, Rod Runyon, John Amery, Keith Mobley, Mike Middleton, Tom McGowan, Scott Farrell, Lynn Ewing (via phone), Erik Orton (via skype) and Dan McNeely (via Skype).

Changes to the Agenda

There are no changes to the agenda.

[[Mr. Runyon moves to approve the agenda. Mr. Weinstein seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mr. Runyon asks that the previous meeting minutes be adjusted to reflect that the remaining Google grant funds will be used to pay the Gorge Net contract for wifi in Maupin. President Hege asks the contract price be added as well.

[[Mr. Lepper moves to approve the amended consent agenda. Mr. Runyon seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Financial Report

Mr. Middleton presents the financial report to the Board and notes that the Operations fund is at 10.8% execution with about \$16K being back billed due to staffing changes. When he accounts for that back billing, the fund is right on target. Receivables are also in line with where they should be but the invoice for July Right of Way fees have not arrived yet.

In the Capital fund, interest is up from last month.

The budget revenue from the Maupin fund is in good shape. Mr. Stone asks if we have closed out the grant and Mr. Middleton replies that we are still waiting on the final reimbursement. Mr. Middleton continues and states that a drop in interest may impact the LGIP rate.

President Hege wonders about a project closeout report and Mr. Middleton says that there will be a full project closeout once we receive the final invoice from Van Dorn and grant reimbursement.

Discussion Items

QLife/Northern Wasco PUD Meeting

President Hege asks Mr. Stone for a recap of his meeting with Northern Wasco PUD. Mr. Stone informs the Board that it was a good first meeting discussing the upcoming changes. They discussed pole attachment agreements, asked to be a

part of the input process, potential preferred contractor status, reviews, etc. The audit was at 7% completion at the time of the meeting.

Mr. McGowan adds that the audit should be complete by November, earlier than he anticipated. Mr. Stone expresses concern over rising costs if Northern Wasco PUD requires a professional engineer's stamp but Mr. McGowan believes that may not be necessary if at all.

Aristo Technical Management Report

Mr. Amery informs the Board that there are no new updates since the last meeting. The fiber near Spooky's restaurant has been removed and is no longer a risk. We are now waiting on Northsky to schedule deconstruction of the old fiber. Mr. Stone asks for an update on the tree trimming and Mr. Amery reports that it has not begun yet. Mr. Stone would like to discuss arranging the tree trimming with Wasco County staff.

Keith Mobley's Resignation and Retirement

Mr. Stone announces Mr. Mobley's retirement and notes that Mr. Mobley has provided the Board with his recommendation for legal counsel firms, Campbell Phillips, PC and VanKoten & Cleaveland, LLC. Mr. Stone suggests the Board discuss the names provided and notes that Wasco County has also advertised an RFQ notice for county counsel legal services and is going through the selection process. By the end of October, Wasco County should either have selected new legal counsel or continue with the same legal counsel.

Mr. Mobley notes that he has previously worked with Kristen Campbell and was very impressed by her. He spoke with her regarding transferring his clients and so far, 50 clients have decided to transfer their legal services to her firm.

President Hege says that he had not considered having the same legal counsel for QLife as Wasco County and is interested in hearing Mr. Stone's thoughts on the matter. Mr. Stone notes that it will be easier on his end since he already has a standing meeting with county counsel and the only concern he sees arising is that QLife is a separate legal entity and could open us up to potential issues. He continues by asking for a recommendation from the Board to go forward with a law firm.

Mr. Lepper asks Mr. Mobley what his recommendation would be and Mr. Mobley states that he would choose Campbell Phillips. Mr. Runyon asks if Ms. Campbell may be open to taking on QLife as a client in the interim until Wasco County has made a decision for legal counsel. Mr. Stone states that Campbell Phillips would be our legal counsel permanently unless the Board requests to go through the RFQ process at a later date. The Board decided that following the selection of Wasco County legal counsel, they would be able reassess the situation.

[[Mr. Weinstein moves to retain Campbell Phillips, PC as legal counsel for QLife. Mr. Runyon seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Brookings.edu Article

Mr. Stone asked the Brookings article to be included to keep the Board informed about the increasing necessary role broadband plays in citizens' lives. Mr. McGowan adds that the FCC has issued an order to reduce restrictions on state and local governments regarding how they administer fees associated with processing applications. This will allow the deployment of broadband to have a quicker turnaround.

Mr. Stone continues by saying that it is critical that the Board pay attention to the happenings in Oregon and the PUC rule making process because we want to have a voice in those decisions. Mr. McGowan informs the Board that there is a joint use meeting taking place next month discussing broadband regulations and recommendations of the PUC commission.

Maupin Update

Mr. McNeely updates the Board on the latest in Maupin. Van Dorn was in town but the materials were not where they had previously left them. Mr. McNeely has since reached out to Van Dorn for a status update but has yet to hear back. It is ongoing.

Port Build Update

Mr. McNeely informs the board that they are still waiting on the archaeology consultants. A letter was sent to Mr. Stone to sign in order go forward with the financial agreement. President Hege asks Mr. McNeely if he has a timing prediction but Mr. McNeely is unsure.

Lone Pine Update

Mr. McNeely is still working on draft and design work. It is ongoing and will report back to the Board once that is complete.

The Board enters into executive session at 12:59 PM under ORS 192.660 (2)(g) Competitive trade or commerce negotiations; (2)(h) Consult with counsel re litigation; (2)(m)(D) & (E) Discuss information regarding security of telecom systems and data transmission.

Executive Session

The Board exits Executive Session at 1:19 PM.

Maupin Update (continued)

Mayor Ewing calls in via phone and Mr. McNeely asks him if he was able to get in contact with Van Dorn yet but Mayor Ewing informs him that he has not. Mayor Ewing continues by stating that he believes the cables have been located but is concerned that Van Dorn has departed Maupin already.

Mr. Stone wonders why we did not know about the missing cables prior to this and Mr. McNeely confirms that they did know but could not locate them until later.

Mr. Mobley suggests that LS Networks complete the drops and Mr. Mc Neely and Mr. Amery agree. President Hege asks Mr. McNeely to coordinate with Van Dorn and LS Networks to finish the drops.

The meeting is adjourned at 1:32 PM.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is set for Thursday, October 3, 2019.

These minutes were approved by the QLife Board on 10/8/19

Darcy A. Long-Curtiss
Lee Weinstein, Secretary *Darcy Long-Curtiss, VP*