



UC2B Policy Board Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 17, 2011

Location:

Douglass Branch Library Board Room
504 E. Grove, Champaign, Illinois

Committee Members Present: Abdul Alkalimat, Rev. Zernial Bogan, , Mike DeLorenzo, Deb Frank Feinen, Bill Gray as proxy for Brandon Bowersox, Fred Halenar, Minor Jackson, , and Richard Schnuer, Craig Shonkwiler as proxy for Pete Resnick,

Committee Members Absent: Brandon Bowersox, Pete Resnick

Others Present: Mike Vrem, Champaign Telephone
Ray Mitchell, Volo Broadband
Peter Folk, Broadband Access Committee
Mike Smeltzer, University of Illinois

Bob Miles, University of Illinois
Brittney Eckels, University of Illinois

Paul Duke, Shive-Hattery, Project Manager
Brandon Gant, Village of Savoy
Tony Van Deventer, City of Champaign
Rev. Eugene Barnes, New Life Church
Jared Dunn, Graduate Student, U of I

The meeting was called to order at 11:52 a.m. by Committee Chair Frank-Feinen.

Approve Agenda: Committee Member Halenar, seconded by Committee Member Schnuer, moved to approve the agenda. Motion to approve was passed by a voice vote.

Approve Minutes: Committee Member Halenar, seconded by Craig Shonkwiler, moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2011 Policy Committee Meeting. Motion was passed by a voice vote.

Action Items:

Committee Chair Feinen addressed the request to move the meeting date. Committee is committed to Thursday 11:45 to 1:00 through the end of February. Committee is

considering moving the meeting time to Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. or Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Mike Smeltzer suggested the option of meeting on Wednesday for the 1st meeting of the month and then Thursday evening for the 3rd meeting of the month. Committee Chair Feinen would like committee members to email her with their preferences and committee will discuss at the next meeting.

A. Grant Required Approvals: No action taken.

B. Review and Discussion of Shive Report on Design Review: Shive-Hattery's UC2B Design Review report included primary recommendations and strong suggestions. The Policy Committee had discussed these at its prior meeting and continued the discussion at this meeting.

Strong Suggestion #6 - The Technical Committee reviewed the option of using 288 strand counts as opposed to 432. The Technical Committee feels that it would be prudent to get bids for the 432 count as well as 288, as it will be more expensive in the long run to change infrastructure down the road unless we plan for it now. Another option is installing larger manhole covers and switch boxes for the 432 capacity and still run 288 in it if necessary given cost limitations. UC2B Committee members and community members engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding this decision including the difficulties with sending out and preparing for a dual bid situation. Paul Duke of Shive stated that they have an April 5th deadline for completing the design to meet the deadline for the Board of Trustees calendar, and designing for two options would be difficult given time limitations. He noted that the grant requirements include a firm 100% completion timeline of February 1, 2013.

Committee Member Halenar moved to bid at 432 strands with alternate bids for 288. Seconded by Committee Member DeLorenzo. Committee discussed in length several different options. Committee Member Halenar took his motion off the table. After more discussion about the advantages of 288 versus 432, Bill Gray (proxy for Brandon Bowersox) moved to bid strand count at 288. Seconded by Committee Member Bogan; another lengthy discussion ensued about the limitations of this plan and the apparent disregard of the recommendations of the Technical Committee. Committee Chair Feinen reminded the Committee and audience that she relies on the Technical Committee for input on issues of this nature, which are out of her realm of expertise, and stated that other Policy Committee members likely wished to rely on the expertise of the Technical Committee as well. After further discussion Bill Gray amended his motion to bid the strand count at 288 with manholes enough to accommodate 432 strands of fiber, seconded by Abdul Alkalimat. Committee approved with voice vote. Richard Schnuer stated that the Policy Committee has the responsibility to listen to the Technical Committee's expertise and make the final decision on all items within respect to Policy, and he does not like making a decision when the designer has apparently already been given direction, making it difficult for the Policy Committee to exercise its responsibilities.

Committee Chair Feinen left the meeting and gave the role of Chair to Committee Member Schnuer at 12:55 p.m.

Paul Duke asked for clarification of his role. He stated that he is unclear whether he is supposed to bring everything in front of the Policy Board. The University of Illinois owns the contract and is the grant holder. He needs to be informed how to comply with the University's requests and the Committee's requests and still bring the project in on time. Bill Gray stated that if items fall under Project Scope, Budget or Schedule, those items should be brought to the Policy Committee. The minutiae of the design should be handled by Shive. Mike Delorenzo agreed with that statement. Tony Vandeventer mentioned that Shive filters everything through both he and Craig Shonkwiler and the resolve manner issues directly but also refer appropriate issues to both the Technical Committee and the Policy Board for their review.

Tasks to Complete for Next Meeting: None.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda: Service Pricing will be moved to the next meeting.

Public Participation: Rev. Barnes informed the committee that the group of ministers that will attend the next UC2B meeting is not the Ministerial Alliance, but is a group of ministers of churches in the areas designated for fiber-to-the home and committed to the UC2B project.

Board Comments: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m. by Committee Member Schnuer.