MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE MILFORD AREA COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

May 22, 2019

PRESENT: Chairman Jay Wilson, BOG Town of Mont Vernon Vice Chairman, Craig Frye, BOG Town of Milford

Eric Olesen, BOG Town of Wilton Jason Johnson, MACC Director Darlene Bouffard, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order: Jay Wilson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Introductions were made of the new Wilton BOG representative Wilton Police Chief Eric Olesen, the alternate to the BOG for Wilton will be Police Sergeant John Frechette. Jay Wilson nominated Craig Frye as the Vice Chairman for the BOG. Eric Olesen seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

<u>2. Approval of Minutes – April 18, 2019:</u> Craig Frye moved to approve the minutes of April 18, 2019. Jay Wilson seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business: Jay Wilson asked about any conversations that have been had with other towns. Gary Daniels, BOS Chairman has reached out to Mont Vernon and Wilton and asked about any problems they may have. All agreed that everything would be transparent as far as problems. Mont Vernon has not had any problems since the repeaters have been put in the cars and they would like to stay with MACC; the cost is the biggest factor for Mont Vernon. Wilton saw a big increase in the budget (for MACC) they were not sure of all the problems, Gary Daniels said he will follow up with BOS Chairman Kermit Williams. Jay Wilson said Police Chief Olesen in Wilton should be brought up to date of what is being done. Jay Wilson asked if Milford has looked at the Warrant Article yet? Craig Frye has not heard from DRA yet. Jay Wilson indicated the employee handbook is being processed; Jason Johnson has not heard from I Am Responding contact. Jay Wilson said in the first part of June there will be contact with them. There was no other Old Business to discuss.

<u>4. New Business.</u> Jason Johnson explained the MACC infrastructure conversations are at a standstill, he is working on a grant for the microwave. An update will be provided later this evening.

5. Updates from Director: Jason indicated Police Chief Eric Olesen is the new Wilton Board of Governor's representative. The water tower still needs to be completed in Amherst. The Mont Vernon reimbursement is still being worked on. The generator replacement should be done in the third week in June. The Federal Hill shelter – Jason asked if the State has contacted Jay Wilson. Jay explained it was handed to another division but agrees it would be advantageous to everyone to get everything in one place. Jason Johnson said the cost is reasonable as well. Jay Wilson asked if everything should be finished by the June MACC meeting? Jason Johnson answered the only cost would be the shipping (\$8,500) as long as there is a pad. Jay Wilson said it will cost a total of \$10,000 which will be cost shared with the State and towns. At the next meeting, we should talk about Federal Hill at the Brookline line. There is an interest in re-vamping the building since it was built in the 1930's. Jason Johnson noted he needs the Registers signed and that all the towns are paid up. Registers were signed for April 19.

<u>6. Public Comments:</u> Rodny Richey, Milford resident, thanked Jason for getting MACC meeting minutes for the last couple of years, paper version, on to the website. He feels that all the (MACC) towns should have those minutes available to the public on their own websites as well. Rodny Richey asked for the minutes to be done in electronic format, not be scanned to a .pdf file. Rodny Richey referenced that the minutes have references made to other documents that are not part of the minutes that were uploaded and asked when they could be made available since they are referenced. Jason Johnson responded that when a reference is made, he will ensure to include those attachments with the minutes going forward, but for the older minutes if there is a reference made, to let him know what it is and he can provide those attachments.

Jay Wilson noted that it is up to the other towns (Wilton and Mont Vernon) whether or not they will make the MACC minutes available on their websites. Rodny Richard asked if there is a way the meetings could be held at the same date/time each month? He noted that it seems every month the date and time is different. Jay Wilson responded that the meetings have been different dates and times depending on the member schedules, so the meetings are worked around those schedules. Right now, he is working a different shift so the meetings are timed to work around

that. We used to have the meeting the second Wednesday each month. When it is a volunteer position on the BOG, the meetings are worked around their schedule. Rodny Richey understands most of the meetings are during the day or afternoons so the BOS room could be available for the MACC meetings. Craig Frye thinks it is better to hold the MACC meetings up in MACC Base, since it is not just a Milford meeting it is for all three towns. Rodny Richey suggested maybe rotating where the meeting is held (different towns).

Paul Bagley, Milford resident, said at one time it was done that way (rotating location); this is a public meeting and you have to be "let in" through a locked door - that does not meet the statutory requirement for a public meeting. Having the meeting in each town would meet the statutory requirement better. Jay Wilson said the BOG can look at that. Technically, if we need access to any communications information at a meeting it is right in the MACC Director office, but there is no reason we could not rotate the meeting locations if all towns are on board. Rodny Richey said people could know what is being discussed and be informed better if it was made more public. Rodny Richey asked about the surplus funds and if those funds have been figured out, in looking at the old minutes on line, a couple things jumped out to him. Jason Johnson indicated that will be discussed today in non-public session. There was some discussion about the surplus and how much it was. Rodny asked for specific spreadsheets which were not available and Jay Wilson indicated that the questions can be asked in order for the representatives to find an answer, but it cannot be answered on the spot. Depreciation was also briefly discussed, Mr. Richey asked why depreciation is even being taken into account. Jay responded that is a question being asked of the accountant today in non-public session. He believes depreciation is there so that if MACC dissolves, there is a value on the equipment. Rodny Richey said depreciation does not determine market value, depreciation is for tax reasons, it does not determine the market value. Jay said we are talking about two different things, the way the system is set up is that if a town gives notice, the other towns have a value of the equipment. Rodny asked that a description of the use of depreciation be explained, it does not make sense to the Milford Finance Director why it is used. Jay said that is one of the discussions the BOG needs to have with the accountant that handles the finances for MACC.

Kim Roberge, Mont Vernon selectwoman, said it is difficult for anyone to answer something that is referenced in the old minutes and being put on the spot; it is not fair to the person being asked. Rodny asked if she was referring to his comment? Kim said yes, the minutes are from 2017, if an answer is expected on the spot that is not fair. Rodny said it was a year ago, it was in July 2018 minutes, he is asking for the philosophy and the policy explanation. If you intend to have that discussion today, he would be interested in hearing the answer to that question. Jay Wilson asked Jason to pull out the minutes and find the number that was returned in 2018. Jason responded that was included in what was returned to the towns for surplus (Milford, Mont Vernon, Wilton). Rodny said in the minutes, it refers to a spreadsheet which is not part of the minutes. Jay Wilson said if there is a question on the minutes, we can provide that detail, let us know the date of the minutes. It is difficult to go back and explain what was done. Usually in May the surplus is discussed.

Craig Frye said depreciation and audits have not changed over the years. Rodny wants to know what the intent of the depreciation is. Jason said that is what we will talk about with the accountant who can provide the information to everyone once the conversation is held. Jay Wilson wants to have the facts before trying to explain anything. Rodny would like to have the depreciation policy made public. Jay Wilson said the Board will make it public once we know, but what is not public will not be shared. Jay Wilson asked about the e-mails from the fire rangers – Jason said he will have them sent to MACC then send to the three towns about if they want information (this is for the fire classification for the day).

 Eric Olesen moved to close the public session. Jay Wilson seconded. Craig Frye was opposed to the motion. Two members were in favor. Motion passed. Rodny Richey stated that Milford has two votes, why isn't Craig having two votes? Jason Johnson responded that rule only applies in financial matters. Jay Wilson said this is not a financial matter, it is policy. The Board of Governors non-public session began at 1:12 p.m.

7. Items not on agenda: – the next meeting will be held June 12 at 9:30 a.m.

8. Non-Public: RSA 91-A:3, II(a) and (c): Non-public minutes documented separately. After non-public was finished, C. Frye moved to come out of non-public session at 2:10 p.m. E. Olesen seconded. All were in favor.

After the non-public discussion, it was agreed that the non-public session change to public session. E. Olesen seconded. All were in favor.

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Eric Olesen, Member, Town of Wilton

Jay Wilson asked Jim Travis to correct the errors and noted that Mont Vernon will use the funds being returned for emergency communications and fire. C. Frye requested that the Milford money be returned to the town and they will be placed in the General fund. Jay Wilson asked what can be done for upgrades? Eric Olesen will talk to the Wilton BOS about the situation and bring figures to the BOS to see how much will come back and let the BOG know what they will do. Jim Travis needs two weeks to redo and fix the errors in the spreadsheets, it should be done by June 5 and be in hand by June 5 from him. Jay Wilson said if Jim knows the monthly operation costs for the whole month, we could look at holding back funds for the following year in that amount multiplied by two months (January/February) to carry over. C. Frye estimated the monthly cost is about \$25,000 per month. Jim Travis said usually by January 15, the town payments come in. Jay Wilson said the funds might not be available for those two months. Jay Wilson said the BOG can talk again about this. Jay Wilson suggested we all need to bring it to the towns before MACC holds back the money to go into the new year. Jay asked for any further questions for Jim Travis? There were no further questions. Jay, Craig and Eric thanked Jim for coming in today. Jim Travis said he will correct the error and produce the new reports and talk with Jason to finalize the reports by June 5, 2019. C. Frye moved to enter into Non-public session at 2:15 for reputation. E. Olesen seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. 8a. Other Business: Jason noted that he still has one full time vacancy and still has applications to process. 9. Adjournment: C. Frye moved to adjourn the public meeting at 2:15 p.m. Eric Olesen seconded. All were in favor. Respectfully Submitted, Darlene J. Bouffard Recording Secretary The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Milford Area Communication Center dated _____ were accepted as presented in the minutes of the next meeting. Jay Wilson, Chairman, Town of Mont Vernon Craig Frye, Vice Chairman, Town of Milford