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**Southern Tier Network, Inc.
October 14, 2021
Zoom/In-Person Meeting
Board Minutes
draft**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Carl Hayden; Judith McIntosh; Nonie Flynn; Jim Osborn; John Sharkey; Marcia Weber; Jack Wheeler; Tim O’Hearn; Howard Zingler; Aaron Dowd; Alan Eusden; Mark Rogus; Chelsea Robertson; Dave Hopkins; Steve Wilber

Guests: Fonda Chronis, Schuyler County, Deputy County Administrator

Management: Tony Marzolino, Jeff Gasper, Ben Rydzewski, Steve Manning

CALL TO ORDER – the meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM by chair Marcia Weber.

1. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the September 9, 2021, board meeting were approved on a motion by Alan Eusden, seconded by Tim O’Hearn, and carried.

2. Outside Plant Report

Recommendation for Construction & Emergency Call Out Services - Ben shared the results from the Construction RFP along with managements recommendation to the board on four construction firms to provide construction, splice, and emergency call-out services for STN. The Contractors will be targeted for services in STN’s eastern and western infrastructure zones. Discussion ensued, with questions on price differences and supply chain relative to material procurement. Mark suggested STN purchase inventory. Board unanimously approved managements recommended Construction companies.

3. Update on ARC Wireless & Steuben County NTIA Grants - Chelsea shared with board members the dialogue that she has had with ARC staff regarding the Wireless grant. Pending approval by ARC is looking promising. As part of the award, ARC may require asset/infrastructure ownership be retained by STN or the County/Municipality. Board members identified additional requirements and costs to be incurred if ownership is required.

NTIA Grant Application: Chelsea reported that NTIA confirmed receipt of Steuben County's application and that NTIA is requesting additional information to supplement the application. NTIA award announcements are expected in Mid-November. Chelsea also reported on Senator Schumer's October 11th press conference she was invited to, that focused on supporting the federal infrastructure bill which includes funding for broadband buildout to the rural underserved markets.

On a motion duly made (Hayden/Robertson) and carried, at 10:42 AM the board went into **executive session** for discussion of contractual, financial, and customer-specific information.

4. **Sales & Marketing**

5. **Continued Discussions on Decisions About Future**

On a motion duly made (Judy McInthosh/Tim O'Hearn) and carried, the board came out of **executive session with no action being taken.**

6. **Other**

NEXT BOARD MEETING – The next STN board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

ADJOURN – On a motion duly made (Jim Osborn/Steve Wilber) and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Manning
CEO, STN