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**Southern Tier Network, Inc.
November 10, 2021
Zoom/In-Person Meeting
Board Minutes**

ATTENDANCE

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

Absent: Alan Eusden

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 10:05 AM by chair Marcia Weber.

1. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the October 14, 2021 board meeting were approved on a motion by Jim Osborn, seconded by Judy McIntosh, and carried.

2. Outside Plant Report

Ben Rydzewski reported results of outside plant infrastructure audits performed during the month of October and the recommended maintenance work to address corrections that are required.

3. Sales & Marketing

On a motion duly made (Wilber/Robertson) and carried, at 10:13 AM the board went into **executive session** for discussion of contractual, financial, and customer-specific information.

On a motion duly made (Hayden/Wilber) and carried, at 10:25 AM the board came out of **executive session with no action being taken**.

4. Governance Committee Report

The committee considered using a staffing agency to locate new personnel; Marcia will distribute a list of those agencies to committee members for their review and continued discussion.

5. Finance Committee Report

Mark Rogus provided a summary report on the November Finance Committee meeting, including a discussion related to employee benefit options, reminding board of the \$350k allocated for new positions and marketing/PR services. Tony Marzolino then reviewed the 3rd quarter actuals report with the board.

6. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Report

Management provided a summary report of the October Strategic Planning Committee meeting. Jeff Gasper reviewed possible new services that were presented to the committee. Steve shared information on the ISP interview questionnaire being developed and said that interviews were being scheduled. Carl Hayden shared information from the interview with personnel (Kim McKinley) from the UTOPIA network organization, stimulating discussion by the board. Steve offered to schedule another session with UTOPIA for board members who didn't attend the first interview. Steve, Tony, and Ben provided a report on their meeting with personnel from Tri-County Connects (Tioga County, PA).

7. Other

Chelsea reported information on the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act as well as ARC funding targeted for broadband.

Marcia recognized and thanked Tim O'Hearn for his years of service with Schuyler County and as a founding member of the Southern Tier Network, Inc. Tim plans on retiring at the end of this calendar year.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – The next STN board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

ADJOURN – On a motion duly made (Tim O'Hearn/Carl Hayden) and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Manning
CEO, STN