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**Southern Tier Network, Inc.
January 13, 2022
Zoom Meeting**

Board Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Carl Hayden; Jack Wheeler; Jim Osborn; Steve Wilber; Nonie Flynn; John Sharkey; Marcia Weber; Aaron Dowd; Fonda Chronis; Howard Zingler; Mark Rogus; Chelsea Robertson; Alan Eusden

Absent: John Sharkey; Nonie Flynn; Dave Hopkins

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 December 9, 2021 board meeting were approved on a motion by Mark Rogus, seconded by Jack Wheeler, and carried.

2. Strategic Planning Committee Report

Marcia provided an overview of the January 11, 2022 Strategic Planning Committee meeting, including the following: Jeff Gasper provided an update on the layer 2 lit services investigative work; Marcia and Steve Manning provided a high-level overview of recent interviews with internet service providers (ISPs); and one of the 4 ISPs interviewed had interest in partnering with STN in an open access model. Steve will send board members the ISP interview notes.

3. Governance Committee Report

Mark Rogus reported on his interviews with three search firms to fill the role of STN's CEO upon Steve Manning's retirement.

On a motion duly made (Hayden/Osborn) and carried, at 10:22 AM the board went into **executive session** for discussion of contractual, financial, and customer-specific information in the areas of sales and marketing.

4. Sales & Marketing Report

On a motion duly made (Rogus/Robertson) and carried, at 10:38 AM the board came out of **executive session with no action being taken.**

5. Outside Plant Report

Ben Rydzewski reviewed the summary report distributed via email prior to the meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the 40 plus unserved address ride-out audits Ben performed in Steuben County. The address points came from the Steuben GIS department and Steuben's NTIA grant submission. Ben's findings were sent to Steuben County and Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board (STC) for review and confirmation.

6. Other

Steve Manning discussed Tioga County's request of STN to submit a USDA ReConnect III Grant application on behalf of the County and the Town of Nichols. Steve reviewed the project scope and the two associated grant resolutions required by USDA for STN's submission. After discussion, the board unanimously approved each resolution on a motion made by Osborn and seconded by Rogus.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – The next STN board meeting will be STN's annual meeting, held on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

ADJOURN – On a motion duly made (Eusden/Hayden) and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Manning
CEO, STN