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Board Members

Fonda Chronis
Aaron Dowd
Alan Eusden
Winona Flynn
Carl Hayden
David Hopkins
Judith McIntosh
James Osborn
Chelsea Robertson
Mark Rogus
John Sharkey
Marcia Weber, Chair
Jack Wheeler
Steve Wilber
Howard Zingler

CEO

Steve Manning

March 23, 2021

State of New York Authorities
Budget Office Post Office Box 2076
Albany, New York 12220-0076

RE: Southern Tier Network, Inc.
Employer ID No. 27-4516734

Gentlemen:

Enclosed with this e-mail you will find the 2021 Summary Results of Confidential Evaluation of Board Performance, 2020 List of Performance Goals, and Authority Mission Statement and 2020 Performance Measures.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Manning, CEO
Southern Tier Network, Inc.

Authority Mission Statement and Performance Measurements

Name of Public Authority: Southern Tier Network, Inc.

Our Mission

Enable universal access to affordable broadband services and promote economic growth in the regions we serve.

Vision:

STN will achieve its mission by building coalitions among public and private organizations to construct and maintain low cost, open-access broadband infrastructure to drive economic growth and universal access to affordable broadband services across the region.

Primary Objective 2020:

- A. Develop a Process for Determining Unserved/Underserved Addresses: STN established the Southern Tier Broadband Coalition, representing 5-STN counties. The Coalition codified their intentions in an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) signed in February 2020 among Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, and Yates Counties. Under the IMA, Southern Tier Network (STN) was authorized to lead a comprehensive broadband feasibility study to inform county executive and legislative decisions to increase access to affordable broadband services to selected rural areas. The approach leverages STN's experience building and operating its existing telecommunications network and its access to broadband industry thought leaders to ensure the Study would be informed by industry experts.

Additional Questions:

1. Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the public authority? Yes
2. Who has the power to appoint the management of the public authority? The STN Board of Directors.
3. If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the public authority? Yes.
4. Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission. The Board and Management meet monthly to review progress in contracting with vendors, customers and construction / operation of the network.
5. Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions? Yes

Confidential Evaluation of STN Board Performance 2021

13 out of 15 board members responded

Criteria	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree
Board members have a shared understanding of the mission and purpose of the Authority.	11	2		
The policies, practices and decisions of the Board are always consistent with this mission.	11	2		
Board members comprehend their role and fiduciary responsibilities and hold themselves and each other to these principles.	12	1		
The Board has adopted policies, by-laws, and practices for the effective governance, management and operations of the Authority and reviews these annually.	12	1		
The Board sets clear and measurable performance goals for the Authority that contribute to accomplishing its mission.	9	4		
The decisions made by Board members are arrived at through independent judgment and deliberation, free of political influence, pressure or self-interest.	9	4		
Individual Board members communicate effectively with executive staff so as to be well informed on the status of all important issues.	12	1		
Board members are knowledgeable about the Authority's programs, financial statements, reporting requirements, and other transactions.	10	3		
The Board meets to review and approve all documents and reports prior to public release and is confident that the information being presented is accurate and complete.	13			
The Board knows the statutory obligations of the Authority and if the Authority is in compliance with state law.	12	1		
Board and committee meetings facilitate open, deliberate and thorough discussion, and the active participation of members.	12	1		
Board members have sufficient opportunity to research, discuss, question and prepare before decisions are made and votes taken.	11	2		
Individual Board members feel empowered to delay votes, defer agenda items, or table actions if they feel additional information or discussion is required.	11	2		
The Board exercises appropriate oversight of the CEO and other executive staff, including setting performance expectations and reviewing performance annually.	12	1		
The Board has identified the areas of most risk to the Authority and works with management to implement risk mitigation strategies before problems occur.	12	1		

Board members demonstrate leadership and vision and work respectfully with each other.	11	2		
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Name of Authority Southern Tier Network, Inc.

Date Completed 2/11/21