

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN FIBER CONSORTIUM MEETING  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 1:00 pm  
Alpena Community College, WebEx meeting  
MINUTES

Present: Dennis Bannon (NEMCMH), Vicky Kropp (NEMiFC), Katie Jensen (Merit), Jack Wierzbicki (NEMCSA), Steve Mousseau (Alpena County), Jeff Blumenthal (ACC), Deb Kozlowski (ACC), Chuck Bennett (Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary), Paul Diamond (Omni), Katie Jensen (Merit), Jon Hartley (Alcona)

Guest: Jeff Potter (Dir. of Sales, Telnet), Will Luchin (Telnet), Rob McSwain (Merit)

1. Dennis Bannon called the meeting to order at 1:13 pm.
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes from February 10, 2021. Dennis Bannon asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Chuck Bennet made the motion, Jeff Blumenthal seconded. Unanimously approved.
4. Additions to the Agenda – None
5. Public Comment – None
6. Consent Agenda
  - a. New Correspondence –None.
  - b. Financial Report – Vicky Kropp presented the financial report. Invoicing has been sent to the members for the total of \$31,500.00, received payment of \$25,500.00. Outstanding invoices total \$6,000.00. Balance total is \$53,241.52. All contracted services have been paid; Thunder Bay Electric, Merit DDOS, Merit Port Management. Motion to accept the financial report. Jeff Blumenthal made the motion, Chuck Bennett seconded. Unanimously approved.
7. New Business
  - a. Dennis Bannon – Has applied for the Merit Advisory Council Representative. He is waiting for notification from Merit.
  - b. Merit MMC \$10.00 virtual cost per person with up to total cost of \$100.00. Vicky Kropp made the motion to approve the coverage of the Merit MMC fee of up to

\$100.00. Chuck Bennet made the motion, seconded by Vicky Kropp. Unanimously approved.

## 8. Current Business

### c. NEMiFC Ring/Engineering update.

Katie Jensen cannot confirm dates with Steve Weiland as of yet. MidMichigan is going to set up the fibers that are needed for Besser Museum and Immanuel Lutheran.

### d. Merit Update – Katie and Vicky will be working on the packet. We can send out the packet to all board members for review. Katie owns the document so she will email to all board members. July renewal emails will be sent to members with their previous month's bandwidth graphs for review.

9. Telnet Presentation – by Jeff Potter. Discussion regarding trends driving the change in the workplace, business challenges, the move to the cloud, limits of legacy, cloud communication options. If anyone would like a copy of the presentation, they can be made available.

10. Merit Marketplace – Rob McSwain presented the Merit Marketplace overview and offerings on the Merit Marketplace. The marketplace is available for the non-profit, but if a for profit would like an introduction to the product Merit can do that. Rob McSwain is now the program manager for the Marketplace. Mark Grunder asked about the Star Link project.

Dennis Bannon asked for a motion to adjourn. Vicky Kropp made a motion, seconded by Chuck Bennet, unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Reminder – Consortium website is [www.nemifc.org](http://www.nemifc.org); email address is [arfc@nemifc.org](mailto:arfc@nemifc.org).