

CCCS Board Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2004

Board Members Present: Ron, Mark, Sylvia; Regrets: Glen
Contractors: Christian, Jean, Barry; Regrets: Christine, Jason, Harley
Members Present: Stewart Ward (future member)

1) Adopt Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda as amended: Mark/Sylvia Adopted

2) Adopt minutes

a) August 12, 2004 meeting

Motion to adopt minutes:

Sylvia/Mark Adopted

3) Business Arising

a) The purchases of the UPSs and the True Image Software have not been made yet

4) Member Presentations

a) none

5) Contractor Reports/Presentations

a) Financial reports (Barry, Christine)

The wrong financial report was inadvertently brought to the meeting. We have about \$15000 in receivables and over a hundred late bills were sent out. (See Jean's report below.) Barry will bring the August and September financial reports to the next meeting.

b) Public Relations report (Jean)

i. Jean

1. There have been some recent billing errors. Jean is working with Christine to correct these.
2. Some members have requested mail boxes without a connection.

Motion: Members may purchase a mailbox only without a dial-up connection at a rate of \$5.00/month. These mail boxes will only be accessible via the Internet or through another members account.

Mark/Sylvia Carried

3. Some members can't access MSN chat Rooms through our server.

We will investigate this problem and try to find a solution.

4. Some members are complaining about the billing. Among other concerns the more recent bills do not show the extra time that the members have used, nor do they show when partial payments have been made.

We should move to new billing software as soon as possible. The tech department should be reporting on Platypus and other ISP Billing software this month. Depending on other unrelated developments (see below) we will discuss this seriously at our next board meeting.

5. Some members don't like the way our subscription plans are structured.

With the advent of Broadband Service the subscription structure will need to be re-visited. Since that will be sometime in the next year, it makes sense to re-vamp the rate structure at that time.

c) Tech reports

i. Harley: None

ii. Jason: Jason sent a written report that was circulated on e-mail.

iii. Christian: Reported few changes to the website, but he has made a CD-ROM back-up.

d) Executive Director Report

i. Barry submitted a report and spoke to some impending issues.

Excerpts:

a) Barry met with the various contractors on various occasions (see report for details)

b) Looked for grants that we could apply for.

c) Met with CCDS ED Karen Laine on 2 occasions. Barry could make no headway with her on how our 2 organizations should relate, so no contract negotiations have begun.

d) Barry circulated a motion that was passed by the CCRD demanding that CCDS conclude contracts with both ISPs (CCCS and Heiltsuk Cable) by the 17th of September or the CCRD will withdraw its support and recommend that CST funds be withheld. This could seriously jeopardize CCDS' financial structure.

e) Barry states, "It is my considered opinion that CCDS does not want to work with CCCS and they will look for ways to cut us out of the Broadband Project."

f) There were several other items, but read the report for these.

As a result of this report, there was considerable discussion about what CCCS should do. Although it would be best if we could work with CCDS on a Central Coast wide broadband solution this does not seem to be happening. CCDS has developed a financial structure and plan that sees CCCS revenue being cut from approximately \$120000/year to about \$20000/year and their ED will not look at other ways of working so that we can maintain our technical and other support structures. Although we knew we should have some contingencies in place, it is becoming increasingly clear that this is becoming necessary. There are also some reports that Telus is already offering Internet services within the Bella Coola Valley.

Motion: The CCCS will adopt a plan that will give us some options should our efforts with CCDS fail to produce a workable contract.

1) We will individually contact Telus and see if we can get confirmation of the reports that Telus is already selling broadband subscriptions within the Bella Coola Valley. Each of us will ask

a. If we can connect to Internet/Broadband through Telus immediately and if not now then when?

b. What would the hook-up and monthly cost be for such a service.

c. What speed can we get from such a service and do long distance charges apply?

The results of this investigation will be reported back to Barry immediately.

2) Barry will pursue serious proposals for bandwidth and distribution options from:

a. Bell

b. Telus

c. Possibly another bandwidth and distribution provider

3) Based on the results of this investigation we will call a special board meeting later this month to decide our next step.

Sylvia/Mark Carried

Motion: In the light of the uncertainty produced by this situation, the board is freezing all future spending (except for existing contracts) until further notice.

Sylvia/Mark Carried

Motion to adopt Contractor reports: Sylvia/Mark Adopted

6) Old Business: None

7) New Business:

a) October, November, December Budget

Motion: We will continue the July, August, and September budget for October, November, and December.
Mark/Sylvia Carried

b) We will discuss the direction we want to go with the ED position at the next monthly board meeting. Glen needs to provide some input here and with our relationship to the Broad Band project in doubt it might be prudent not to change Executive Directors at this time.

Motion: The Acting Executive Director contract will continue indefinitely.
Mark/Sylvia Carried

Motion to Adjourn: Sylvia

Date Adopted:

President's Signature: