

Board Meeting: Saturna Net Co-operative November 30, 2015

The meeting was held at the Saturna Recreation Centre at 4:30 pm.

In attendance; Lee Middleton, Chair; Michael Pierce; Barb Ropars; John Robertson; Harvey Jantzen; and Bernie Ziegler.

Item One: purchase of rope and climbing equipment to estimate of \$4,000. Approved.

The Co-op has funded (\$3,800) the training and qualification of Peter Clark and Brent Sohier as climbers with the intent they would be available when required to install and service Co-op equipment on the radio tower. This equipment is required for them to carry out these tasks. Various sources of supply were contacted and the least expensive source was selected.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) should be prepared concerning the reduced fees to be charged to the Co-op for climbing by Peter and Brent and how it relates to the \$3,800 paid for their training. The list of equipment purchased can be added as an addendum to the MOU.

Item Two: the Vancouver Link

The Co-op needs to get the antenna up the tower ASAP in order to test the link with Vancouver. The test will determine the band width capacity possible. If successful, the equipment at Harbour Tower will be installed and transmission can commence. The total cost of installation is less than expected and estimated to be \$18,000. The annual rental of space on the Tower is \$9,000. The cost of bandwidth is free for the first 100 megabytes.

Item Three: Saturna Infrastructure Requirements. Approved

New surge protectors are required and other minor improvements to the system.

Item Four: Terms of Employment for Contractors

Lee Middleton to discuss with Ryan Dentry some satisfactory combination of hours of work and rate of pay that will provide Ryan with a stable monthly remuneration. It was suggested that Ryan Dentry could document the system and work protocols as part of his hours. The value of having a back-up to Harvey Jantzen was established during the recent outage incident.

Item Five: Organizational Development of Saturna Net Co-operative

The Saturna Net Co-operative has become an essential service on Saturna Island. The unpaid Board provides some services that in a larger organization would be carried out by management. At some point it may be desirable to have a manager to relieve the Board of this work. This will depend on how the new system works and how the revenue stream develops. This is a topic for ongoing discussion.