

Minutes of NVEDD Board Meeting held in Hyde Park on Tuesday, June 2nd at 1:00

- Meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Tasha and introductions were made.
- The guest presenter was Christine Hallquist. Christine serves as the Executive Director of the Vermont Community Broadband Board. Christine gave a very informative presentation about where the State of Vermont is, in regards to our broadband network. Here are a few takeaways from the presentation:
 - If it is not fiber it is not broadband
 - Copper is inadequate, fiber is the ultimate technology
 - As of 2026 75% of all Vermonters have **access** to fiber, access being the key word.
 - The State has received \$223 million in grants but has only spent \$93 million and there is a deadline looming.
- Abby gave an overview of the CEDS adoption process. The Board received questions from Katherine Trapani, our EDA representative, relative to our CEDS Draft. The Board discussed the questions and the process moving forward. Abby will be putting the Draft out for public comment. The Board entertained a motion from Brent Raymond which was seconded by Andy Julow. The motion was to approve the CEDS with the discussed changes and the motion passed unanimously.
- Legislative Updates:
 - **Morgan** shared that Congresswoman Balint named Jessica Norhouse as the new State Director of the Balint office. Calls to the office to discuss any topic were encouraged.
 - Funding for DHS and ICE is being discussed again
 - The Congressional Discretionary Spending came upon us fast, the office had 20 applications.
 - Summer visitations schedule is being worked on by the staff, more to come.
 - **Fauna** with Senator Welch's office shared the Senator was the graduation speaker at St. Johnsbury Academy.
 - An overview of the Disaster Recovery funding was shared.
 - People were encouraged to share any comments on the Tariff Refund Process
 - Women's Business Conference will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026
 - USDA will be going thru a reorganization
- Partner Updates:

- Elisabeth Nance – ACCD is making recommendations for \$2 million allocation from the Federal government for Brownfield dollars. NBRC awards will be announced on June 12th. NBRC fall funding will be accepting applications for funding in the amount of \$6.8 million.
- Joe Kasprzak shared there will be a groundbreaking ceremony coming up for a 27 unit housing project located at 1244 Main Street.
- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Pat seconded by Scott at 2:42 PM and was approved unanimously.

Please note that the October Board meeting has been moved from October 6th to the 13th the location is TBD