

Islesboro Municipal Broadband Committee  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, December 9, 2025  
In-Person Meeting at 4:00 PM, Town Office

APPROVED

3/10/26

MINUTES

1. Call to Order & Establishment of a Quorum

Chair Barry Wherren called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM, and a quorum was established with over 3 members present.

Members Present: Chair Barry Wherren, John Rex-Waller, Bruce Walker

Members Present via Zoom: Patrick Nettles, Trevor Blackford (4:09)

Others Present: Page Clason

Others Present via Zoom: Frank Lavalley, Andrew Palmer, Donna Durkin, Tom Gilmore, Matthew Emery

2. Approval of minutes of September 9, 2025

Patrick Nettles corrected the spelling of Ciena. He also suggested including the full name for Frank Lavalley.

**Motion: To approve Minutes of September 9, 2025, as amended, P. Nettles, seconded by J. Rex-Waller. No further discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no, Unanimous.**

3. Old Business

a. Update on the battery replacements at the POP

- Frank Lavalley reported that everything went perfectly.

b. Update on wireless links to 700 Acre, Minot, and Seal Islands

- Barry stated he received an updated proposal for the upgrade to the wireless links from Frank Lavalley today. He will look closely at that. The plan is to do Minot Island first, as a test, because there is only one customer there, and then roll that out to the other two islands.
- John noted that on 700 Acre Island, there's a business that needs to stay connected.

4. New Business

a. Update on the status of the GWI Annual Audit for the network

- Andrew Palmer stated he's newly appointed, so just getting his feet into it. He's looking at doing about 50 pole transfers, slack migration, and some slack loops that need repair. He's been trying to get Frank Start in on the contract for this work, to shore up the construction plan for winter. That way, we can move forward with identifying places that need to have fiber rebuilt. Andrew has been trying to get exactly what needs to be done squared away, and also get the Town's approval so that we can issue the work to a contractor.
- Barry stated that there's supposed to be an annual audit of the system, and that hasn't occurred this year. Andrew stated he would like to schedule the audit for January. He asked what details the group is looking for.
- Barry stated it's mostly for the OSP, and we'd like to have a prioritized plan if what needs to be done. We have a limited budget, so it would be nice to put it in a prioritized order, so we can put the work in tiers.

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- Andrew believes the pole transfers will be a high priority. When he gets out to the island, he can make a better assessment of what needs to happen immediately. [apalmer@staff.gwi.net](mailto:apalmer@staff.gwi.net)
- Bruce asked how long it will take to complete the audit. Andrew replied that he will try to get the audit done within a week, and then probably turn it back in within two weeks.
- Page stated the biggest concern will be 700 Acre Island. The boatyard there has an ATV, so we can work out terms on that to get around easier, but there are also several runs that are through the woods. It will take coordination.
- Donna Durkin asked if Page would be the contact for Andy, to meet and do the audit. Page replied that it depends on when it happens, but we can certainly get it started that way.
- Barry stated he will check for a place for Andy to stay overnight. There's a house that CMP uses when they need to be here overnight, and that might be available.
- John Rex-Waller stated that the in first audit we got in the early part of this year, most of the work was looked at up to the Narrows. He asked if makes sense to start the second audit where the first audit left off, or if we're looking at doing the whole thing.
- Barry replied that we can build on what was done, but that was more of a statistical audit rather than a real audit. It was a sampling of poles, finding out what was wrong with those poles, and then multiplying it over the whole network to make a projection for budgetary purposes. It would be better if we can get a more detailed audit, so we know what's real. Once we have that, we can keep track of everything through the change logs.
- John asked if we anticipate this will be in preparation for the next budget cycle. We need to have numbers for the Select Board by March. If we can get a report by the end of January, that would be good. Andrew stated that he will plan for that.
- Donna asked about the partial audit that Frank and Thomas did. Frank replied that he did just the southern part of the island, up to the Narrows. The audit was everything—open to every case, every splice.
- Andrew added that he has a list of what was looked at, including all the OSP issues.
- Matthew Emery, representing 700 Acre Island, asked about what is entailed with the audit. He'd like to help facilitate that if he can. Page explained that the audit will be following the pole line, going pole to pole, and inspecting what's going on.
- Donna asked how many poles are on Islesboro and the other islands. Barry replied that there are around 1,700.
- Andrew stated that the audit should be easily done within a week. If not, he'll schedule more time. Page confirmed that in the summer, it could be done in three days, but at this time of year, with limited daylight, it's tougher.

5. Executive Session

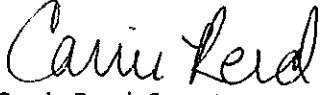
**Motion by J. Rex-Waller, seconded by B. Wherren, to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to 1. M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A), Personnel Matters, at 4:16 PM. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no, Unanimous.**

6. Adjourn

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Adjourned in Executive Session at 4:36pm. No return to regular meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrie Reed".

Carrie Reed, Secretary

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IMB Executive Session: 12/9/25

Session brought to order at 4:36.

Barry and Patrick updated all on the second meeting with Kristin Collins. Kristin initially affirmed the sale was a 'triggering event', but upon further discussion with Patrick, she tempered her opinion. Patrick summarized it that if GWI keeps managing the network in their name, there may not actually have been an 'asset' transfer (the language in the contract). So, we need to monitor how we are handled, to see if there are any more changes.

Patrick requested financial reports so we can have oversight on IMB work.

Meeting concluded at 4:54

Barry Wherren