# A JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF SURRY TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION AND PIEDMONT COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.

A joint meeting of the Board of Directors of Surry Telephone Membership Corporation and the Board of Directors of Piedmont Communications Services, Inc. was held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 9:00 AM in the boardroom of the Surry Telephone office building, Dobson, NC.

Present in person were Directors Chris Younger, Joe Atkins, Ronnie Griggs, Jean Hardy, Joe Riddle, Bud Snyder, Chad Bullington, Gene Rees, Renee Martin, and CEO Richie Parker.

Chris Younger, President of Surry Telephone, presided.

### CONSENT AGENDA

• The Minutes of the April 17, 2025, joint Board Meeting of Surry Telephone and Piedmont Communications Services.

• Capital Credits proposed for refund to Estates of deceased

members discounted to present value of \$21,795.10.

• Uncollectible Accounts for Surry Telephone in the amount of \$5,897.57 and PCSI accounts in the amount of \$2,969.34 were proposed for write-off.

No items in the Consent Agenda were requested to be removed and discussed separately. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda items was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. Full reports of items on the Consent Agenda were placed in the board portal prior to the meeting and are on-file in the Company Office.

#### OPERATING REPORTS

CEO Richie Parker began by reviewing the company's Mission Statement.

CEO Parker reviewed with the Board the list of port-outs and port-ins during the previous month.

The financials for March 2025 were reviewed and discussed.

The Board received a Subscriber Report based upon the consolidated figures for Surry Telephone and PCSI through the May 1, 2025, billing.

The Boards reviewed investments, check registers, call analysis, top customer reports and trouble calls for both Surry Telephone and PCSI.

The operating reports were put in the board portal prior to the meeting and are on file in the company offices.

## CEO UPDATES

<u>Construction Update</u>: CEO Parker reviewed the construction and splicing projects that are underway.

Engineering Update: The Engineering update was given. CEO Parker announced that NCDIT has awarded Surry Communications 11 Of the 12 CAB Round 2 projects submitted. These projects will serve 278 eligible locations. Our portion of the costs is 30% or \$504,054 and NCDIT will share 70% or \$1,097,121. Our costs are in this year's budget. We signed and returned the paperwork for these grants on May 12, 2025. This construction must be completed by October 31, 2026.

Network Update: The boards reviewed the several network operations projects underway and being planned. It was noted that the Level Cross standby generator needs repair. It is 18 years old. The repair is \$11,000. A new 100kw stationary generator is \$40,000. CEO Parker announced that the downtown Mount Airy WI-FI has been approved.

<u>Service Level Update</u>: On Monday May 5, 2025, we had phone issues from 1:30 to 3:00. Services were restored when we switched to Core 2. Core 1 was restarted, and we reverted back to Core 1 without issue.

<u>Cyber Update</u>: The Board received the monthly update on company cyber security efforts.

CATV/Video Update: The "sunset" of Video will be December 31, 2026. CEO Parker reviewed actions we are taking to educate and help customers through this transition. WE are going to speak again with DirectTV for options.

Accounting Update: We are working with Vantage Point on the USDA Loan Application process. Application should be presented to USDA by July of this year. Our new internet pricing took effect May 1, 2025. CEO Parker updated the Board on the Universal Service Fund, and discussed ways we can offset potential loss.

Marketing Update: A marketing update was given.

<u>Personnel Update</u>: CEO Parker gave a Personnel Report.

## <u>Subsidiary Updates:</u>

- · <u>Carolina West</u>-The next Board meeting is June 5, 2025.
- Accesson-The Board met on May 8, 2025. Financials were reviewed. The 2024 Audit was presented. An update was given on the ReConnect 3 Grant construction. Discussed the tax

liability (approximately \$3.5M) for grant monies unless legislation is approved making the grants tax exempt. These taxes would have to be paid by the shareholders.

· <u>Visions West</u>-No activity since last board meeting.

Other Business: The Surry Telephone Membership Corporation Annual Meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2025 at the Surry County Service Center. Registration will be from Thursday July 10 through Wednesday July 16 at all retail locations. There will also be in-person registration from 8:00 am until 8:30 am on the day of the meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Board and the July Board meeting will follow in the board-room.

Detailed CEO updates were posted to the board portal prior to the meeting and are on file in the Company office.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular joint meeting of the boards is scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 9:00 AM.

President Younger asked if there was any further business to come before the meeting. There was none.

Mr. Younger declared the meeting adjourned.

SUBMITTED:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Surry Telephone Membership Corporation

resident

Piedmont Communications Services, Inc.

President

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