

Communications Committee Report Apr 16, 2022

Ryan Sommers, Chairperson

Members: Devona Sayler, Tori deVore, Cathy Faughnan, Jennifer Taylor

Purpose: The Communications Committee exists to (1) compose and distribute member communications in a clear, timely, and effective manner, including via the bigelkmeadows.org website, (2) work to apply record retention per the governing documents, and (3) administer fair, timely, and accurate voting and reporting of ballots.

New Internet Service (Progress Report)

- Starlink delays due to global chip shortage, many people having expected shipping dates pushed out
- xBar7 deployed to a limited number of homes. Base package speeds are 25mbit down and 4mbit up. Reports of service have thus far been positive

Open Action Items

- Website Maintenance
 - (Complete) Action Item: Website moved to Google Cloud (now costs <\$5 per month compared to \$13)
 - (In Progress) Action Item: Move domain registration to Google (waiting for end of 60-day lockout)
- 2022 Technology Refresh
 - (In Progress) Action Item: Move phones away from Viasat (currently paying >\$200 per month for Internet/phone service, approx. savings of \$120 per month depending on decision of the Board)
 - (In Progress) Action Item: Approve xBar7 Easement to start deploying fiber to bring Internet service to those without line-of-sight to the tower.
- Water Meter Reading Project
 - (In Progress) Action Item: Further incremental improvements to water billing and metering

Upgrading Phone Service Proposal

Requirements:

- Phones for: Victoria, Paul, Dustin/WTP
 - Separate lines/phone number for each
 - Voicemail for each
 - Power-over-Ethernet/Voice over IP phones
 - Headset capable
 - Desk phones
- Ubiquiti Cloud Key Plus for network management
 - Will also support a few cameras as we begin that roll out
- PoE network switch for Office
 - Cost would be \$299 but will be donated

xBar7:

- \$25/line/month (\$75/month total)
- Phones: \$150/phone
- Phones can be reused on other provider

Google Workspace

- \$20/line/month (\$60/month total)
- Phones: \$150/phone
- Phones can be reused on other provider

Ubiquiti

- \$9/line/month (\$36/month total)
- Phones: \$29/phone
- Phones only usable with Ubiquiti Voice

* Cheaper phones exist for xBar7/Google but recommend the more expensive phone for future-proofing as cheaper phones won't support full-speed Internet passthrough

Recommendation:

- 3x Poly VVX 250 Obi Edition phones at \$150 per phone
- Google Workspace (Google Voice) service at \$20 per line
- Ubiquiti Cloud Key Plus for network device management at \$199
- Optional: Add additional phone/line for office conference room and/or foyer