

INDEPENDENCE TELECOM UTILITY
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 22, 2026

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Independence Telecommunications Utility was called to order at 9:04 a.m. on January 22, 2026, in the administrative office building. Chairman Lance Fricke presided. Present at the meeting via audio/video or in person were trustees Michelle Burke, Amber Hunt and Mike Lenius. Absent: Gerald Stelter. Also present were Kevin Sidles, Ryan Decker, Sara Wilson and Brian Eddy. Votes were unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

Consent Agenda: Inclusive of the minutes of the December 18, 2025 regular meeting, Bills #21934-21980; electronic payments #8806540-6585 and direct deposit advice #9903800-3815; Month end and operations reports were approved with a motion by Lenius, second by Hunt.

Business Conducted: 1) No public request or comment. 2) Sidles provided the year-to-date operations dashboard report. 3) Wilson reported that pre-billing ended with the January statement, and the office is now addressing numerous customer inquiries regarding their bills. New cable rate changes will take effect on the upcoming February statement for January usage. Donation requests from the Independence Post Prom and St. John Spring Fling Committees were reviewed and approved. Staff are working on year-end tasks. Auditors are working on preliminary field work. Received 2025 IAMU Safety Dividend check of \$5,671.53. 4) Decker reported on average utilization in Internet traffic. Technicians continue splicing and running drops to residential locations, with 186 fiber conversions completed. 5) An outage occurred on January 15, 2025, at 8:00 p.m., affecting 123 customers for approximately 42 minutes due to equipment failure. 6) Old Business – None. 7) New Business – Board of Trustee Officer Election. 8) A motion by Lenius for all positions to remain unchanged – Chairman: Fricke; Pro Tem: Burke; Secretary/Treasurer: Lenius; seconded by Hunt. 9) The next regular Board meeting will be Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. 10) An upcoming meeting has been set for Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. 11) Moved for adjournment at 9:33 a.m. with a motion by Burke.

Lance Fricke, Chairperson

Mike Lenius, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved