

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
	)	
LakeNet LLC	)	Case No. U-20961
	)	
for a temporary and permanent license	)	
to provide local exchange service	)	
throughout the State of Michigan	)	
_____	)	

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER FABIEN
ON BEHALF OF
LAKENET LLC**

I. INTRODUCTION

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER.

A. My name is Christopher Fabien. My business address is 16690 Gratiot Road, Hemlock, MI 48626. I can be reached by telephone at (989) 245-2289 and email chris@lakenetmi.com.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION WITH LAKENET LLC?

A. I am Co-Owner, Chief Technology Officer and Network Engineer at LakeNet LLC ("LakeNet").

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.

A. I received Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from Kettering University. I have served as Co-Owner, Chief Technology Officer and Network Engineer at LakeNet since its inception in 2010. I also served as Systems Engineer at Nexteer Automotive from December 2007 to January 2013 and as an Engineer at Stanley Assembly Technologies August 2000 to November 2007.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to describe facilities-based services that LakeNet proposes to offer in Michigan and to review issues related to its request for a license to provide such services. My testimony specifically relates to LakeNet's managerial, financial, and technical competence to provide the telecommunications services for which authority is requested, and its compliance with the rules and policies of this Commission.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE AUTHORITY THAT LakeNet SEEKS FROM THE COMMISSION.

A. LakeNet seeks to obtain competitive local exchange carrier (“CLEC”) license of offering facilities-based local exchange telecommunications services in all incumbent local exchange carriers’ service territories throughout the state of Michigan. At this time, LakeNet does not seek to terminate any exemption held by a rural telephone company pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251(f).

III. LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS

Q. HAS LAKENET BEEN AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE SUCH SERVICE IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTIONS?

A. No, LakeNet is not currently licensed in any other jurisdictions.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CORPORATE STRUCTURE OF LakeNet.

A. Applicant’s legal name is LakeNet LLC. LakeNet was formed in Michigan on April 8, 2010 under the laws of Michigan. A copy of LakeNet’s Articles of Organization is attached to the Application as Exhibit A.

Q. IS LAKNET LEGALLY AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN MICHIGAN?

A. Yes. LakeNet is a domestic limited liability company in Michigan.

IV. MANAGERIAL AND TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS

Q. PLEASE ADDRESS LAKENET'S MANAGERIAL AND TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

- A.** LakeNet possesses the managerial qualifications to provide its proposed local exchange services. The senior management of LakeNet has extensive experience in wireless, broadband and other unregulated telecommunications service provision, and its highly-qualified technical staff will ensure that LakeNet's operations will meet high standards for service quality and reliability. Descriptions of the telecommunications and managerial experience of LakeNet's key personnel, who have extensive management and technical experience, are provided to the Commission with the Application as Exhibit B.

V. FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE LAKENET'S FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS.

- A.** As explained in its Application, LakeNet possesses the financial qualifications necessary to conduct its telecommunications operations. LakeNet's Financial information is being provided under seal as **Confidential** Exhibit C to the Application.

VI. LakeNet'S PROPOSED SERVICES

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TYPES OF SERVICES THAT LakeNet WILL OFFER IN MICHIGAN.

- A.** LakeNet initially plans to offer local exchange service to residential customers and business customers in Michigan. Facilities-based local exchange service will be provided via (1) LakeNet's own facilities, (2) commercial wholesale agreements with incumbents, or (3) a combination thereof. LakeNet will provide basic and enhanced services with its own high-tech fiber networks.

Q. WHAT FACILITIES WILL LAKENET USE TO PROVIDE ITS PROPOSED LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES?

A. LakeNet will provide telecommunications services in the State of Michigan through a combination of its own facilities and facilities leased from other carriers.

Q. WHAT GEOGRAPHIC AREAS WILL LAKENET SERVE?

A. LakeNet seeks authority to provide telecommunications service throughout the State of Michigan. At this time, LakeNet does not seek to terminate any exemption held by a rural telephone company pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). LakeNet's local calling areas will be identical to the Commission approved local calling areas as documented in these incumbent carriers' local tariffs.

Q. WILL LAKENET OFFER SERVICE TO ALL CONSUMERS WITHIN ITS SERVICE AREA?

A. Yes. LakeNet will be prepared to serve customers in its service area to the extent that it is required, and to the extent that it has facilities available to provide such service to the public.

Q. DOES LAKENET AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL RULES, REGULATIONS, POLICIES AND ORDERS OF THIS COMMISSION, AND THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, IN ITS PROVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE?

A. Yes. LakeNet agrees to abide by all rules and regulations that are deemed to be applicable to LakeNet. LakeNet also agrees to abide by all 911 requirements at such time as LakeNet begins to provide local exchange services.

Q. WHEN WILL LAKENET COMMENCE PROVIDING SERVICES?

A. LakeNet plans to deploy and provide local exchange service in Michigan within one year after the date this Commission grants its license.

VII. PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PUBLIC INTEREST BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH LAKENET'S PROPOSED OFFERING OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN MICHIGAN.

A. Both the Michigan legislature and the United States Congress, through the Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("Federal Act"), have determined that it is in the public interest to promote competition in the provision of telecommunications services. The Federal Act was designed to promote increased competition in the telecommunications market. Moreover, the Commission has already determined that the grant of applications for competing licenses to provide telecommunications service is in the public interest. The grant of LakeNet's Application will further the public interest by expanding the availability of alternative sources of telecommunications services in the State of Michigan. LakeNet's proposed services will provide multiple public benefits by providing users of telecommunications services with enhanced and emerging technologies. In addition, increased competition will create incentives for lower prices, more innovative services, and more responsive customer service.

Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. Yes.

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EXHIBITS

Exhibit A	Articles of Organization
Exhibit B	Key Personnel
Exhibit C	Financial Information (<i>CONFIDENTIAL - Submitted Under Seal</i>)

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EXHIBIT A

Articles of Organization

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Date Received

(FOR BUREAU USE ONLY)

'APR 08 2010

This document is effective on the date filed, unless a subsequent effective date within 90 days after received date is stated in the document.

Trans Info#1 15867245-2 04/07/10

Chk#: 1123 Amt: \$50.00

ID: KERI FABIEN

FILED**APR 08 2010**

EFFECTIVE DATE:

 Administrator
 BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Name Christopher Fabien		
Address 21713 Roosevelt Rd		
City Merrill	State MI	Zip Code 48637

Document will be returned to the name and address you enter above. If left blank document will be mailed to the registered office.

D40784**ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION****For use by Domestic Limited Liability Companies**

(Please read information and instructions on last page)

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 23, Public Acts of 1993, the undersigned execute the following Articles:

ARTICLE IThe name of the limited liability company is: LakeNet LLC**ARTICLE II**

The purpose or purposes for which the limited liability company is formed is to engage in any activity within the purposes for which a limited liability company may be formed under the Limited Liability Company Act of Michigan.

ARTICLE IIIThe duration of the limited liability company if other than perpetual is: Perpetual**ARTICLE IV**

1. The street address of the location of the registered office is:

21713 Roosevelt Rd, Merrill, MI

(Street Address)

(City)

, Michigan 48637

(ZIP Code)

2. The mailing address of the registered office if different than above:

(Street Address or P.O. Box)

(City)

, Michigan

(ZIP Code)

3. The name of the resident agent at the registered office is: Christopher Fabien**ARTICLE V** (Insert any desired additional provision authorized by the Act; attach additional pages if needed.)Signed this 6th day of April, 2010

By

Chris Fabien, Keri Fabien

(Signature(s) of Organizer(s))

Christopher Fabien, Keri Fabien

(Type or Print Name(s) of Organizer(s))

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EXHIBIT B

Key Personnel

Christopher Fabien

905 St Marys Dr., Hemlock MI 48626

chris@lakenetmi.com

OBJECTIVE	Experienced computer engineer specializing in embedded systems, network communications, and controls.
SKILLS	• Internet Network Engineering in ISP environment • Fiber-Optic network design, operation and troubleshooting including OSP construction • Programming in C++, Labview, Matlab, PHP in PC and embedded environments • Construction management & coordination, site safety & equipment operation instruction • Control system performance tuning, troubleshooting and stability analysis • Network communications in Ethernet, CAN, DeviceNet, Bluetooth and serial networks in industrial, commercial and automotive environment • Wireless network design and construction including long-range outdoor applications • Electronic hardware design, PCB layout, fabrication, validation and troubleshooting • Comfortable working outdoors at heights on structures/towers in all weather conditions
WORK EXPERIENCE	<u>LakeNet LLC – Merrill, MI</u> Owner, CTO & Network Engineer (April 2010 – Present) • Value-Engineered solutions to bring broadband access to areas ignored by other providers • Designed and built a communications network covering 500 square miles • Fiber optic (FTTH) and wireless network infrastructure design, build, maintenance • Select/coordinate tower sites, Internet transit and private fiber optic or wireless connectivity • Radio tower construction, equipment installation and maintenance • Manage VoIP soft switch and VoIP customer support and troubleshooting • Maintain records of network infrastructure, IP address allocation, customer usage, etc. • Directly support all roles of business – sales, marketing, accounting, project budgeting, tech support, network management and customer installations <u>Nexteer Automotive – Saginaw, MI</u> Systems Engineer (December 2007 – January 2013) • Generate and analyze electric power steering system and subsystem technical specs • Maintain specification document library, support inquiries from other departments • Tune and troubleshoot mechanical and electronic system performance • Generate FDD documents and Matlab models of existing and new control functions • Design and validate system compliance to applicable government standards • Coordinate design validation and production test plan with system requirements • Work with customer engineers to develop and tune vehicle steering to desired performance <u>Stanley Assembly Technologies – Cleveland, OH</u> Research and Development Engineer (January 2005 – November 2007) Engineering Co-op (August 2000 – October 2004) • Software & hardware development for industrial torque and motion control applications • Design, write and debug hardware drivers including: LCD display, CAN network interface, torque sensor, serial port and dual-port SRAM • Coordination of prototype hardware testing, modifications and field trial support • Modify design documents using OrCAD and AutoCAD • Design and construct automated test equipment using Labview and NI DAQ hardware <u>APK.net – Cleveland, OH</u> Technical Support (Mar 1999 – August 2000) • First-line customer support for local Internet Service Provider • Troubleshoot problems with Dial-UP, DSL and Dedicated (T1) Internet circuits • Initiate response to down circuits by coordinating with ILEC and CLEC partners • Create tutorial documents and internal procedures for use by other techs
EDUCATION	<u>Kettering University – Flint, MI</u> – Bachelor of Science – Computer Engineering
REFERENCES	Available upon request

Keri Fabien

905 St. Mary's Dr., Hemlock, MI 48626
(989) 280-0423
kerifabien@gmail.com

SKILLS

- Keyboarding 80+ words per minute.
- Extensive knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills as well as customer service, editing, organizational, leadership, filing and telephone skills.
- Dependable; able to work independently or as part of a team.

EDUCATION

Delta College; University Center, MI
Office Services Management Associate Degree
Office Professional/Administrative Assistant Associate Degree
-Office Skills Core Certificate of Achievement
-Office Assistant Certificate
-Office Specialist Advanced Certificate

WORK EXPERIENCE

LakeNet, LLC

Owner / Director of Operations (April 2010 – Present)

- Manage accounts payable/receivable including collections.
- Answer incoming calls, customer service/tech support.
- Responsible for scheduling technicians, service calls and emergency repair visits.
- Sales, process inquiries for new service & cost estimation for fiber extension.
- Human Resources contact for all employees.
- Audit customer accounts and work orders for accurate completion.
- Record keeping and compliance.
- Marketing, Facebook and direct mail, current service area/expansion areas.
- Bookkeeping and Accounting, including cash drawer/banking.
- Payroll processing, employee record keeping/maintenance.
- Direct customer contact at local storefront.
- Other various daily tasks as necessary.

Covenant Center for the Heart – Physician Office; Saginaw, MI

Clinical/Clerical Medical Assistant (July 2010 – May 2012)

- Front desk patient check-in and check-out.
- Verify patient insurance and demographics.
- Collect co-pays and outstanding patient balances.
- Help room patients and collect information accurately.
- Schedule patient procedures at the hospital and schedule appointments.
- Alphabetize and file hospital records, scan outside hospital records in Epic.
- Assist patients with form completion when necessary.
- Answer phones, take messages and route calls.
- Document patient questions/concerns in Epic system.
- Process medical record requests from patients and outside sources.
- Help to oversee the front desk staff area and other employees.
- Other various tasks as assigned.

Valley Cardiology Associates; Saginaw, MI

Medical Records Specialist (April 2008 – July 2010)

- Use Misys Document Manager, EMR and Tiger.
- Pull patient charts and prepare before scheduled office visit.
- Scan, review and finalize patient records for paperless retrieval on the computer.
- Answer phones, collect co-pays, make bank deposits, check-in and/or check-out patients and schedule appointments.

Advanced Therapy Center, Ltd.; Beachwood, OH

Administrative Assistant (May 2007 – December 2007)

- Greet patients, schedule appointments, verify insurance and answer main phone line.
- Type correspondence letters and transcription for multiple doctors.
- Manage accounts payable/receivable in QuickBooks.
- Collect co-pays and payments from patients, record and made bank deposits.
- Create new patient charts, file and maintain records.

The Benefit Advantage, Inc.; Auburn Hills, MI

Administrative Assistant (February 2003 – February 2007)

- Understand and follow IRS guidelines for plan redemptions along with census entry.
- Prepare distribution packets for terminated participants and then either fax, mail or email.
- Maintain files and manage working files for over 300 clients.
- Provide monthly billing information for company accounts receivable.
- Prepare 1099-R's, 1096's and 945 forms to clients yearly.
- Process 401(k) loans and 401(k) distributions from investment companies for the client.
- Speak directly to participants/clients regarding distributions, loans and other questions.

Rob Bresnahan

Bio

Rob began his career in public accounting in 2001 and spent the next 18 years in the industry focusing on all aspects of attestation, tax, and consulting. Rob spent most of his career with a regional accounting firm that specialized in the niche rural telecommunications and broadband market. He grew to manage the Colorado Springs office of the Company. After the Company merged its operations with a top 20 accounting firm in 2016, he continued to grow the niche practice and gain notoriety within the industry.

During his tenure in public accounting, he was involved in all aspects of accounting and finance including financial reporting, supervising, and performing audits, preparing, and reviewing compilations, tax preparation and planning for corporate, partnership and tax-exempt entities, personnel training, internal control reviews, Federal and state regulatory consulting and reporting, budgeting, forecasting and projections.

Upon leaving public accounting in 2019, Rob started Fibersmith Financial LLC. Fibersmith Financial LLC is a full-service consulting firm focusing on the growing needs of the Telecommunications industry. With almost 50 years of experience and in the telecommunications industry and 4 CPA's on staff, Fibersmith Financial provides Virtual CFO, Financial Consulting and Outsourced Accounting Services to all shapes and sizes of Telecom Providers.

Rob has presented on multiple Financial and Accounting topics at various local, State, and national meetings, as well as, before the Wireline Service Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Rob is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and is currently licensed in Colorado and Wisconsin. Rob is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, in 2000.

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EXHIBIT C

Financial Information

***CONFIDENTIAL
FILED SEPARATELY UNDER SEAL***

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EXHIBIT D
AFFIDAVIT OF CHRISTOPHER FABIEN

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AFFIDAVIT OF CHRISTOPHER FABIEN

STATE OF MICHIGAN	)	
	)	
COUNTY OF SAGINAW	)	

Christopher Fabien, being duly sworn, says that:

1. I am Co-Owner, Chief Technology Officer and Network Engineer at LakeNet LLC ("LakeNet"), the applicant in this case.

2. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein. If called as a witness, I can testify to the matters stated herein.

3. I am the same Christopher Fabien who caused to be pre-filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission the Direct Testimony of Christopher Fabien, including exhibits attached thereto, in Case No. U- 20961 on January 6, 2021.

4. My direct testimony appears on six (6) pages and consists of a series of questions and answers. I am also sponsoring pre-filed Exhibits A through Exhibit C. Exhibit C was filed as confidential exhibit under seal. I am separately presenting my direct testimony and Exhibits A through C for binding into the record in this proceeding. The answers contained in my pre-filed

direct testimony are truthful and accurate, and are based on my personal knowledge. As of the date of this Affidavit, and for purposes of the May 4th hearing in Case No. U-20961, I have no changes or additions to make to my pre-filed direct testimony or exhibits. If I were called to testify at the May 4th hearing, the answers to the questions contained in my pre-filed direct testimony would be the same.



Christopher Fabien
LakeNet LLC

Subscribed and sworn to before me

on this April 27 day of 2021.



Notary Public, County of Saginaw

My Commission expires 10/08/2023