

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2008

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

- A. A roll call of officers was made and answering present were Dan Pray, Roy Wilmer, JD Hudrlik, Dave Borchert and Craig Fabbi. The secretary certified that the agenda was posted per open meeting laws.
- B. The agenda for tonight was approved, after noting that the date mistakenly said Thursday, not Tuesday, and had been corrected. All present agreed to pay the monthly bills, as usual except for \$23 in additional postage and tapes paid to the secretary, and \$196.50 for Progress ads.

REPORTS:

- A. Financial: The total account balance is \$10,458.81. A statement for \$10,813 was received from the lawyer; this is deferred by mutual agreement until funds are available.
- B. Equipment and Site: Roy reported that our Ch. 11 translator was sent in for repairs and may cost as much as \$2,500. Ch. 13 (our 9) is expected to go digital within the next 2 months, so a receiver (cost est. \$2,600 to \$4,500) has been ordered. Ch. 3 (our 7) is planning digital soon, but a date is not announced. This requires several changes in direction and equipment. Cabling for Utah Hill probably needs replacement, at a cost of \$3,000-4,000. However, JD said that, because of the extensive work the County is planning, it is possible our cable will be replaced by them due to tear-down and storage support they need from MVTVD as they totally renovate some Beacon Hill property. No date has been given for this, but a written agreement with the County is required to protect the BLM site we are responsible for. Andy (phone 604-0426) or Keith Aurich are county people to continue contact with, as Roy does often. JD said the lower hill cabling is probably damaged by turtles again, and needs checking. Roy also mentioned we have free receiver pre-amps that should improve operations. Also, there was mention that some telephone company equipment might need placement in our building.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. OLD BUSINESS:

On legal developments, Dan and JD reported that they attended a meeting with Bruce Woodbury, Matt LaCroix, and Garry Hayes, lawyer. In this meeting, Garry gave a brief description of the District's legal status. The tax assessment is in process, after all legal requirements were satisfied. Dan and JD presented the plans for use of the tax assessment money to convert to digital transmission, improve service, and add a community channel to the line-up. It was explained that the considerable value of the District's equipment, licenses, and site would only be available to the community if the digital upgrade is done, and that the tax was the only method of financing. Bruce Woodbury understood the plans and expressed much interest in the community channel possibility. The meeting was judged positive by JD and Dan.

After the meeting, Matt LaCroix mentioned again the need for taxpayers to be able to opt-out. The Board indicated that the idea now is to see if the improvements would provide workable signals to all the District. Then, taxpayers who were not able to physically receive the signals due to terrain could ask for a Board member to test signal strength, and be taxed or not based on the results.

The Board will attempt to keep the citizens fully informed of changeover schedules. At this time, the receiving side of the equipment must accept a digital signal by 2/17/09 or sooner. This includes four channels directly received, one of which (our Ch. 44) is already converted. The other three channels come from Utah Hill as a re-transmit, which will continue as analog receive

to us for at least a year. No digital transmission will be made to Valley citizens for some time, though our construction licenses need to show digital ability within a year. No set-top boxes will be required in the near future, since digital re-transmission is not now required, until 2012?

The Ch. 50 letter will, as soon as mailed, allow community transmission to the Valley. Roy said some legal/licensing issues, such as call letters, must be solved. Dan said Elwin Brown at the middle school is progressing toward community content from the students, with Kim Hardy at the high school very interested in the possibilities. More equipment is needed, and the TV Board will buy some if money is available after its own workload is done. The telephone company has been extremely helpful in discussions, and will support the community channel with advice, communication lines, and perhaps loaned equipment. A plan involving the schools will be developed by the TV Board through the summer.

Craig needs a tie-in of call signals with station descriptions to finish the federal grant paperwork, which Roy plans to help with.

Immediate hardware changes were discussed above, in the site report.

The five year development plan was discussed throughout.

B. BUSINESS PLAN: Further discussion was tabled for this session.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Several citizens (6 – 8) were present for the meeting. Among the useful suggestions made:

- Bring a TV District service area map to the meeting for people to view
- Put a list on the web site, or somewhere people can see it, of the equipment that should be used to receive transmissions, including TV's and boxes.
- Re-instate MVTVD website, which is currently only local to DSL

Other questions and comments were either answered by the Board or taken under advisement:

- Can advertising pay for some expenses? Yes, but only on the community channel as PBS does it, not a commercial but a program sponsorship.
- Who can look at MVTVD's books? Financials are always open and available (since 1959), and the state web site has figures back to 2001 always on-line.
- What if taxpayer has multiple properties? What if renter is out of town months? Can taxpayer opt out if they don't want a signal? No effect on charge. Think of the assessment like the library or school tax or the fairground horse corrals; if the property fits the selected use code (i.e. residential) it is billed. Since the nature of it is a service charge, the Board will make a concession to those taxpayers who cannot possibly receive a signal due to forces outside their control.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 9:25 pm. The next scheduled meeting of the Moapa Valley TV District is at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 in the Moapa Valley Community Center.