

Present: Armitage, Decker, Heldt, McLain, Urcan - Birmingham
Heyman, McFadden, Verdi-Hus, Woodard – Beverly Hills
Ettenson – Bingham Farms
Eads - Franklin

Absent: Abbott - Birmingham

Also Present: Borgon - Executive Director
Currier - Attorney for Cable Board
Glenn - Birmingham staff liaison
Briggs - Beverly Hills Council liaison

Chairperson McLain called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

Motion by Ettenson, second by Heldt, to go into closed session to discuss attorney/client privileged information.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board recessed into closed session at 7:46 a.m. The meeting returned to open session at 8:11 a.m.

CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO 2009/2010 CABLE BOARD BUDGET

Motion by Ettenson, second by Decker, that the Cable Board approve the revised 2009/2010 budget reflecting Administrative Grants.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

TRUCK UPDATE

Executive Director Borgon reported on the status of options for selling the old production truck. Additional efforts consequent to Board suggestions were not successful. Chairperson McLain emailed two individuals who bid on the truck and requested their final offer for the vehicle and contents by Monday, June 8, 2009 at 5 p.m. The notification stated that the truck and equipment were offered “as is” and delivery was the buyer’s responsibility upon payment by certified check to the Birmingham Area Cable Board.

Two sealed bids were opened at the meeting. A bid from All Type Truck Repair was received in the amount of \$4,000. Steve Rota, BCTV staff member, submitted a bid for \$4,700. On the authority of the Cable Board, McLain accepted the high bid from Steve Rota.

It was the consensus of the Board to have the cable channel logo decals removed at the Cable Board's expense before accepting a check for the truck.

BOARD COMMENTS

Decker related that he and Heyman sit on a program committee with BCTV representatives who facilitate and review proposals for new programming to be aired on public access channels. He reported on a program request before the committee involving an interview with an actress/writer who proposed reading short stories with sexually explicit content. The program committee reviewed a tape of this program because there are FCC guidelines in terms of sexually descriptive material. Decker and Heyman found the material to be sexually explicit and indecent, which would relegate it to night-time viewing.

The committee members did not meet and discuss its final determination. The BACB is responsible for what is aired on its channels. The Board is placed in a difficult position of potentially airing obscene material or abridging someone's right for creative expression on a public access channel. The producer gave the artist the option to present other material or bleep out sections of the reading.

Program committee members Decker and Heyman will present a recommendation to the full board for its consideration at the regular Cable Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 a.m.