

Present: Heldt, McLain - Birmingham  
Heyman, McFadden, Pfeifer, Verdi-Hus – Beverly Hills  
Ettenson – Bingham Farms  
Eads – Franklin

Absent: Armitage, Lurie, Thorsby, Urcan – Birmingham

Also Present: Borgon – Executive Director  
Currier - Attorney for Cable Board  
Rota - Bloomfield Community Television representative  
Dr. Hoffman - Birmingham Schools representative  
Brogan – Comcast representative  
Doughty – AT&T representative  
Kiste – Wide Open West representative

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.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF CABLE BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 18, 2010**

A correction was made on page 3, paragraph 3, line 2, to change the word ‘chairperson’ to ‘vice-chairperson’.

Motion by Heldt, second by Eads, that the minutes of a regular Cable Board meeting held on August 18, 2010 be approved as amended.

Motion passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Cable Action Committee**

McFadden referred to the revised brochure “Choosing a TV Provider” distributed to Board members. He noted that there are a couple of minor additions and changes that will be made to the working copy of the brochure. The Cable Action Committee will take all Board comments and recommendations into consideration. McFadden asked that the Board approve the document as presented with any minor modifications that may be made.

There followed comments and questions on the informational brochure. It was agreed that 1500 copies of the brochure would be adequate for distribution based on the printing of the last brochure. The brochure will be linked to the Cable Board website.

Motion by McFadden, second by Ettenson, that the Birmingham Area Cable Board approve the updated “Choosing a TV Provider” brochure as presented with any minor additions to assure accuracy of information.

Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Cable Action Committee will be on Thursday, October 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Baldwin Public Library.

### **PEG Committee**

Heldt stated that Board members have received copies of a proposal from Bloomfield Community Television to produce and cablecast additional programming for BACB viewers. The scope of work relates to three sporting events between Seaholm High School and Groves High School including pre-production, production, and post-production activities. The athletic events are scheduled for October 5, 21 and 22 at a quoted cost of \$1,950 per event. Heldt said that he vetted this quote with Leslie Helwig, BCTV General Manager, and believes that it is reasonable.

Motion by Heldt, second by Pfeifer, that the Birmingham Area Cable Board accept the proposal of Bloomfield Community Television for the production and broadcast of three athletic events between Seaholm and Groves High Schools at \$1,950 each for a total expenditure of \$5,850. Money is available for this expense in the programming budget.

Dr. Hoffman from Birmingham Schools said that the School District is looking forward to collaborating on this project and he appreciated the Cable Board proceeding with this partnership.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion passed (8 – 0).

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Borgon reported that there were two complaints received in the last month. A Comcast technician who did a repair solicited the customer to buy a new computer from him. An AT&T subscriber submitted a complaint regarding a continuing problem with all three services. Lori Doughty from AT&T is working on this issue with the customer.

Borgon provided the Board with an updated Cable Board financial report as of August 31, 2010. He informed the Board that Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. has purchased a new stock in the Citizens Bank of Flint on behalf of the Cable Board.

Additional items to report:

- Borgon commended David Lurie for his work with Ken McFadden and Lew Eads on the brochure, "Choosing a TV Provider".
- Michigan NATOA is requesting contributions to begin lobbying Lansing on the State Uniform Video Franchising Act.
- The Cable Board has received \$4,462.22 in credit to date from AT&T to offset the cost of the encoders.
- The Cable Board has renewed its insurance coverage through Ibex Insurance Agency on July 1 at a 15.7% decrease in the premium. The Board will receive a \$1,589 rebate for 2010. Borgon noted that there is full liability coverage for all Board members and the production truck.
- The Plante Moran audit of Cable Board financial statements is ongoing.

- BCTV has been working with Baldwin Library to review estimates and purchase wiring and camera equipment to facilitate the recording and live broadcasting of Library Board meetings and other programming in the Rotary Room.

McLain suggested that the Board invite its representative from Multi-Bank Securities, Inc., the Board's fixed income securities broker/dealer, to attend a meeting and talk to the Board about its investments.

### **COMCAST RELATED TOPICS**

Comcast representative Leslie Brogan followed up on a complaint outlined by Borgon, stating that it is not Comcast's practice to sell other merchandise on the side. The matter is being handled internally. The customer has been contacted by Comcast and her concerns have been addressed.

Brogan reported that Big Ten Network programming has shifted on some channels. There will be a free preview of the NFL Red Zone this Sunday from 1-7 p.m. Comcast is coming out with a multi-room DVR. An inquiry about HD streams on multiple televisions will be verified by Brogan with a report at the next meeting.

McLain commented on an ongoing problem relating to returning Comcast equipment. People who return equipment by placing it in the slot provided at the service center do not receive a receipt for the transaction. Brogan affirmed that there is no confirmation provided at the return box. A customer would have to return their equipment inside the facility in order to receive a confirmation slip.

McLain urged customers who return equipment by using the slot to write down ID numbers from the back of the equipment and note the date and time of drop off. Customers could also call the 800 number and report that they are turning in equipment.

### **AT&T RELATED TOPICS**

Lori Doughty said that AT&T made an announcement recently that it has invested \$225 million in its wireless and wireline networks in the first six months of this year.

There was a question about the status of problems with PEG broadcasting on the U-verse product. Steve Rota from Bloomfield Community Television informed the Board that they experienced another problem with the encoder. IDSolutions sent out a new encoder, which also stopped streaming. IDSolutions representatives repaired that problem, and the equipment is currently up and running. This is the fourth encoder received by BCTV. Rota mentioned the possibility of looking into using a different type of encoder.

### **WOW RELATED TOPICS**

Kathy Kiste from Wide Open West reported that five nodes are active in the Village of Beverly Hills; the sixth node was activated yesterday and will be marketed today. Kiste stated that she will meet with Joe Valentine on September 23 after which time construction will begin in Birmingham.

Kiste is in contact with Bob Borgan about setting up a date in October for Board members to tour the WOW regional office in Madison Heights.

Keith Kirby, Director of Construction, was present to answer questions from the Board. Pfeifer reported that she had a successful meeting with a WOW representative regarding circumstances involving cable installation on her street and the required approval from the condominium association.

In answer to an inquiry, Kirby stated that the completion date for installation in Beverly Hills will be mid to late November. Kiste said that people with questions can contact WOW at 1-866-496-9669.

### **BAMA/BAPA REPORT**

Steve Rota presented the Bloomfield Community Television report on programming taped for Municipal Channel 15 (BAMA), PA Channel 18 (BAPA), and programming from BACB area organizations during the last month (information included in BCTV monthly report for August 19, 2010 – September 15, 2010).

The next workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21. There are two sessions at the BCTV studio; call 248/433-7790 to sign up. A tentative date of October 5 has been scheduled for a meeting of the Program Development Committee.

Zack Florance has been working with Baldwin Library staff on bids received for wiring and camera equipment to enable live broadcasting of Library Board meetings. Shain Park has been wired. BCTV staff will take the truck out and test the system tomorrow to make sure everything is working properly. Rota will report back to the Board next month.

Following Cable Board authorization, BCTV purchased the UPS unit (battery backup system) from Roscor in the amount of \$993.25 including tax and shipping. Roscor will install the unit at no charge.

McLain asked for a volunteer from the Board to participate in the Program Development Committee to replace John Decker. Alan Heyman currently attends the meetings on behalf of the Board. Eads volunteered to serve on the committee.

Rota informed the Board of three new series that are about to debut: 1) 5-Star Cooking; 2) Flavor Secrets; and 3) Real People.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Pfeifer questioned whether the quantity of Cable Board pamphlets should be increased. The Board agreed to limit the printing to 1500 copies noting that there were brochures left over from the last printing after distribution.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Tim Currier referred to an invoice sent to the Cable Board from his office for work on the Wide Open West franchise for Birmingham. Currier explained that the Interlocal Agreement provides that this Board is responsible for negotiation of any new franchises, transfers, or renewals of franchises. Over the years there have been a number of transfers and renewals. As a matter of course, legal counsel has worked on these matters and provided invoices to the Board, which were paid.

Currier stated that his firm invoiced the Board for work on the WOW transfer with respect to Beverly Hills. The Birmingham work was more extensive in the amount of \$1,973.53. Executive Director Borgon inquired about the invoice, and Currier is bringing it to the attention of the Cable Board.

Heldt remarked that the Interlocal Agreement envisions that the payment for franchise negotiations should come out of cable money.

Motion by Heldt, second by Eads, that the Cable Board authorize payment of the invoice from Beier Howlett, legal counsel for the Board, in the amount of \$1,973.53 for expenses related to negotiation of the WOW franchise for the City of Birmingham.

Motion passed unanimously.

In other new business, Ettenson stated that the Village of Bingham Farms has expressed an interest in inviting Wide Open West into their community to provide cable television, Internet and phone services.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.