

BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 21, 2022

Gugni called the meeting of the Birmingham Area Cable Board to order at 7:45 AM. in the Village of Beverly Hills Municipal Building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

Present: Eick, Abraham, Whittington, Cleary, Fenberg – Birmingham  
Gugni, Kamoo– Beverly Hills  
David - Franklin

Also Present: Gojcaj – Attorney for the Cable Board  
Rota – Bloomfield Community Television  
Black – Bloomfield Community Television

Absent: Shand, Tootell, Henry

**APPROVE MINUTES OF CABLE BOARD MEETINGS HELD June 15, 2022 and July 20, 2022**

Motion by Eick, seconded by Kamoo to approve the minutes of the Cable Board meetings on June 15, 2022 and July 20, 2022, as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**PEG GRANT REQUEST – VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS PARKS and RECREATION BOARD**

Greg Ross, representative of the Beverly Hills Parks and Recreation Board, referred to the memo, Grant Request for Beverly Park Pavilion, dated June 22, 2022. The grant is to enhance WiFi access and service for users within the Pavilion. Included in the above-mentioned memo is a memo from Jeffrey Bonikowski, Strategic Account Manager, to Beverly Hills Village Clerk, Kristin Rutlowski, listing the pricing options for WOW.

Gugni clarified that the request is for five (5) years of wired connection service. David inquired if WOW would commit to the current rate for the entire five (5) year period? Ross will need to find out. Fenberg thought this should be an annual request. Gugni agreed and Ross had no objection to this request.

Gugni corrected the cost for one year to be \$2,812 (\$2,412 for the Connection; \$200 for the Video Projector and \$200 for the Video Screen). Eick noted that the cost of the Video Projector and Video Screen would be a one-time cost.

Motion by David, seconded by Fenberg to approve the PEG Grant request from the Village of Beverly Hills Parks and Recreation Board in the amount not to exceed \$2,812.00: \$2,412.00 for one year of wired connection for the period 10/1/2022 to 9/30/2023, video projector (\$200.00) and video screen (\$200.00).

Roll Call Vote

Abraham Aye  
Cleary Aye  
Eick Aye  
Fenberg Aye  
Gugni Aye  
Wittington Aye  
David Aye  
Kamoo Aye

Motion Passed. (8-0).

**MUNICIPAL SUPPORT SERVICES GRANT REQUEST – FRANKLIN -BINGHAM  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The Board received a letter from Tony Averbuch, Fire Chief, dated 17 June 2022, requesting a Grant for Internet Access Consideration for FY 2022-2023.

White confirmed this is an annual request from the Fire Department. The amount is in line with past amounts which had been approved in previous years and therefore, would be an appropriate expenditure.

Motion by Fenberg, seconded by Kamoo to approve a Municipal Support Services Grant for the Franklin-Bingham Fire Department in the amount not to exceed \$2,699.04/yr. to cover the Comcast internet connectivity for the Fire Department of \$104.95 per month and \$119.97 per month for Verizon Wireless internet access for July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Roll Call Vote

Cleary Aye  
Eick Aye  
Fenberg Aye  
Gugni Aye  
Wittington Aye  
David Aye  
Kamoo Aye  
Abraham Aye

Motion Passed. (8-0).

**APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF BCTV TEAM APPAREL**

Steve Rota, Operations Manager - Cable, stated that in 2017 the team was authorized to purchase uniforms for the BCTV staff from KTM LOGO GEAR LLC, Birmingham, MI. This year he provided quotes for purchasing staff polo shirts, long sleeve shirts and t-shirts with the BACB logo on them. These quotes are from the same company as before. The total is \$1,771.95.

According to White, if passed, the budget would need to be amended at the end of the year.

Motion by David, seconded by Cleary to authorize the purchase of staff uniforms per the two (2) quotes (No. 090704 and 090705) from KTM LOGO GEAR LLC, both dated 9/7/2022 and not to exceed \$1,999.00.

Roll Call Vote

Eick	Aye
Fenberg	Aye
Gugni	Aye
Wittington	Aye
David	Aye
Kamoo	Aye
Abraham	Aye
Cleary	Aye

Motion Passed. (8-0).

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Fenberg reported that in the multi-bank security account BACB has \$1,010,000 in its portfolio. The next maturity date of the US Treasury Note of \$60,000 is in November, earning interest at the rate of .125%. The overall portfolio is earning .592%. BACB’s ladder, which he identified, goes through September 2026.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Cable Action Committee**

Abraham stated there was not a meeting last month as there was nothing to discuss. He would like to have a short meeting following this morning’s Board meeting.

**PEG Committee**

Kamoo stated there had not been a PEG meeting last month; however, there would be one after this one. This morning the Committee will be discussing a request from Derby Middle School for some equipment.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

White reported that a pending complaint from a Beverly Hills resident regarding a WOW cable line on her fence has been resolved. The wire has now been removed. This complaint is closed.

Five (5) complaints were received this past month, the majority of which dealt with wires and/or service issues. Most of them are still pending and she was waiting for a final report from the providers.

**FINANCIAL**

The Board members received copies of the account balances for the MBS, Michigan United Credit Union and Beverly Hills accounts and BACB financial reports for August 2022.

**CHECK DISBURSEMENT**

White wrote four (4) checks since the last meeting and recently added one for the Franklin Historical Society grant which had been approved at the June 2022 meeting. The largest one was to the Charter Township of Bloomfield for the BACB quarterly contract payment.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

White stated that the Michigan Public Service Commission has launched a Facebook page which will reach Michigan residents on matters such as energy and telecommunications matters and other critical information.

**PROVIDER RELATED TOPICS**

**a. Comcast**

There was no representative present.

**b. AT&T/Uverse/Direct TV**

There was no representative present.

**c. WOW**

There was no representative present.

Replying to David's inquiry, White explained that if a resident has a problem with service, he or she must contact the provider directly. Gugini added that if the resident has a problem with the provider's resolution, the resident can contact the BACB. With regards to the recent 3-day power outage in Franklin, there was a discussion about the Cable Board submitting requests to the providers on behalf of a community as a whole. White can contact the Escalation Team and inquire as to how to handle such a matter with Comcast and AT&T. White will also investigate if and how the individual providers would honor such requests. It was suggested that the communities inform their citizens about how to contact their provider if/when a problem arises.

**BAPA/BAMA REPORT**

Rota referred to his June 16, 2022 through September 21, 2022 memo to BACB, dated September 15, 2022. In his written report he listed all the regularly scheduled BAMA municipal meetings plus three (3) Special Workshops and two (2) Birmingham Study Session Meetings.

For the BAPA Programs, 34 individual producers and organizations programs were taped. BCTV Fall sports coverage of volleyball and boys' soccer also started. Boys' Water Polo, Girls' Swim and Dive and Football begin in October.

**PRODUCER AND VOLUNTEER WORKSHOP**

Rota encouraged the residents to participate in a Producer and/or Volunteer Workshop. If interested, please call the studio at 248-466-7790 to set up a date and time for a one-on-one workshop.

Rota introduced Carrie LeZotte, Director of Cable and Community Relations to the Board.

David complimented Rota and his crew on the great work done on the Franklin Labor Day Parade. Rota stated that Greg Black directed that program with the help of several part-time employees.

Carrie LeZotte introduced herself and provided some of her background information. She also mentioned possible future events and/or programs for Cable TV.

There was a continuation of the discussion about how and who should request refunds for outages. LeZotte would like to see an educational TV program(s) and training about how to deal with power outages. Gugni asked LeZotte to put something together and present it to the Board for an endorsement.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Gojcaj mentioned that in the US Senate and House of Representatives there are competing bills about how to obtain PEG and Franchise fees. As of earlier this year there had not been any activity on this subject.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

There were none.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 AM.

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