

Minutes of Meeting #432
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center
1800 No. 33rd Street
Lincoln, Nebraska
February 2, 2012

PRESENT: Commissioner Ken Bird
Commissioner Roger Breed
Commissioner Stan Carpenter
Commissioner Kim Dinsdale
Commissioner Steve Seline
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker
Commissioner Clay Smith
Commissioner Darlene Starman
Commissioner Dara Troutman

ABSENT: Commissioner Dennis Baack
Commissioner Fred Ohles

Advance notice of the public meeting was sent to Nebraska news media by means of a news release forwarded from the Commission office with Agenda posted in the NET Lobby, NET elevator bulletin board areas and on the State and NET web sites. LB 898 (related to Open Meetings Act) is also posted in the NET Board Room on 1st floor.

Chair Dara Troutman called meeting #432 to order at 9:38 a.m.

Following the call of the roll, it was determined that a duly constituted quorum of Commissioners to be present.

The Chair next called for public comment. Governor Heineman requested time on the agenda to extend his appreciation to NET for their outstanding contributions. He said that NET continues to make a huge impact in the lives of the people of Nebraska and throughout the nation. The Governor also indicated that NET is highly recognized and respected by other states in addition to Nebraska citizens. General Manager Bates thanked Governor Heineman for taking the time to attend a NETC meeting which was the first time in the history of NETC that a Governor did this. He then requested the following resolution to be read by Chair Troutman:

WHEREAS Governor Dave Heineman has provided valuable and significant support to Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, and;
WHEREAS The good Governor supported funding for our State infrastructure at critical times in the past years, and;
WHEREAS Governor Heineman has served with distinction and supported the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission, the Nebraska Public Radio Network and Nebraska Educational Telecommunications through the years in a variety of capacities, and;
WHEREAS He has so effectively provided leadership to the people of Nebraska,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission hereby:
➤ Expresses its deepest and most sincere gratitude to Governor Dave Heineman for his service to NET; and,
➤ Acknowledges with pride his loyal leadership, his personal persistence and dedication in the furtherance of educational telecommunications.

(Signed)
Dara Troutman
Chair

J. Richard Shoemaker
Vice-Chairman

It was moved by Troutman and seconded by Bird to approve this resolution by unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Chair Troutman requested approval of the minutes of meeting #431 as held on December 1, 2011. It was moved by Smith and seconded by Dinsdale to accept minutes of meeting #431 as presented. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Bird, Breed, Carpenter, Dinsdale, Seline, Shoemaker, Smith, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Baack, Ohles.

The Chair next called for the Nominating Committee report. Commissioners, Breed, Baack and Dinsdale were appointed to serve on the Nominating Committee with Commissioner Breed as Chair. It was moved by Breed on behalf of the Nominating Committee to approve the following slate of officers for 2012: Dick Shoemaker, Chairman; Ken Bird, Vice Chairman; Darlene Starman, Executive Committee Member; Rod Bates, Secretary/Treasurer; and, Randal Hansen, Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Seline. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Bird, Breed, Carpenter, Dinsdale, Seline, Shoemaker, Smith, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Baack, Ohles.

Chairman Shoemaker assumed the chair and thanked Commissioner Troutman for all her contributions while serving as chair 2010-2012. He then presented the following resolution to Dara:

WHEREAS Dara Troutman effectively provided leadership to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission as Chair for two years—2010 and 2011, and;
WHEREAS She has been most supportive of Nebraska Educational Telecommunications as Assistant General Manager-Communications; NETC representative for University of Nebraska; Executive Committee, Vice Chair and Chair of the NETC, and;
WHEREAS Dara is a most effective Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commissioner and will continue to provide vision and wise counsel.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission hereby:
➤ Expresses its most sincere gratitude to Dara Troutman for her continuous service to Nebraska educational and public telecommunications; and,
➤ Acknowledges with pride her loyal leadership and dedication in the furtherance of Nebraska public telecommunications.

(Signed)
J. Richard Shoemaker
Chairman

Ken Bird
Vice-Chairman

It was moved by Shoemaker and seconded by Bird to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

AGM-Administration & Finance Randy Hansen presented the 2nd Quarter Budget report for period December 31, 2011 for both Television Radio Divisions. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Smith to approve the 2nd quarter budget reports as presented and attached to the minutes. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Bird, Breed, Carpenter, Dinsdale, Seline, Shoemaker, Smith, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Baack, Ohles.

AGM-Education Gary Targoff presented an Education Services update that included the NET Virtual Learning Library. This is a partnership between NET and the Educational Services Unit

Coordinating Council. It will provide access for Nebraska teachers to over 16,000 digital assets for use in the classroom. . NET is in Phase One of the Virtual Learning Library project. Other projects include Career Readiness, Professional Development, Parents Forever, University Partnership Projects and Community Engagement. Two additional phases are proposed. Commissioner Breed stressed the importance of acquiring funding and more appropriations to allow for full capability and ongoing resources of this project. Additional comments were presented by Melanie Eirich, NET Executive Web Producer.

AGM-Technology Services Stacey Decker indicated that this month marks a change in technology at NET. The NET satellite contract ended January 31, 2012 and we now have eight of our nine sites connected by fiber. The one remaining site (KTNE) was held up due to a railroad right of way problem. It is anticipated this will be resolved soon. He also reviewed the changes in the IS and IT Departments. The Information Services manager will assume the enterprise systems responsibilities that include desktop computing, printing and network management. The Information Technology manager will assume development and broadband services integration that includes coding web elements and assisting in technical design needs.

He also indicated that it was decided to extend broadcast time by one hour. Authorization for this additional hour will be an action item on the May NETC Agenda.

NET Foundation Executive Director Jeff Beckman gave an update on the Inspire Nebraska Capital Campaign. It is on track to reach the \$25 million by June 2012. As of December 31, the campaign has raised \$23.3 million with the final phase focusing primarily in the East District which is the Omaha metro region.

AGM-Content summarized programming activities on both radio and television. A new NET Radio-KVNO/Omaha partnership has been established. NET radio will provide *Afternoon Concert* and *Classics By Request* on both stations with KVNO providing late evening and overnight classical music on both stations. This will increase efficiencies for both stations and enhance classical music broadcasting across the state.

NET radio's mobile apps are now available for Android, iPhone, and iPad. NET Radio Network Manager Nancy Finken further explained the functionalities of this new application.

Hearts of Zambia is a new 30-minute NET documentary about the survival of the human spirit in the midst of a war against an invisible enemy. This documentary premieres on February 10. NET News will include Legislative coverage and Campaign 2012.

Chairman Shoemaker next called on Jim Adams, Assistant General Manager of University of Nebraska-Omaha Television who gave a report on activities at UNO-Television.

Secretary Bates directed Commissioners to the Strategic Agenda item which detailed fiscal year 2012 Funding Sources. Chairman Shoemaker indicated this type of chart is needed and should be displayed in the Board Room for future reference and requested that the chart be made into a much larger version.

Secretary Bates distributed the NET Fact Sheet that explains the involvement of NET and its impact on viewers and listeners.

He also indicated that the Public Media Summit event will be held February 26-28 in Washington, D.C. Capitol Hill visits have been scheduled with Senators Nelson and Johanns and Congressmen Fortenberry, Smith and Terry. Commissioner Bird will accompany Rod Bates, Jeff Beckman and Randy Hansen.

It was requested that the previously approved date for the June meeting be changed from June 21 to June 14. It was decided to make this change. Remaining meeting dates for 2012 are as follows: May 3, June 14, August 30 and November 29.

It was moved by Commissioner Bird and seconded by Commissioner Breed that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission go into closed session as authorized by Section 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska for the protection of the public interest for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to the following subject: contract negotiation. Motion approved by acclamation.

Commissioners went into closed session 11:21 a.m.

Executive Session and General Session adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Future meetings:

May 3 – Videoconference Meeting

June 14 -- NET

August 30 -- NET

November 29 -- NET

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Bates
Secretary