

Minutes of Meeting #436
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center
1800 No. 33rd Street
Lincoln, Nebraska
November 29, 2012

PRESENT: Commissioner Dennis Baack
Commissioner Roger Breed
Commissioner Kim Dinsdale
Commissioner Fred Ohles
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker
Commissioner Clay Smith
Commissioner Darlene Starman
Commissioner Dara Troutman

ABSENT: Commissioner Ken Bird
Commissioner Stan Carpenter
Commissioner Steve Seline

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 Dick Shoemaker called meeting #436 to order at 9:37 a.m.

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

Chair Shoemaker called for public comment. There was none.

Chair Shoemaker next requested approval of the minutes of meeting #435 as held on August 30, 2012. It was moved by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Ohles to accept minutes of meeting #435 as presented. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Commissioners Breed, Dinsdale, Ohles, Shoemaker, Smith, and Troutman. Abstained: Commissioner Starman; Absent: Commissioners Baack, Bird, Carpenter, Seline.

Commissioner Baack joined the meeting in progress at 9:42 a.m.

AGM-Administration & Finance Randy Hansen reviewed the 1st quarter budget report for period ending September 30, 2012 for both the Television and Radio Divisions. It was moved by Commissioner Ohles and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the 1st quarter budget reports as presented and attached to the minutes. Following discussion, roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Commissioners Baack, Breed, Dinsdale, Ohles, Shoemaker, Smith, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Commissioners Bird, Carpenter, Seline.

AGM-Administration & Finance Hansen next presented the BKD LLP Independent Auditors' report for June 30, 2012. BKD performed the audit of the combined statements for the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission, the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission Facilities Corporation and the NET Foundation for Radio. The period included in

the audit was the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. It was moved by Commissioner Breed and seconded by Commissioner Baack that the Commission accept and place on file the BKD LLP report on the Commission's combined financial statements and related management letter for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. Following discussion, roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Commissioners Baack, Breed, Dinsdale, Ohles, Shoemaker, Smith, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Commissioners Bird, Carpenter, Seline.

AGM-Administration & Finance Hansen reviewed the transfer of NETC fixed assets at Lincoln Air Park facility to the University of Nebraska. As previously reported, NET saved annual operational funds and maximized efficiencies by shutting down facilities and operations at the NET Lincoln Air Park site and consolidating those services at the Carpenter-McBride Telecommunications Center. Further savings were realized by reaching an agreement with UNL Computing to take over the lease and maintenance of the site, as well as the physical property located on the site. This recommended action completes those transactions by having the Commission formally approve the sale of remaining physical property to the University of Nebraska for one dollar. The fully depreciated UPS unit at the site will be treated as NETC surplus property prior to this transfer. UNL Computing has agreed to dispose of this UPS unit without further cost to the NETC. The remaining property consists of 1) antenna tower (approximately 75 feet; 2) two equipment buildings; 3) backup generator; 4) two air conditioners (primary and backup); and 5) fence surrounding the property. Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Baack and seconded by Commissioner Starman that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission authorizes staff to sell and transfer all remaining physical property located on the Lincoln Air Park site formerly leased by the NETC to the University of Nebraska. Roll call vote was recorded as followings: voting aye: Commissioners Baack, Breed, Dinsdale, Ohles, Shoemaker, Smith, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Commissioners Bird, Carpenter, Seline.

Jeff Beckman presented a NET Foundations for Television and Radio report including goals for five year plan for FY13 to FY 17. The goals include increase major giving (non-transactional) revenue; raise \$4 million annually by FY17; increase Television grant to \$1.5 million by FY 17; and, increase overall membership to 32,500 by FY 17.

David Feingold, NET AGM-Content summarized programming activities for both radio and television. A new *Nebraska Stories* will feature a short sample of *Casting Call to Curtain Call*, a one hour program that goes behind the scenes as it stages a version of the holiday classic "A Christmas Carol". December will feature holiday specials on both television and radio.

AGM-Engineering Stacey Decker reported that the request to use 309 funds to remodel the lower level of the Terry M. Carpenter and Jack G. McBride Nebraska Educational Telecommunications building was approved. His staff has been working with RDG Planning and Design to develop a design to accomplish the goal to create a more collaborative environment for technical staff to work across sections. This will strengthen NET's Information Services and Information Technology departments. Completion date is set for April 2013. He also reported on the FCC spectrum incentive actions, channel sharing and repacking in which television stations may voluntarily relinquish their spectrum to the FCC in exchange for a share of the auction proceeds.

Commissioner Smith left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

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.

AGM-Education Gary Targoff presented an Education Services report that included the NET virtual learning library. He also highlighted activities in interactive and educational media,

community engagement and the State of Education in Nebraska. NET has received two media kits for use in pilot schools to introduce the Ready to Learn program. The two schools who will participate in this pilot are Auburn and Clarkson-Howell. He indicated that a mission of public broadcasting is out of school learning to keep children from falling behind in their education during summer and other school breaks.

Secretary Bates indicated that Curt Frye, President of Wayne State College has been appointed by Governor Heineman as the representative of the state colleges effective January 1, 2013.

The Secretary gave additional background information regarding a bill passed by Congress, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2013, which authorized a spectrum incentive for television stations. The FCC and Congress are hoping to gain additional broadcast spectrum for use in reallocating for wireless broadband use.

He next gave a legislative update regarding appropriations overview and education overview. A Leadership Council has increased its membership and continues to grow. The purpose of the Leadership Council is to communicate the value of local public broadcasting stations to their community and their federal lawmakers.

The Public Media Summit will be held in Washington, D.C., February 24-26 with Dick Shoemaker designated as the NETC representative. Also attending with General Manager Bates will be NET staff members Stacey Decker and Ron Hull.

Nancy Finken, NET Radio Network Manager, explained how the Community Service Grant (CSG) process works and how it relates to Nebraska public radio.

Chairman Shoemaker appointed the following Commissioners to serve on the nominating committee which will recommend to the NET Commission a slate of officers for the 2013 calendar year: Commissioner Shoemaker, Chair of the committee, and Commissioners Breed and Starman.

The Chairman appointed Commissioner Seline to be the lay representative to the Association of Public Television Stations (APTS) representing the Commission. He replaces former Commissioner Dennis Miller. Commissioner Clay Smith is the 2nd lay representative to APTS for the NETC.

Chairman Shoemaker presented the following resolution for former NET staff member:

- WHEREAS Bill Clark has long been an effective proponent for education via Television, and he began his career with the Nebraska Council for Educational Television in the late 1960's, and;
- WHEREAS he was an experienced and excellent engineer that traveled the length and breadth of Nebraska ensuring that the students and teachers in myriad schools scattered across the state had excellent educational television reception, and;
- WHEREAS in 1972 he joined the staff of NET as Supervisor of the broadcast operations of the Nebraska Panhandle transmitter, KTNE-TV which he successfully managed until his retirement in 2010, and;
- WHEREAS it should be recognized that Bill Clark was deeply dedicated to and supportive of the network educational services and for decades was a strong and influential advocate for public broadcasting in the western part of our state, and;
- WHEREAS his commitment, advocacy, professionalism and consistent goal of providing the best service possible to the schools and homes of the Panhandle distinguishes him among the early people who have been the builders of NET and the educational institution it has become.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission hereby:
- Proudly recognizes his many contributions to the quantity and quality of program services now available to Nebraskans of all ages, background and statewide locations, and;
 - Expresses its deepest and most sincere gratitude to Bill Clark for his service to Nebraska educational and public telecommunications.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED in public meeting on the 29th of November, 2012 at the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Richard Shoemaker
Chairman

Ken Bird
Vice-Chairman

It was moved by Breed and seconded by Starman to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by unanimous acclamation.

The Chairman next presented a resolution for Commissioner Stan Carpenter as follows:

- WHEREAS Dr. Stan Carpenter was appointed to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications by Governor Mike Johanns on September 9, 2003, replacing Commissioner Sheila Stearns, and reappointed by Governor Johanns for a four year term on January 9, 2005, and reappointed for an additional four year term by Governor Dave Heineman on January 12, 2009, and;
- WHEREAS Stan effectively provided leadership to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission as Chairman, 2008 and 2009, and Vice Chairman, 2007, and;
- WHEREAS He has been a most effective Commissioner during his terms in a variety of significant capacities and roles, including the Finance Committee,
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission hereby:
- Expresses its deepest and most sincere gratitude to Chancellor Carpenter for his continuous service to Nebraska educational and public telecommunications;
 - Acknowledges with pride his advocacy, leadership, persistence and dedication in furtherance of Nebraska public telecommunications;
 - Wishes Stan Carpenter our best in the years ahead.

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Richard Shoemaker
Chairman

Ken Bird
Vice-Chairman

It was moved by Breed and seconded by Ohles to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by unanimous acclamation.

It was moved by Commissioner Troutman and seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission go into closed session as authorized by Section 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Nebraska for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to personnel matters involving members of the staff. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: voting aye: Baack, Breed, Dinsdale, Ohles, Shoemaker, Starman and Troutman. Absent: Bird, Carpenter, Seline, Smith. Commissioner Troutman left the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Commissioners went into closed session at 11:29 a.m.

Executive Session and General Session adjourned at 11:44 a.m. by acclamation of members.

Future meetings for 2013:

February 7, 2013 (Videoconference Meeting)

May 2 – NET

June 20 – NET

August 22 – NET

December 5 – NET

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Bates, Secretary