

Minutes of Meeting #440
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center
1800 No. 33rd Street
Lincoln, Nebraska
December 5, 2013

PRESENT: Commissioner Dennis Baack
Commissioner Ken Bird
Commissioner Curt Frye
Commissioner Fred Ohles
Commissioner Steve Seline
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker
Commissioner Clay Smith
Commissioner Dara Troutman

ABSENT: Commissioner Kim Dinsdale
Commissioner Darlene Starman
Commissioner Scott Swisher

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 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 Ken Bird called meeting #440 to order at 9:40 a.m.

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

The Chair called for public comment. There was none.

The Chair next requested approval of the minutes of meeting #439 as held on August 22, 2013 with the correction that Meeting #439 adjourned at 11:12 A.M. It was moved by Commissioner Ohles and seconded by Commissioner Baack to accept minutes of meeting #439 as corrected. Motion was approved by acclamation.

AGM-Administration & Finance Randy Hansen presented the 1st quarter budget report for period ending September 30, 2013 for both the Television and Radio Divisions. The Finance Committee met prior to the meeting to review the report in greater detail. It was moved by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Frye to approve the 1st quarter budget reports as presented and attached to the minutes. Motion was approved by acclamation.

AGM-Administration & Finance Hansen reviewed the BKD LLP Independent Auditors' Report for June 30, 2013. 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 Television & Radio. The period included in the audit was the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. It was moved by Commissioner Shoemaker and seconded by Commissioner Frye 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, 2013. Discussion followed. Motion approved by acclamation.

AGM-Operations Michael Winkle next presented the proposed changes to the NETC Statutes. Present NETC statutes contain many technical and programmatic references that are inaccurate or out-of-date. The Appropriations Committee staff recommended that NETC's statutes should be updated and approved by the Legislature in the next session. Included in the revisions is 79-1316 that cleans up the requirement for an Omaha production center. NET requested and received a letter of support from UNO Chancellor Christensen for this change. It was moved by Commissioner Seline and seconded by Commissioner Smith that the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission approve the changes to the NETC statutes as presented and authorizes staff to request a Senator willing to sponsor and introduce a legislative bill to authorize proposed changes in the 2014 Legislative session.

Chairman Bird appointed the following Commissioners to serve on the Nominating Committee which will recommend to the NET Commission a slate of officers for the 2014 calendar year: Commissioner Bird as chair of the committee and Commissioners Shoemaker and Seline.

Chairman Bird departed the meeting at 10:28 a.m. and Vice Chairman Clay Smith assumed the chair.

Assistant General Manager-Content David Feingold reviewed activities of NET Television and Radio including Husker Volleyball and NSAA Championships. Off-line editing has begun on another important new documentary, *Growing up Gambling*, which shows how technology has taken over gambling. Nebraska Health and Human Services has provided major funding for this project.

UNO Television Assistant General Manager Jim Adams indicated that KVNO recently hired a new Development Manager, Gina Saitta who is developing a new fundraising model. Following are some of the programs aired on either NET 1 or NET 2: Consider This, ICU Learning English, and The Omaha News.

Assistant General Manager-Education Gary Targoff reported on Education Services. He and General Manager Mark Leonard met with members of the Legislative Fiscal Office at their request to discuss NET's potential role in a statewide virtual delivery system for education. Emphasis was placed on the NET Virtual Learning Library, educational content creation and procurement, and streaming capabilities. Approximately 600 children ages 3-5 and their families recently participated in a Ready to Learn (RTL) event in Fremont that included 10 interactive educational stations. RTL Fremont is a partnership between NET Learning Services, Nebraska Department of Education/Office of Early Childhood and the Fremont Early Childhood Collaboration.

Secretary Mark Leonard reviewed his first four months as General Manager at NET that included meetings with State Senators, Governor Heineman, Mayor Beutler, NET Foundation Board of Directors, and travel to attend a Fall Planning meeting in Arizona for OSBE (Organization of State Broadcasting Executives) and to Washington, D.C. for APTS (Association of Public Television Stations) meeting. He also attended a PBS (Public Broadcasting Stations) Communications Advisory Council meeting and the PMBA (Public Media Business Association) Board Meeting in D.C.

He indicated that an offer has been made and accepted by Debbie Hamlett for the AGM-Development position. She will begin employment at NET February 2, 2014. The AGM-

Technology position vacated by Stacey Decker will be advertised in the near future. Bob Huber, Engineering Director is filling in as interim AGM-Technology at this time.

The Secretary reported that Lincoln Rotary Club #14 has announced that Ron Hull will be honored as the 2014 Nebraskan of the Year. This luncheon event will be held on February 4, 2014 at the Embassy Suites, 11:30 – 1:00 pm. Commissioners are invited to attend and will be contacted prior to the event to confirm attendance.

AGM-Operations Michael Winkle presented the engineering report. PBS staff has completed the technical installation and integration phase for the PBS Diversity Project. The project has changed from NET serving as the PBS disaster recovery site to now operating as a full operations diversity site. This project is funded by PBS. Discussion followed regarding the UNO tower relocation that is presently situated on the UNO campus. NET continues to work with FCC regarding this issue.

The 2014 meeting schedule is confirmed as follows: February 20 (Videoconference meeting), June 19, August 28 and December 4.

Being no further business, Vice Chair Smith called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was moved by Frye and seconded by Baack to adjourn meeting #440 at 11:16 a.m. Motion approved by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Leonard, Secretary