

MINUTES

Oshkosh Cable Television Advisory Commission

REGULAR MEETING

November 7, 2007

The regular meeting of the Oshkosh Cable Television Advisory Commission was held at 4:00 p.m. on November 7, 2007 in Room 404 of City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Witte and roll call was taken. Present were members Mr. Rumlow, Mr. Bain, Mr. Kerkhof, and Mrs. Lowe. Also present was Jon Urben, Executive Director of Oshkosh Community Access Television and Bill Harke, Public Relations Director for Time Warner Cable.

Chairman Witte then asked for consideration of the minutes from the August 1, 2007, meeting. It was moved by Mr. Bain, seconded by Mrs. Lowe, that the minutes be approved with the date change noted. Motion carried unanimously.

Being that there were no communications from cable subscribers or the general public, Chairman Witte moved to the Report of the Franchisee.

Under Communications Chairman Witte noted that Mr. Urben had received an email complaint from Mr. Alan Lareau, 834 Starboard Court, Oshkosh. Mr. Urben summarized Mr. Lareau's complaint, in which he questioned Time Warner's addition of WWAZ-TV onto Channel 11 on the cable lineup. Mr. Urben noted he forwarded Mr. Lareau's complaint to Mr. Harke who noted the decision to add WWAZ was based on FCC "must-carry" provisions since WWAZ was a local television station in the Fond du Lac area that carried into TW's service area. As such, TW was obligated to carry WWAZ onto their cable system. Mr. Harke provided TW's response in an email that was shared with Mr. Lareau and the Commission. Mr. Urben thanked Mr. Harke for helping to answer Mr. Lareau's questions.

Chairman Witte then asked for the Report of the Franchisee. Under the Report of the Franchisee, Mr. Harke had the following updates:

- TW began a billing system integration;
- TW would begin offering HGTV and A & E "HD" channels November 14;
- The Telemundo channel would be offered on the digital tier;
- "Nick Gas" will become "N Network" on December 31;
- With the appropriate request from UW-Oshkosh officials TW will "open the pipe" to cablecast UW-Oshkosh's "AT Telethon" on November 3 at 4 p.m. onto the Neenah/Menasha cable loop (this came as a request from UWO);
- Big 10 Network seeks to negotiate nationally with TW to place the channel on their systems—they seek \$1.10 per sub/month, making it the 3rd highest offering TW offers. He noted he did not expect TW to meet Big 10 Network's demands and did not expect the channel to be on TW in the short term.

Chairman Witte then asked for the Report of OCAT and any news from the non-profit "Friends of OCAT" group. Mr. Urben noted the following:

- OCAT has formally changed it's name to Oshkosh Community Media Services (OCMS) with signage changes being implemented throughout the facility;
- The Friends of OCAT (in response to the OCMS name change) also formally changed their name to the Friends of Oshkosh Community Media;
- Media Services hopes to launch video streaming (beginning with archived meetings and municipal series) in early 2008 on it's new website address: www.OshkoshCommunityMedia.org. Until the new site is launched the address will point back to the current site: www.OCATonline.com Mr. Urben noted that sometime after the initial launch Media Services hopes to host live video streaming of meetings as well.
- Finally, Mr. Urben noted he would like to thank the Friends of OCM for the wonderful 20th Anniversary Celebration Event the Friends hosted in honor of OCAT's 20th Anniversary on Friday, November 2 at the Algoma Room. Over 150 persons representing supporters, volunteers, donors and staff were invited to participate. The event was a huge success. He noted the program was videotaped and would be replayed on both CATV 2 and CitiCable 10 in coming weeks.

Chairman Witte then asked for any Unfinished Business. Mr. Urben noted that the Senate and Assembly have now passed the Video Franchising Bill (AB 207/SB 107). The final bill now goes to the governor in mid-December for his consideration. All signs indicate he supports the bill. Mr. Urben noted that sadly, none of the IL state bill provisions were adopted into the WI bill. Mr. Urben noted the new bill retains the franchise fee funding cities receive from video service providers (like TW currently) but eliminates OCMS capital funding (about \$80K from TW currently) after 3 years. He also notes there are still major PEG channel concerns in the bill on items such as PEG channel placement, PEG signal transmission costs to video service providers, quality standards for PEG channel signals and more. Mr. Urben noted he would be meeting with city staff, legal counsel and state/national counterparts in coming weeks to evaluate the full impact of the state bill provisions on OCMS.

There being no New Business, Chairman Witte then noted the next Commission meeting would be Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at 4 p.m. Upon motion by Mr. Bain, seconded by Mr. Rumlow, the Commission adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon G. Urben

Jon G. Urben
Media Services Director
City of Oshkosh

cc: Mr. John Fitzpatrick
Mr. Bill Harkey