

# **Eureka County Television District**

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## **BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY TELEVISION DISTRICT**

January 15, 2021

### **Minutes**

#### **I. Call to order (For Possible Action)**

- a. Roll Call-Establish Quorum Meeting was called to order by President Leppala. Quorum was established with 3 members present.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance Pledge of allegiance was led by Member E. Brown.
- c. Approve meeting agenda as presented or make changed as needed. Motion to approve agenda was made by E. Brown to approve the agenda and seconded by R. Klatt. Vote 3-0 to approve.

#### **II. Public Comment and Discussion**

E. Brown asked if the Board needs to advertise in order to accept letters of intent for members of the Board. Leslie told the Board that the positions have been made on Facebook and postings have been made at the Post Office in Eureka and at the Senior Citizen Meeting Center. The position of Board secretary needs to be posted.

Citizen Moylan asked if the qualification and duties for the position of secretary needs to be posted? President Leppala indicated that that was critical.

#### **III. Approval of minutes of last meeting**

*Minutes for November and December 2020 were presented. Motion was made by E. Brown, seconded by R. Klatt to approve. Vote 3-0*

#### **IV. Discussion/Action Items**

- a) Presentation by Eagle Communications of progress and plans. This includes a status report for migration to fiber at Prospect as well as discussion about internet provider for Argenta.

*Paden told the Board that they are still waiting on the connection for Prospect The company has given a tentative date of Feb 19 for installation completion. President Leppala asked if this was a date they could count on since dates have come and gone in the past. Paden indicated that this was their latest date. He is looking into possibilities for Argenta connection. Entities are not certain who owns the resources. Bart from Lander County indicated that currently there is an entity that is putting something on the tower at Battle Mountain. He asked if the District needs to go through someone else to get internet? Paden said he is working on getting permissions now.*

*President Leppala asked if Paden would need help from the Board as in a letter to indicate the urgency of the work. That may be needed, but at this point it may not help. Prospect is connected, he is waiting for the Reno end to complete their side. Paden was asked if he needed assistance connecting with Lander officials. He was given names to contact so that he could work out the details.*

- b) Discuss replacing Leslie Lotspeich as secretary of the TV District. Leslie has indicated that she will not be able to perform services after May of 2021. *The position will need to be posted. Advertising will need to be posted around Eureka so that a new person could be added to the Board before the opening.*
- c) Sign contract with Humboldt County for Fiber services. The DA from Humboldt County is requesting a formal contract with Eureka Television District in place of the MOU that has been in place. *Humboldt County contacted Leslie and requested that the Board approve a written, signed MOU with the County. President Leppala requested a motion to sign the contract. Member Brown motioned to accept and sign the MOU with Member Klatt seconding the motion. Vote was 3-0 to approve. President Leppala indicated that his name was spelled wrong, he corrected this. The contract was signed.*
- d) Discuss vacancies on the Board. There are two openings. *Jim Breitrick resigned from the Board, Joe Whimple, a citizen of Eureka County and Tracy Moylan a citizen of Crescent Valley submitted letters of interest for the open positions. President Leppala asked for a motion to accept these interested citizens. Member Klatt motioned to place both citizens to the Board with Member Brown seconding. Vote was 3-0 to approve. A short discussion was held about duties of Board members. Reporting of potential problems was discussed. Both nominees were told to contact the County clerk in order to complete an oath of office.*
- e) Review of budget progress. Discussion of goals for 21-22. Discussion of budget priorities for the coming fiscal year. A preliminary budget will need to be presented to the County Commissioners on Feb 4 for review. *The Preliminary Budget will be presented to the County Commissioners. Rent on Mary's will be discussed. The Board discussed that Mary's is critical due to the need for redundancy in the signal. Paden indicated that he could probably replace major equipment failures with used equipment. Because Elko abandoned the old equipment, there are some spares available. Keeping this site in place for at least another year is critical for continued service. The contract with BLM for Mary's rent is year to year.*  
  
*Paden is exploring a different redundant connection through Argenta and Elko for each entity. Currently, the problem is that there is no connection at all.*  
  
*The budget that will be presented represents a reduction in overall budget. Leslie reviewed the amounts in each area. Reductions represents lessor costs needed due to less costs.*  
  
*Leslie will send this budget with corrections to the Comptrollers Office and then President Leppala will present to the County Commissioners.*
- f) Expense Report *No additional improvements need to take place at this time. President Leppala asked if the County has worked to update their batteries that failed at an earlier date. Paden was not aware of any changes that had occurred. Motion to approve the Expense report was made by Member Whimple and seconded by Member Moylan. Vote was 5-0 to approve.*

Eagle Communications:       \$3000.00 maintenance agreement (January)  
   \$1825.00 Gen monitor for Tank Hill  
 Elko Television District:     \$982.30 (January)  
 Humboldt County Television District:     \$ 823.04 (Fiber service to Humboldt County) (January)  
 Leslie Lotspeich:            \$1500. Administrative Duties (January)  
 Any other bills received after the agenda was posted. (A list of bills and supporting documents will be submitted to the Board at the meeting).

**V. Maintenance Report (For Discussion Only)**

- a) Mary's Mountain
- b) White Pine County Feed and Programming

- c) Argenta Peak
- d) Tank Hill
- e) Prospect Peak
- f) Fiber Delivery

VI. **Discussion and possible approval of additional work, equipment & improvements at various sites –**  
*None at this time.*

VII. **Old Business** *None at this time.*

VIII. **New Business** *None at this time.*

IX. **Public Comment** *Member Klatt said that a citizen approached and asked if they could receive radio channels again like had occurred in the past. Members were told that following the “repack” of the signals the channels were not available. Member Klatt was also told that the rules involving radio channels had changed and required that broadcasting was not available. Paden explained that in 2012 or 2011 they were required to shut down the stations. President Leppala explained that because of lost equipment, licenses were eliminated.*

*President Leppala asked Leslie for a comment regarding Leslie’s status as a county employee. Leslie explained that she is an at will employee and there is no contract. Kim has asked if the next person can have a contract. President Leppala said he will have a discussion with T. Beuctell regarding the necessity of having a written contract. In the past, agreements have been adequate.*

*E. Brown mentioned that he had received an e-mail saying that the County was involved with Sky Fiber. Sky Fiber has created a path by going to another site and then to the mine without going through the TV District site. The services that they provide to the County are with a contract with the TV District for use of the Tower.*

X. **Adjournment** *Member Brown made a motion to adjourn.*