



## **Board of Directors Regular Meeting**

**April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at 6:00 pm**

**LCATV & via Zoom**

**63 Creek Farm Plaza, Suite 3, Colchester, Vermont 05446**

**Board of Directors in Attendance:** Dirk Reith (DR), Greg Drew (GD), Curt Taylor (CT), Jeff Hathaway (JH)

**Staff in Attendance:** Kevin Christopher (KC), Michael Wright (MW)

**1. Call to Order by Chair DR at 6:07 PM.**

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion by GD to approve the agenda, second by CT, passed unanimously.**

**3. Public / Board Members / Staff Comments**

No Comments

**4. Approve Minutes of 2/12/24**

**Motion by CT to approve minutes of 12/18/2024, second by DR, passed unanimously.**

**5. Executive Director's Report**

KC stated LCATV will be doing a live stream of the eclipse from Bay Side Park in Colchester. The coverage will include an interview with a local astronomer. Rusty Baldwin will be interviewing people.

The new studio cameras have arrived. The cameras are HD but there have been problems with Comcast implementation of HD.

KC also mentioned that a local band would like to use the studio to record a collection of songs. He asked for board approval and considerations of what might be charged. KC proposed \$60 an hour. After some discussion the Board decided to move forward and determine if there are any accounting problems with charging for the use of the studio.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

JH was not in attendance, so KC reported. One of the CDs at The Bank of Burlington has been moved into checking to receive a higher interest rate. Another is coming due soon. We have received \$8k in interest so far this year. JH joined by zoom to confirm KC report.

**7. Old Business**

**a. FCC & Legislative Status Update**

KC stated that there was nothing to report from the FCC. On the legislative side there has not been a resolution to the issue of continued financing for Access Media Organizations (AMO) as PEG fee revenues continue to decline. The pole attachment fee that is part of a bill considered by the House Ways & Means committee was pulled out of the bill. The Senate passed a Streaming Tax as a way to support AMOs and sent

the proposal back to the House where it is being considered. The plan is to take \$3 million of the revenues from the tax and route it to Vermont Access Network (VAN) to divvy out to the various organizations. VAN is supporting the move.

The House Appropriations committee has \$1 million in the FY2025 budget to go to VAN.

**b. Community Outreach & Engagement Plan**

KC will be reaching out to prospective Board members. DR suggested a student member without voting rights. DR said he would talk to some schools to see if there is any interest.

GD asked about our consultant's work. KC reported that it is pretty much done, but there is a little more in the budget if needed. The success of the Board member search portion has yet to be determined. Julia Andrews and KC have yet to reach out to the prospects they identified. The Community Engagement piece resulted in some new initiatives but did not reach a lot of people. The social media work has been ongoing, and the website is getting better.

**8. New Business**

**a. Use of LCATV Content – Discussion Item**

KC reported an unusual number of requests from candidates and others to use LCATV's content. Issues in Milton have resulted in people wanting to use LCTAV's recordings of public meetings. LCATV does not have a clear policy on how such content can be used and at what cost.

After some discussion KC will investigate it further to see how this is handled by other AMO's and related businesses.

**b. The Van Lease**

The lease on the van will expire in May. Currently the only alternative from the same dealer is a plugin hybrid. There are loans available for used vans, but Goss Dodge does not have any appropriate vehicles available now.

There is also the option of purchasing the current van for about \$16k. GD asked if it is possible to extend the lease. KC will look into it. The current van is a 2021 with 8,600 miles.

CT mentioned that the Colchester town offices have installed a charger. After more discussion, KC will talk to the property manager about installing a charger, and CT will contact Green Mountain Power to see if they are interested in installing an EV charger.

**c. The LCATV Retreat**

The retreat is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>. KC asked if there should be a business meeting and when it should start. The Board settled on 10:00 AM as a start time and the retreat will include a short business meeting, if needed.

**9. Executive Session (if needed)**

Not needed.

**10. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn by CT, second by GD, passed unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM**

DRAFT Respectfully submitted by Curt Taylor – Secretary on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

FINAL approved at 5-17-2024 meeting. Submitted July 31<sup>st</sup> 2024