

OWOSSO CABLE ACCESS ADVISORY COMMISSION

AUGUST 10, 2009

5:03 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: VICE CHAIRPERSON MICHAEL TILLOTSON AND
CHAIRPERSON JAMES GUTTING

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: COMMISSIONER EDDIE URBAN

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Michael Tillotson, Commissioners Hardwick, Perry,
Urban, and Chairperson James Gutting.

ABSENT: Commissioner Jack Johnson.

SET TIME LIMIT AND RE-AFFIRM RULES OF CONDUCT

Motion by Commissioner Urban to set the time limit of 1 hour.

Motion supported by Commissioner Perry and concurred in by unanimous vote.

APPROVE AGENDA

The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 13, 2009

Motion by Commissioner Urban to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 13, 2009 as presented.

Motion supported by Commissioner Perry and concurred in by unanimous vote.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

None.

Chairperson Gutting reviewed letters submitted by residents of the area regarding potential changes to Channel 3. The following people submitted letters in support of the Christian programming on Channel 3: Esther Dodson, Edward Tyler, and Debbie Depew.

Chairperson Gutting attempted to dispel rumors that Christian programming would be removed from Channel 3, indicating Christian programming will continue to be a part of programming in the future. He also indicated he hoped other interests could also find airtime on Channel 3 or possibly Channel 16.

There was discussion regarding allegations of discrimination. It was noted that interested parties may have a program played by the City on Wednesdays, those desiring play Thursday through Tuesday must submit programming to KoK or OCTS. It was also noted each organization has its own criteria and standards for playback.

Commissioner Hardwick inquired when the City will be taking over all playback responsibilities indicating the transfer would solve the issues discussed above. The Commission will be discussing the purchase of equipment to facilitate playback and thus make the transition possible.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Chairperson Gutting introduced the topic indicating the purpose of tonight's meeting was to assemble a list of specifications that would best serve the City's needs and would enable the City to go out for bids for the purchase of a cable broadcasting system.

There was discussion regarding concern with the time needed to monitor a broadcast system, concern with the amount of time it takes to transfer files from DVD to hard drive, the potential hire of someone to monitor the system and upload programming, using college interns to monitor the system, moving away from DVD/VHS players to hard drive sources, remote control of the system, establishing the capability of broadcasting live, and providing content on the internet.

The Commission developed the following requirements for the potential system:

- Provide default programming in case of program interruption
- Web on demand capabilities
- Capable of producing a programming schedule
- Capable of remote control
- Capable of controlling DVD/VHS players
- Capable of controlling two channels
- Have bulletin board software
- Drag and drop program scheduling

There was concern expressed over attaching ourselves to one particular vendor and the complexity of the systems proposed.

It was agreed to hold a special meeting Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at 5:00 pm to view product demonstrations from Leightronix and Softron.

There was a brief discussion regarding hiccups in the OCTS broadcast. It was noted some of their equipment was new and bugs were being worked out of the system.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Rebecca Malek asked if there would be any information on the systems that could be previewed ahead of time. It was noted both companies have demos on their website.

City Liaison Amy K. Kohagen indicated she had spoken with the government affairs employee at Charter Communications regarding the rebroadcast of WJSZ's transmission on the City's bulletin board channel. The employee had stated according to their records WJSZ had donated the equipment necessary for the retransmission, implicitly giving their permission to do so. Further, the Charter legal department was consulted and indicated they had no issue with the rebroadcast of the WJSZ signal over Charter bandwidth.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Urban for adjournment at 6:10 p.m.

Motion supported by Vice Chairperson Tillotson and concurred in by unanimous vote.

Amy K. Kohagen, City Clerk