

**CHAMPAIGN-URBANA CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
STUDY SESSION**

MINUTES

DATE: July 6, 2000
Thursday, 7:00 A.M.

PLACE: Champaign City Building
102 N. Neil
Champaign, IL 61820

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT:</u>	<u>City of Champaign</u>	<u>City of Urbana</u>
	Tom Bruno	John Peterson Barbara Gladney Carolyn Kearns Joe Wiedman

Parkland
Tom McDonnell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom O'Rourke
Brian Silverman
Jeff Newnam
George Badger – University of Illinois

STAFF PRESENT: Amy Rose

STAFF ABSENT: Steve Holz
Teri Legner

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Peterson called the regular Champaign-Urbana Joint Cable & Telecommunications Commission Meeting to order at 7:40 A.M.

The Commission discussed the waiver request made by AT & T to the FCC regarding the hybrid converter boxes. Steve Holz had sent Chairman Peterson a letter asking whether or not the issue needed to be placed on the upcoming business agenda. Chairman Peterson suggested that it should be on the agenda.

Chairman Peterson reported that he had a meeting with several people from the local public safety agencies, e.g. METCAD, and Champaign and Urbana Fire Departments. He indicated that WCIA would like to revisit the matter of emergency overrides on cable. It was acknowledged that the local cable override, that is system wide when activated by METCAD, may be used for other

community emergencies in addition to weather emergencies. An example might be for a local haz mat emergency or a local train derailment. Chairman Peterson indicated that the local stations may opt out of the NOAA weather bulletins in the future, not the METCAD alerts. These stations may already have their own local weather messages/alerts that they want to do instead of the NOAA alerts. A discussion of this item will be on the upcoming business agenda.

NATOA – Commissioner Gladney asked if anyone was interested in going to the NATOA conference there. No one has chosen to go yet.

The Commission discussed the possible system transfer. Commissioner Kearns noted that during the last transfer, there were many compliance issues to resolve. This time there should not be many compliance issues to address.

The Commission discussed Urbana's interest in entering into an agreement with Recovery Network to run additional programming (substance abuse) on Channel 6.

Forum – Chairman Peterson asked Commissioner Wiedman to assist him with planning another high speed internet access forum. One specific topic for discussion will be security. Additionally, Commissioners discussed the cable modem's poor performance to date.

Officer Elections – Chairman Peterson indicated that he would be interested in continuing on as Chairman. Commissioner Kearns suggested that Gladney continue on as Secretary. There was discussion about who might be interested in the Vice Chairman office.

Tom McDonnell noted that the Parkland Channel is interested in advertising the PEG channels on the other cable channels. They will produce the "commercial".

Commissioner Kearns noted that she recently called McLeod to get 8 phones installed. They were unable to do a quick installation for her. They suggested she go with Ameritech because they would be faster. She is concerned about the slow response from McLeod.

Amy Rose reported that UPTV has been airing "The Session" at 11 PM on Thursdays. The subject matter includes pre-concert and post-concert footage, use of drugs, and foul language. UPTV Public access rules do not prohibit this content. The UPTV runs a disclaimer before and after the show. Ms. Rose has passed on comments that she has received from the public to the show's producer. It is her opinion that the content has become less offensive than in the earlier shows.

The next regular meeting date will be July 19, 2000 at 7:00 PM in Urbana.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Teri L. Legner
Assistant to the City Manager

TLL:ssf

J:\CMO\ADM\CORRESPO\TLL\CABLE\July 6, 2000 SS min.doc