



**Telecommunications Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

**January 14th, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Location: 1818 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Main Building**

Commissioners Present: Jesse Drew, Jim Frame, Stephen McMahon, Zackary O'Donnell, Darrick Servis,

Commissioners Absent: Amy Slavich, Bob Kehr

Staff Present: Rick Guidara, Information Services Manager (Liaison)  
Robert Schulz, Media Services Specialist  
Samantha Wallace, Assistant Community Services Director



***Minutes in bold and italics***

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- 3:00 PM            **1. Welcome**
  - 3:05 PM            **2. Approve Agenda -*approved by consensus***
  - 3:10 PM            **3. Approve Minutes from 12/10/08 *approved by consensus***
  - 3:15 PM            **4. Commissioner/Staff Announcements – 1) *KMJE looking for antenna site south of City,*2) *DMA entered into a partnership with DOM (Denver Open Media) for help with developing tools for integrating public access centers with new media tools,* 3) *Change meeting time to 2:30-4:30?***
  
  - 3:30 PM            **5. Public Comments –*none***
  - 3:45 PM            **6. Standard Updates**
    - a. I-net (Rick Guidara/Bob Kehr) –*no change*
    - b. Pending City Telecomm Requests (Rick Guidara/Samantha Wallace)
      - *Comsites West scheduled for 2/11 Planning Commission*
      - *PEG yr end reports going to council 1/27*
      - *DMA and DJUSD have reached an agreement for DMA to provide for more of DJUSD’s PEG access*
    - c. Power Backup for DMA Building –*Perhaps a grant can be found to help with funding? Rick to mention to City grant Coordinator, others encourage to seek grant opportunities*
    - d. Update timelines/plans for Upcoming year:
      - Timeline**
      - June – Assessment Review –
      - July – General needs discussion
      - August – General needs discussion
      - September – General needs discussion
      - October-December: Public Forum on 11/13
      - January/march – Draft Staff report
      - April – Draft staff report to council
  
  - 4:00 PM            **7. Discussions:**
    - a. Update timeline (outlined in 6d above).
    - b. Discussion of Main Principles of the PEG/Franchise Fee use (Steve’s draft is attached)
      - *As part of the reporting back to City Council, discussed ways in which this process can help get better demonstrate what is being done with the franchise fee funding towards Community Access and public outreach by the public*
      - *Commission members noted that at the public forum held in November there was great public support for KDRT and asked if DMA would be seeking funding for KDRT through the cable franchise fees. The Executive Director of DMA indicated that they did not want to dilute the PEG fees towards KDRT at this time-*

*KDRT's underwriting programs have been successful in helping to support KDRT's efforts.*

- *There was general agreement on the desirability of pursuing a joint media server project, though technical and operations details remain to be worked out. especially with the new DOM partnership with DMA*
- *There was general agreement that a community media center facility, whether new or an enhancement of existing facilities (generator?), would be a good joint project to pursue after this year's budget work is complete (possibly using capital funding?)*

5:00 PM

**8. Adjourn**

- a. Proposed: Next Meeting: 2/11/09: **TIME CHANGE to 2:30-4:30** Location 1818 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - b. Potential topics for Next Meeting (TBD at meeting)
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Handed out by Steve McMahon during the previous meeting for discussion at this meeting:

**For Discussion**

**Proposition:** the City of Davis' spending on community communications is money well-spent and shows returns in community effectiveness and solidarity. It also encourages democracy and gives voice to many who might not otherwise be heard.

**Proposition:** The city has historically spent nearly all of its community communications funding on cable-casting. This made sense historically, because cable television was the only rich media available for community communications. The unfortunate side of this is that many citizens were not reached.

New avenues of communication have developed, particularly LPFM and the Internet and have received a high degree of support from local organizations and individuals. These can and are being developed in ways that encourage localism as well as cosmopolitanism.

Cable-casting will remain important, particularly for live events and communications requiring excellent video quality. They also have a dedicated capital-and-equipment funding stream that we should leverage for that purpose.

**Proposition:** Our community media organizations are well-poised to take advantage of new communications opportunities. They are well-organized and staffed and — where appropriate — take great advantage of volunteer work and community fundraising.

These organizations may be encouraged to take advantage of new media opportunities without significant funding or staffing changes.

**Proposition:** The community communication priorities discussed by the Telecommunications Commission give us a good way to evaluate and justify community communication efforts when they are not strictly oriented to cable-casting.

**Proposition:** Funding for community media is tight given the needs, and will remain so. We need to spend it as well as possible. In particular, every organization should be encouraged to share facilities, equipment and staffing whenever possible.

Steve McMahon  
December 10, 2008

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