**Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission**
**Regular Meeting**                    www.ci.austin.tx.us/telcommission

# Minutes
**Wednesday – February 9, 2011**

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| **Please go to** http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm **for backup material associated with this agenda.** |
| *All Channel 6 programming is cablecast on Time Warner and Grande cable channel 6, AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and webcast online. Over 20 meetings per month, including this commission meeting, are available on demand online, typically within a few hours of cablecast. Schedules and video at:* ***http://www.cityofaustin.org/channel6*** |

**Current Commission Members:**

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|---|---|
| Kedron Touvell, Chair | Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair |
| Wendell Ramsey | Lemuel Williams, Jr. |
| Randall Kolb | Melvin White |
| Elizabeth Quintanilla | |

The following items are posted for discussion and possible action.

1. **Call to order – February 9, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.**

   Commission members in attendance:
   Kedron Touvell, Chair
   Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair
   Wendell Ramsey
   Lemuel Williams, Jr.
   Randall Kolb

   Commission members absent
   Melvin White

   City Staff in attendance
   Paul Lewis
   John Speirs
   Jane Reina

2. **Adoption of agenda.**

   The agenda was adopted by consent of the Commission.

3. **Citizen Communication: General**

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

No citizens signed up for Citizen Communication.

4. **Approval of minutes – January 12, 2011 Commission Regular Meeting**

   **<u>The minutes from the Commission regular meeting of January 12, 2011 was approved on Commission Rosenthal's motion; Commissioner Kolb's second on a vote of 6-0-0. (Commissioner White absent).</u>**

5. **Invited Presentations**

   a. Presentation from Austin Connects (Sheena Harden?) (wp3)

      Sheena Harden, Director of Communications for Austin Free-Net presented a Power Point presentation. Austin Connects is a partnership between the City of Austin, Austin Free-Net and Skillpoint Alliance. The purpose is to proved information and opportunities for local professionals in support of their programs that provide digital literacy and inclusion. Austin Connects 2nd Annual Community Technology Symposium will be held at AMD Lonestar Campus on March 1, 2011 which will include topics such as digital storytelling, engaging youth, public policy, community outreach and more. For more information please visit: http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=148012

   b. Presentation of Low Power Radio (Jim Ellinger) (wp3)

      Jim Ellinger of Austin Airwaves gave a presentation on the new Low Power Radio bill which passed congress last year. For more information visit: http://www.prometheusradio.org/

   c. Briefing from Planning & Development Review Department on adherence to the City of Austin's Telecommunications Tower Siting Ordinance. (Lynda Courtney, Discipline Lead over the Site Plan Review) (wp4 & 6)

      Lynda Courtney, with the City of Austin Planning & Development Review Department's update included overall requirement for siting towers; conditionally permitted towers (require land use commission approval) and administratively permitted towers. For presentation information please visit: http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=148011

6. **Staff Briefings**

   a. Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update. (Rondella Hawkins) (wp4)

      Paul Lewis, Assistant Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs report included: **2011 Texas Legislative** – possible changes to Railroad Commission duties; possible state enacting tax on satellite television; Texas SB 5 lawsuit; Universal Service Fund. **Federal Legislative** – CAP Act going to be reintroduced; SB 135 regarding Internet Tax Fairness Act; Cell Tax Fairness Act.

   b. Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) update. (John Speirs). (wp2)

John Speirs, Program Coordinator; with the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs GTOPs report included: No changes in 2010 grant cycle. The 2011 grants have been narrowed to 20 applicants out of 35 for oral presentations on February 17, 2011. February 24, 2011 final scores will be tabulated.  Grant Recommendations will be brought before Commission for approval on March 9, 2011.

c.  Technology Ascertainment Survey update. (Rondella Hawkins) (wp3)

Mr. Lewis reported that 15,000 Technology Ascertainment surveys were sent out with a response from 1,706 (11% response).  Final report target date is end of March 2011.
http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=148013

d.  Request for Proposal (RFP) on public access television management contact update. (Rondella Hawkins) (wp1)

Mr. Lewis reported the RFP on public access television management went out to the public on January 31, 2011; pre-proposed meeting was February 9, 2011; RFP closes on March 3, 2011; will be brought before this Commission on April 13, 2011; new contract begins October 1, 2011.

Mr. Lewis also reported that the City of Austin's No Contact Ordinance states if you are a potential vendor participating in a RFP issued by the City you cannot have direct contact with a Council Member, or City Board or Commission member to discuss the RFP.  All discussion on the RFP needs to be directed to the designated City Buyer which is Jeffery Dilbert at jeffery.dilbert@ci.austin.tx.us.

7.  **New Business**

a.  ChannelAustin quarterly update. (Linda Litowsky) (wp1)

Linda Litowsky, channelAustin Executive Director's update included channelAustin's orientation video which included a history of public access in Austin.
http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=148010

b.  Adoption of Revised By-Laws per Board & Commission revised ordinance.

**The Revised By-Laws of the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission per the Board & Commission revised ordinance were approved on Commissioner Williams' motion; Commissioner Quintanilla's second on a vote of 5-0-0. (Commissioner White absent)**

c.  Update reports on networking relationships with other boards/commissions and groups, citywide and Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission (ACT&TC) information items.

Commissioner Rosenthal and Quintanilla attended the Government 2.0 event January 29 at ACC and reported on the highlights of the event to the Commission. For more info visit:
www.unicom.com/blog.

Commissioner Quintanilla reported that at the Hispanic Chamber she now has a co-chair helping her with the Social Media efforts and will be attending a breakfast with Linda Watson, CEO of Cap Metro on February 10th.  Commissioner Quintanilla will be live Tweeting from that event. Her Twitter handle is equintanilla.  She is also helping create a social media outreach strategy for the Alliance of Public Transpiration.

Commissioner Touvell reported that Imagine Austin is having an orientation February 24th at City Hall and March 1st at One Texas Center.

8. **Discussion of agenda items for ACT&TC future meetings.**

Proposed items for the March 9, 2011 regular meeting agenda.

o Take action GTOPs recommendations
o Technology Ascertainment Survey update. (Paul Lewis) (wp3)
o Request for Proposal (RFP) on public access television management contact update. (Paul Lewis) (wp1)
o Austin Free-Net update (wp3)

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.