



Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission  
Regular Meeting [www.ci.austin.tx.us/telcommission](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/telcommission)

## MINUTES

Wednesday – September 14, 2011

Please go to [http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/cityclerk/boards\\_commissions/meetings/10\\_1.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm) for backup material associated with this agenda.

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### Current Commission Members:

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

### The following items are posted for discussion and possible action.

1. Call to order September 14, 2011 – 6:37 pm

#### Commission members in attendance:

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

#### City Staff in attendance

Rondella Hawkins  
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 general citizen communication.

4. Approval of minutes – June 8, 2011 Commission Regular Meeting

**The minutes from the Commission regular meeting of June 8, 2011 was approved on Commissioner Rosenthal's motion; Commissioner Williams' second. Motion passed on a vote of 6-0-0.**

5. Presentation on City's Web Redesign Project (AustinGO) (Stephen Elkins) (wp3)

This item was tabled.

6. Discussion and possible action on Commission activity related to the ongoing City of Austin website redesign (AustinGO) and open government initiatives. (Chip Rosenthal) (wp3)

Commissioner Rosenthal stated that this commission was invited to be a part of a community task force on the City of Austin website redesign. He attended the first meeting. Commissioners Ramsey and Williams stated they are interested in attending the task force meetings.

Commission Rosenthal stated that this task force group will be an informal process and a sounding board for the Council Committee on Emerging Technology not really part of the policy process.

7. Update from Public Access Community Television (channel Austin). (Linda Litowsky, Executive Director)(wp1)

Linda Litowsky, Executive Director and Dean Lofton, Marketing and Development Director of channelAustin presented the channelAustin update to the Commission with a DVD that showcased the work being done at channelAustin from January through August 2011 which also is the beginning of a documentarily on the beginning of public access in Austin.

Ms. Litowsky also gave an over view of the difference in the operations of the public access studios with the new contract coming October 1, 2011

8. Staff briefing on Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update. (Paul Lewis) (wp4)

Paul Lewis, Assistant Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs, Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update included: Cable/Video Issues; the Federal Community Access Preservation Act (CAP); Notice of Inquire (NOI); FCC Order on Pole Attachment Rules; SB 911; Moratorium on Internet Taxes and Electronic Commerce and the Cell Tax Fairness Act.

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=157860>

9. Staff briefing on public access tv management contract update. (Rondella Hawkins) (wp1)

Rondella Hawkins, Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs (TARA) presented a Power Point which included the differences between the past public access tv management contract and the new one. View the presentation at

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=157867>

10. Staff updated on Grant for Technology Opportunities Program. (GTOPs). (John Speirs)(wp2)

John Speirs, Program Coordinator with the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs reported that all GTOPs contracts are meeting their contractual obligations.

He provided the Commission with the GTOP's 2012 recommendations from staff with a power point.

11. Discussion and possible action on GTOPs Review Task Force recommendations. (Lemuel Williams) (wp2)

Commissioner Williams gave the Commission an overview of the recommendations proposed from the GTOPs 2012 Review Task Force which included the process, application and timelines.

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=157977>

<http://coacprod.coacd.org/cityclerk/bcic/attachments/10/2230/2012Recommendations.pdf>

<http://coacprod.coacd.org/cityclerk/bcic/attachments/10/2230/GTOPsApp.2012.PDF>

**Motion to accept the recommendations from the 2012 Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) Review Task Force was made on Commissioner Rosenthal's motion; Commissioner White's second. Motion passed on a vote of 6-0-0.**

12. Discussion on the Austin Internet and Global Citizens Project, a residential technology survey conducted in partnership between the City of Austin and the University of Texas Department of Radio, Television & Film. (Chip Rosenthal)(wp3)

**Motion to form a Technology Survey Task Force consisting of Commissioners Quintanilla, White and Rosenthal, that would offer recommendations for the use of information gathered in the Austin Internet and Global Citizen Project residential technology survey, was approved on Commissioner Touvell's motion; Commissioner Ramsey's second. Motion passed on a vote 6-0-0.**

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

Commissioner Quintanilla reported Austin Start-Up Week brought a large group of people that are considering moving to Austin.

Commissioner Rosenthal stated he gave the quarterly update to the Council Committee on Emerging Technology last month.

Ms. Hawkins invited the Commission to attend the Annual Texas Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (TATOA) conference scheduled for October 27 & 28, 2011 at the Marriott Courtyard Downtown Austin.

Ms. Hawkins also announced she nominated the Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network (GAATN) for the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA's) Community Broadband award and it was selected as the Community Broadband Organization of the Year and will be awarded at NATOA's Annual Conference in September

14. Discussion of agenda items for ACT&TC future meetings.

Item for the October 12, 2011 Workplan Retreat:

- o Election of Commission Officers
- o Review the accomplishments of the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission Workplan for FY 2011.

- o Develop the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission Workplan for FY 2012

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm