



**Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission
Regular Meeting** <http://www.austintexas.gov/cttcc>

MINUTES

January 9, 2013

City Hall – Austin, Texas

Please go to <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/boards-and-commissions-information-center> 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.austintexas.gov/department/channel-6>

Current Commission Members:

Lemuel Williams, Jr., Chair	Elizabeth Quintanilla, Vice Chair
Wendell Ramsey	Chip Rosenthal
Melvin White	VACANT POSITION
VACANT POSITION	

The following items are posted for discussion and possible action.

1. Call to order – January 9, 2013 - 6:38 p.m.

Commission members in attendance:

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

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 – December 12, 2012 Commission Regular Meeting.

The minutes from the Commission regular meeting of December 12, 2012 was approved on Commissioner Rosenthal's motion; Commissioner White's second on a vote of 5-0-0.

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=182017>

5. Staff presentation on Public, Educational and Government (PEG) capital funding received by the City.

Rondella Hawkins, City of Austin Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs Officer gave an overview of the capital funding received by the City of Austin.

6. Public comments on the use of PEG capital funding - moderated by Larry Schooler, Communications & Public Information Office

No citizens signed up for public comments.

7. Round table discussion with PEG channel managers on the use of PEG capital funding including projected short and long-term capital needs – moderated by Larry Schooler, Communications & Public Information Office

PEG management members in attendance:

- Linda Litowsky, Executive Director, Public Access Community Television (channelAustin)
- George Warmingham, Board Member, Public Access Community Television (channelAustin)
- Stefan Wray, Public Access Community Television (channelAustin)
- Keith Reeves, Manager, City Channel 6 (Austin Municipal Channel)
- Al Jackson, Manager, Travis County
- John Kennie, Manager, Austin Community College (ACC)
- Oscar Palomo, Coordinator Media Production, Austin Independent School District (AISD)
- Garry Wilkison, AISD

Current and future plans for PEG Equipment

ChannelAustin – facility expansion, increasing and enhancing classes, improving infrastructure of the building for technology improvements, software upgrades, mobile production truck for mobile classroom, joint facility.

Channel 6 - Overhaul of control room, Council chambers upgrade due to single member districts, more cameras, field production equipment and upgrades, control room and meeting rooms in new central library, office space.

Travis County - equipment for new post production and field production, equipment for a new broadcast meeting room, bigger server.

ACC - playback system, upgrade their whole analog system to digital, back up playback and operations facility.

AISSD - replace analog equipment with digital, replace and enhance studio capability, software upgrade.

Opportunities for sharing of equipment and/or facilities among the PEG entities

ChannelAustin - shared space in a large facility with several studios, space to rent out to create revenue for operations, share servers/server system.

Channel 6 - not sure, different mission statements.

Travis County - not sure, needs more specifics.

ACC- shared operation of facility.

AISSD - need to be large enough for groups to hold meeting, town hall events, centralized playback, could be workable.

Criteria for setting priorities on capital expenditures

ChannelAustin – mobile production van because when not in use for community it can be rented out by non-profits therefore we would receive fund that could be used for operations.

Channel 6 - Video equipment for Council meetings.

Travis County – broadcast room, field equipment, post production equipment

ACC - Equipment breaks before we get to replace

AISSD – Equipment breaks before we get to replace it.

Shared data center

ChannelAustin – would be great.

Channel 6 – brings up other issues, needs more info, not sure.

AISSD – would like to look in to this more before he could answer.

Capital funding availability

ChannelAustin – \$154,000 for this year. Each year it's different due to them being a non-profit dependent on annual City funding.

Channel 6 – Capital funds do not come from the City's general fund. It's on an as needed basis from PEG funds

Travis County – Capital is not part of their budget. It's on an as needed basis.

ACC – No capital set aside. It's on an as needed basis.

AIISD - Operating and capital budget \$250,000.

Overlap in viewership / alignment with other channel's missions

ChannelAustin – Viewership and users are overlapping with subject matter.

Channel 6 - Viewership is not overlapping.

Travis County – Viewership is unique to Travis County.

ACC – The opportunities for sharing operations are out there. Presently has joint relationship with AIISD and COA.

AIISD – Viewership is not overlapping.

Commissioner Ramsey asked how much staff they have.

AIISD – 4 full time.

Travis County – 4 full time.

Channel 6 – 6 full time, 3 part time.

Channel Austin - 9 full time, 2 part time trainers, 1 full time bookkeeper, 3 full time channels.

ACC – 4 full time.

Stefan Wray gave some key points ChannelAustin recommends for the PEG Fee Utilization Policy:

- Assign top priority to City government and public access capital needs
- Acknowledge that the long-term continuance of PEG capital fees is not guaranteed
- Set aside portion of PEG capital funds in an interest bearing account for future use
- Assign priority to capital projects that will support sustainable revenue for public access
- Require that all revenue derived from capital assets support public access operations
- Assign priority to projects that serve a joint PEG purpose and increase efficiency
- Only allocate capital funds to non-city entities after all City needs are accounted for
- Require that real property or assets purchased remain City property

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

Proposed items for the February 13, 2013 regular meeting:

- Finalize 2012 Workplan Accomplishments
- Finalize 2013 Workplan
- Report from Community Tech Assessment Work Group
- Report Open Government Working Group
- Presentation on Innovation Office Proposal (PIO)
- AustinGo update
- Possible presentation from past GTOPs awardee or Community Technology presentation.
- Possible discussion on PEG Fee Utilization Policy

Proposed items for the March 13, 2013 regular meeting:

- Request presentation from San Antonio, TX their PEG multi use facility
- Invitees on SXSW activities

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm