

VAN Board Regular Meeting 11/27/18

In attendance: Kevin Christopher, Cor Trowbridge, Lisa Byer, Tammie Reilly, Angelike Contis, Greg Epler Wood, Seth Mobley, Kurt Broderson

Called to order at 10:04.

Approval of Minutes of 10/23/18

Motion to approve minutes by Kurt, seconded by Seth. Motion was approved.

Financial Report

Seth reported that VAN's 990 has been filed.

On-going Statewide Work

Lisa reported that VAN is waiting to hear whether the next hearing will be "on the record" or allow the introduction of new testimony. VAN was waiting for the state to take the lead, but since that didn't happen, VAN filed to keep it on the record, and Comcast opposed. Dec. 4 is the next deadline, for VAN to file rebuttal to Comcast's opposition.

Member Services Report

Greg reviewed report, emailed 11/26 "Greg's Monthly Report to the Board."

Old Business:

A. General Updates: None.

B. Statewide AMO: None. Will be discussed at VAN summit, 12/12.

C. VAN Marketing Committee: Tammie noted that we had heard from the Governors office and the statewide agency communications personnel regarding a meeting 12/10 in Montpelier of all state agency communications people. VAN will send several representatives to that meeting.

D. Revenue trends. Kevin reported that Clay Purvis (Public Service Dept.) will be meeting with Comcast. Mass Access also noted a 3-6% drop in revenue from Comcast.

E. Member Services Position: Greg and Scott Campitelli will meet to come up with a transition plan, including overlap time during Scott's training. The combined remuneration during this period will stay under the budgeted amount for the Member Services position. Scott has accepted the tentative contract to finish out Greg's term through June 2019, the offer of which was approved at last month's VAN board meeting. Kevin will send draft of contract to VAN Board for comment and revision

F. VAN Summit

9 AMOs haven't responded to the invitation. Cor and Angelike volunteered to help call to confirm. PEG-TV in Rutland is hosting, breakfast and lunch included. Discussed agenda for the summit, with suggestions to condense items, change order, structure time more strictly. It was noted that the statewide AMO issue is the main reason to hold the summit, and that while

revenue decrease is a major, current worry for VAN, it was not the central reason to hold the summit. Kevin will tweak the agenda.

New Business:

- A. Reported on conference call with Mass Access. Mass Access has left the Alliance for Community Media and joined the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors.
- B. Discussed changing next VAN board meeting, as it would fall on Christmas. See below.
- C. FCC letter. Greg suggested adding a “compelling anecdote” to the letter, to give a concrete example of the value of PEG access. Discussed Kevin’s summary of Jim Horwood’s comments. Greg noted that anyone can write to congressional committees and subcommittees, not just those whose members and/or chairs represent us from Vermont. Will revisit this after the new year. Discussed audience and supporters for filing comments. ACM recommends organizational filings, as opposed to individuals. VAN determined that organizational as well as individual filings will also help build local support.
- D. Lisa forwarded Lauren-Glenn Davitian’s email re: state appropriation to the VAN board.
- E. Kevin will revise summit agenda and FCC update.

Next Meeting 12/18/18, 10:00, via conference call.

Motion to adjourn by Lisa; seconded by Cor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44.

Minutes submitted by Kurt Broderson