



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD CABLE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

June 13, 2024 (JOINT MEETING)

The Commission and its Executive Committee met jointly at 6:00PM on June 13 at West Bloomfield Town Hall. In attendance were Jennifer Taylor Boykins, the chairperson, Anne Dziuba, Joel Ross, and Phil Ross. Also in attendance were Commissioners Harvey Gersin, Mark Kowalsky, and Ronnie Dahl, Civic Center TV/Lakes FM General Manager Dave Scott, and Commission Executive Director Dave Albery. Not in attendance were Commissioners Dorf, Levine, Macon, and Riney.

Ms. Boykins stated that the issue at this meeting is not how the contractors are fulfilling their responsibilities, but the reporting language in the agreements. Joel Ross characterized the agreements as one-sided with vague language.

The committee discussed the provisions of the programming services agreement regarding staffing to be provided by the contractor at Green Media Center, including the lack of published business hours for the building and the possible need for stronger language that favors the Commission. Further discussion focused on public use of the facility, the Orion Neighborhood Television public access model, and increased hours at GMC.

The committee discussed the reporting provisions of both agreements, specifically the routing of all reports from the programming services provider through the Executive Director to the Commission. Additional discussion focused on the contractors' responsibilities, reporting provisions, and hierarchy.

Mr. Albery stated that discussion regarding revision of the agreements will be more productive in the future if commissioners provide language in advance of committee meetings in order that members can review those changes beforehand. Ms. Boykins stated that the next meeting will be in late June or early July and that any suggested revisions should be provided to Mr. Albery by June 18.

The committee discussed the need for legal review of both agreements and any suggested revisions. Members also discussed Section 7 of the programming services agreement which deals with supplemental revenue and whether that section should remain in the document and whether it should be included in a Request for Proposals to Provide Programming Services.

Committee discussion of Section 8 of the programming services agreement focused on the degree to which the Commission can control how the contractor is providing services, how issues regarding the contractor's performance can be resolved, and the nature of an employment relationship compared to an independent contractor relationship. Ms. Boykins suggested that the Commission retain the legal services of Secrest Wardle to educate the Commission regarding those relationships, first in a document to be provided to the Commission and then in a virtual or in-person presentation to the committee at its next meeting.

