



Washington Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors

a professional organization of individuals and organizations serving citizens in the development, regulation, and administration of cable television and other telecommunication systems.

Board Meeting March 19, 2020

1. Call to Order – 2:04 PM
2. Roll Call of Officers
 - a. George Geyer, Mike Charboneau, Megan Hutton, John Delay, Jim Demmon, ~~Ben Faubion, Edgar Riebe~~, Alice Lawson, Chris Jaramillo, ~~Judy Devall, Jon Funfar~~, Mike Connor, ~~Derek Young~~, Robin Steel, ~~John Rauch~~
3. President's Report
 - a. Approval of the Agenda
 - i. Jim 1st, Alice 2nd, approved
4. Secretary's Report
 - a. Approval of minutes from 2/12/20 Minutes
 - i. Motion to accept – Jim, 2nd John, unanimously approved
5. Treasurer's report
 - a. Beginning balance 1/31/2020 - \$20,424.26
 - b. Ending balance 2/29/20 - \$18,349.29
 - c. One check \$300 deposited from Castus for conference
 - d. Healthy membership renewals
6. New Business
 - a. Make decision about still hold or cancel annual Conference
 - i. 30 member survey
 1. 87% cancel, don't hold in May, but yes to reschedule
 2. Sept/Oct yes for rescheduling
 3. Consider online webinars – got some feedback around popular sessions, WATO A can look at that
 4. Mike Charboneau – agrees we should postpone
 5. Jim Demmon/John Delay – should we cancel altogether for 2020?
 - ii. Reschedule May conference to a date TBD – late Sept/early Oct still in same location in Richland or Tri-City area
 1. Mike Charboneau motion, Alice 2nd, 1 yes, all others no, NOT approved, motion does not pass via phone call.
 2. Chris Jaramillo requests board send out an invite requesting a yay/nay vote of the board via email by end of business tomorrow.
 - a. Decision to postpone/cancel 2020 conference TBD
 - b. If cancelled, WATO A would fully refund any vendors and conference attendees who have already paid.
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Leg & Policy
 - i. Alice – 6th circuit issued ruling today, denied stay, but court reaffirms there should still be communication between company and local government
 1. No indication that we lose negotiation power when discussing impacts of in-kind services



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2. Regarding in-kind, Elana Zana advises that cable drops at schools could be considered a gift of public funds if the City/County paid for it via franchise fees. It should be a cost passed to the School District, and have them work directly with Comcast for payment.
8. Good of the Order
 - a. None
9. Next Meeting(s)
 - a. Board Meeting April 8, 2020 at 2 PM
10. Adjournment – 2:42 PM, unanimously approved
 - a. Motion Mike, John 2nd, unanimously approved