

Meeting #400  
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission  
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center  
Videoconference Meeting  
1800 No. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street (Originating Site)  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
October 26, 2006

PRESENT: Commissioner Randy Bretz  
Commissioner Stan Carpenter  
Commissioner Bill Griffin  
Commissioner Mary Harbaugh (Grand Island site)  
Commissioner John Heil (Omaha site)  
Commissioner Ann Pickel (Omaha site)  
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker  
Commissioner Dara Troutman

ABSENT: Commissioner Doug Christensen  
Commissioner Dennis Miller  
Commissioner Steve Titus

Advance notice of the public meeting was sent to Nebraska news media by means of a news release forwarded from the Commission office with Agenda posted in the NET Lobby, NET elevator bulletin board and on the State and NET web sites. LB 898 (related to Open Meetings Act) is also posted in the NET Board Room on 1<sup>st</sup> floor and NVCN Conference Room on 4<sup>th</sup> floor at NET.

Chairman Griffin called meeting #400 to order at 9:35 a.m.

After the call of the roll, the Secretary determined a duly constituted quorum of Commissioners to be present.

It was moved by Troutman and seconded by Bretz to approve minutes of Meeting #399 dated September 6, 2006. Roll call vote for approval of minutes #399 was recorded as follows:

Commissioner Randy Bretz	- aye
Commissioner Stan Carpenter	- aye
Commissioner Doug Christensen	- absent
Commissioner Bill Griffin	- aye
Commissioner Mary Harbaugh	- aye
Commissioner John Heil	- aye
Commissioner Dennis Miller	- absent
Commissioner Ann Pickel	- aye
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker	- aye
Commissioner Steve Titus	- absent
Commissioner Dara Troutman	- aye

The Chairman called for public comment. There was none.

AGM-Administration & Finance Hansen reviewed the DTV project expenditures through September 30, 2006 per the lease-purchase agreement between the NETC and the NETC

Facilities Corporation. It was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Bretz to approve the acquisitions of items from July 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006 related to the DTV Project totaling \$458,857. It is further recommended that the Commission approve pending acquisitions related to the DTV Project, as represented by the listings of Outstanding Purchase Orders totaling \$94,658 and Outstanding Requisitions totaling \$171,113. Following discussion, roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Commissioner Randy Bretz	- aye
Commissioner Stan Carpenter	- aye
Commissioner Doug Christensen	- absent
Commissioner Bill Griffin	- aye
Commissioner Mary Harbaugh	- aye
Commissioner John Heil	- aye
Commissioner Dennis Miller	- absent
Commissioner Ann Pickel	- aye
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker	- aye
Commissioner Steve Titus	- absent
Commissioner Dara Troutman	- aye

Secretary Bates introduced newly appointed Commissioner Dick Shoemaker and welcomed him to NETC. Commissioner Shoemaker replaces former Commissioner Mike Kneale representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District.

AGM-Administration & Finance Hansen next presented the fiscal year 2007 technical deficit request for the Terry M. Carpenter Center Renovation Project. The following technical deficit funding request will be submitted on behalf of the Commission to the State Budget Administrator no later than November 3, 2006. Authorization is requested for the NETC to spend additional funds on the renovation of the Terry M. Carpenter Telecommunications Center and that the total project cost of \$13,439,605 as stated in LB 424, section 29, be modified to \$13,689,605. This increase of \$250,000 would allow the NETC to spend excess funds, which are currently being held by the trustee, Wells Fargo Bank. This technical deficit request would not require any new general fund appropriations. It was moved by Bretz and seconded by Carpenter that the technical deficit request related to the Terry M. Carpenter Center building renovation project be approved by the Commission. Following discussion, roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Commissioner Randy Bretz	- aye
Commissioner Stan Carpenter	- aye
Commissioner Doug Christensen	- absent
Commissioner Bill Griffin	- aye
Commissioner Mary Harbaugh	- aye
Commissioner John Heil	- aye
Commissioner Dennis Miller	- absent
Commissioner Ann Pickel	- aye
Commissioner Dick Shoemaker	- aye
Commissioner Steve Titus	- absent
Commissioner Dara Troutman	- aye

The Secretary next reviewed NETC appointments as reviewed with the Governor's office. A new rotation system will be implemented so that terms will expire on a more evenly distributed method. Other items included in the secretary's report were the following: 1) an update on NET's Strategic Plan; 2) the status of the AGM-Engineering position Search Committee; 3) UNL's accreditation review team Nov 6-8; 4) NET employees Ron Hull (45 years), Herman

Siegel (40 years) and Don Ward (40 years) were recognized for their years of service; 5) a retirement event was held for NAPT (Native American Public Telecommunications) Director Frank Blythe who retired after 35 years of service. Shirley Sneve has replaced him as the new NAPT Director; and, 6) Jack McBride was recognized at Ak-Sar-Ben for his contributions to Nebraska in education and public service.

It was requested by Commissioner Heil that a resolution be prepared acknowledging the outstanding contributions on behalf of NET by AGM-Engineering Mike Beach. Mike accepted a position with IntelSat based out of Atlanta, Georgia. A resolution will be completed and placed on the December agenda for approval.

UNO Television Manager Debbi Aliano reported on activities and programs at the UNO Television/Omaha Production Center.

Assistant General Manager-Content David Feingold reviewed activities of Nebraska public radio and television. He indicated that the NET radio membership drive completed their drive a day early surpassing their goal of \$145,000 by almost \$3,000. Regional Emmy awards were won by NET for the following programs: *Ted Kooser's Poetic World* (Arts & Entertainment Programming) Annie Mumgaard, producer, assisted by Brian Seifferlein, Doug Carlson, Dan Burger, Scott Beachler and Foster Collins; *At Close Range with Joel Sartore* (documentary: Topical) Mel Bucklin, producer, Ralph Hammack, videographer/editor; *Buffett & Gates Go Back to School* (Special Events Coverage) Kay Hall and Joel Geyer, producers; Joe Turco, Event Producer, Mike Farrell, Executive Producer, Jim Carmichael, Director. Mr. Feingold's report also included the following: NET Radio and Television's coordinated coverage and specials that link to the PBS series, *Remaking American Medicine*; the Gubernatorial Debate; *Your Water: A By the People Special*; Children's Programming; and NET on Demand.

Chairman Griffin called for old business. Commissioner Bretz indicated that he and his sub-committee would follow up on completion of a Memorandum of Understanding between NETC and the NET Foundations.

Chairman Griffin next called for new business. There was none.

The next NETC meeting will be a videoconference meeting to be held on Thursday, November 30.

There being no further business, meeting #400 adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Bates,  
Secretary