

Office of
Southwest Fox Valley Cable and Telecommunications Consortium

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Chairperson

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Meeting Minutes

A meeting was held on Thursday May 4, 2006 at 6:00 PM at the Yorkville City Hall to discuss the current status of the consortium.

Board Members present:

Jane Regnier – Waubonsee
Charlie Pajor – Oswego
Scott Mulliner – Plano
Bob Hyatt – Sandwich
Dean Wolfer – Yorkville

Other Attendees:

Mike Rennels – Program Manager
Art Prochaska – Mayor, Yorkville
Tom Grant – City Attorney, Plano
Kevin Drendel – City Attorney, North Aurora

Topics of Discussion:

Meeting Minutes Approval

Scott moved to approve the minutes of the April meeting seconded by Bob. All board members present voted yes.

Budget Report

No Report

Payment of Current Bills

No Bills

Collection of Quarterly Consortium Membership Fees

No Report

Old Business

Waubonsee Report

Mike reported that the Sony DVD changer is working fine. The only other available alternative is the Pioneer changer that FVTV put out of service previously.

Member Reports

None

New Business

Waubonsee Report

Mike announced the upcoming class schedules: TVP001 Thursdays 6-10pm in June, TVP001 Saturdays 12-4pm in August, TVP001 Thursdays 6-10pm in October, and TVP002 Saturdays 12-4pm in November.

Member Reports

Charlie announced that Oswego has issued a moratorium against AT&T cabinet build-outs for "Project Lightspeed".

Kevin Drendel reported for North Aurora regarding "Project Lightspeed" (see Summary attachment A)

Audience Comments

None

Schedule next meeting

The next meeting will be at 6:00 PM on June 1, 2006 at the Yorkville City Hall, 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Charlie and seconded by Bob, All board members present voted yes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Please direct any corrections or question on the above to Max Herwig via email or 630-697-5285.

Respectfully,

Max Herwig

ATTACHMENT A

SWFVCTC BOARD Mtg. 5-4-06

Kevin Drendel Presentation Summary

Industry battle between cable and phone industries being played out in our towns.

As the phone companies install 'fiber to the home' they become capable of providing video service along with high speed internet and other advanced features.

Phone Co.'s providing video service would compete with cable companies that are regulated locally by franchise agreements that the phone Co.'s are not currently subject to.

Cables argue that as a video provider, Phone Co.'s must be subject to same rules or cable rules must be relaxed to achieve "level playing field".

Phone Companies claim that they are simply a common carrier, not subject to same rules.

A recent court decision "Ballard v. Herbst" (sic) said "video over phone is still Video Programming".

With "Project Lightspeed" the phone co.'s have begun building the fiber infrastructure which can provide advanced services. This will place large 'pedestals' or equipment boxes throughout the community with each serving about 300 homes.

Local communities have reacted by attempting to stall the build until issues of local control and franchising can be addressed.

Communities are reacting by:

- 1) Declaring moratoriums on any builds. N. Aurora, Geneva, Wheaton, Oswego, et al., have done so and are being or will be sued by AT&T. This is only a temporary measure to give time to the communities to address long term issues.
- 2) Rewriting local Franchise Ordinances (not Franchise Agreements) to define video over the phone system a Video Programming, subjecting the phone co.'s to the same requirements as cable co.'s. Geneva, IL has an example of such an ordinance that may serve as a model for other area communities.
- 3) Using Zoning powers to control the size, placement, etc. of the 'pedestals'.
- 4) Issuing permits that restrict the use of the system for distributing video programming. Other services are permitted. (Walnut Creek, CA)
- 5) Working to establish contractual partnerships with service providers. (Aurora, IL)

National legislation is pending that may replace any current franchise agreements with a standardized federal control, which will restrict any local control of telecom or cable services by the communities they serve.