

Lake County PEG Board
Regular Board Meeting
El Grande Hotel Restaurant
Clearlake, CA 95422
February 18, 2009

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order by Joyce Overton at 7:05 a.m.
2. Roll Call- Members: Joyce Overton, Jeff Smith, Ed Robey, Shawn Swatosh, and Dale Neiman; PEG Advisory Board: Barbara Christwitz, Maurice Taylor, Dante DeAmici, and Alan Markowski; Others: Edwin Christwitz, Candyce Hagler, Carter Irwin.
3. Agenda Approval – The agenda was approved as written.
4. Approval of a New Board Member – Candyce Hagler was approved as a new member of the PEG Board and will be responsible for taking minutes.
5. Public Comment – Edwin Christwitz discussed his suggested changes to the PEG guidelines for material submitted to be broadcast. He wants the Board to modify the guidelines to be more consistent with the station manual. He gave Joyce a copy of his suggestions and the Board asked the PEG Advisory Committee to take a look at them.
6. Alliance for Community Media – Maurice Taylor discussed the upcoming workshop of this group in Portland on July 15-18. He is hoping to go.
7. Consideration of Establishing Policy Regarding Live Broadcasts – Dale Neiman, City Manager apprised the Board of the extreme budget constraints the city is facing. He told the station manager not to spend any more money for the time being. He said this is the worst budget situation he has ever seen. The city has eliminated many employee positions to try to balance the general fund. The city is going to have to take a hard look at priorities this year. His recommendation on live broadcasts was to develop some tight guidelines on what is permitted, begin using them and monitor the results for a few months, then expand/modify list as needed. Live broadcasts are by nature problematic due to free speech issues and differing view points and values. Dante DeAmici commented that there is actually more control over live broadcasts because someone is always there to “pull the plug” if necessary. Ed Robey mentioned a 7-second delay machine that should be considered for purchase in the future when the Board can afford it. Joyce asked if we could have people sign a waiver that they won’t sue the PEG Board if they feel their free rights have been infringed upon (because these suits are so expensive) and agree to go to arbitration instead. Dale Neiman stated we can’t legally ask people to sign away their rights. It was decided that live broadcasts be limited to talk shows, forums, meetings, music, and telethons for now. Carter Irwin suggested that elder homebound people could get more involved in city government through live broadcasts of city council meetings with a time set aside for them to call in with comments or questions. Jeff Smith said this would make meetings very long. He wants to see if this is already being done anywhere else and how it is working. It was suggested that people could email comments or use voice mail. People are already mailing in their comments based on agenda posted the week before meetings. Joyce Overton said that in the future,

perhaps a limited time could be set aside for people to call in with comments after the meeting, not during. However, this is not up for consideration now due to budget constraints.

8. PEG Manager's Report – Alan Markowski distributed his report to the Board:

Accomplishments

- DVD Multi-Changer picked up and connected.
- Mediacom music audio source up and running with bulletin board.
- Began a new wiki website: laketv8@wikispaces.com. A few PEG members are testing the features.
- Dante DeAmici and Ron Bergeron approved as file managers for videos uploaded to the PEG Central Site (remote access).
- Met with Mr. Zander, principal of Carle High School and arranged for 2 Carle students to participate in a live broadcast of Clearlake City Council meeting.
- Used desks and chair donated by Jeff LaFrance delivered.
- Went to 2 PEG Committee meetings during the month.
- Simultaneous broadcast by KPFZ and TV8 of live Clearlake City Council meeting. This did not work out as well as expected.
- New printer tested and found faulty/damaged.

Goals for the Coming Month

- Get business cards approved by Dale Neiman.
- DVD option installed on Ultra Nexus (contingent on purchase of this option).
- CD Multi-changer, Mediacom music and Aux audio source routed through an audio switcher so multiple audio sources can be used with bulletin board and other video sources.
- Approving others for site management of videos uploaded to Peg Central.
- Overlays, slide shows, emergency messages and virtual channels tested and implemented.
- New forms for check-out and complaints.
- More volunteers.
- Water fountain moved out of studio.
- Purchase of shotgun mic (which probably is not feasible now due to budget problems).
- New printer connected and damaged one sent back.
- Panasonic camera and its heavy-duty tripod used in live broadcasts.

Goals Needing Approval

- Live broadcasts from TV8 by manager, staff and public.
- Conference room wired in preparation for live broadcasts. Pursue opportunities for council chamber and foyer usage.
- Purchase of LGX-DVPIDVDCH DVD player control option for Pioneer DV-F07 Multi-Disc DVD player, 2 Sennheiser HD280 headphones min (4 best), 2 tripods, extra ram fro Dell computer, wireless mics and carrying box.
- Petty cash fund.

Jeff Smith suggested we solicit donations for the items we cannot afford now. Shawn Swatosh said we could publish a list of items needed for donation on Craigslist. Joyce Overton said an article in the newspaper detailing the budget problems and the needed items might result in donations.

9. PEG Committee Reports – Dante DeAmici indicated there is an issue over what to do with submitted tapes/dvds after they are broadcast. It was suggested to add the following to the submission form: if the material isn't picked up by a certain date, it will be thrown out.
10. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

Submitted by
Candyce Hagler
PEG Board Secretary