

Waterford Cable Commission
AGENDA
6:30 pm, Tuesday, July 20, 2021
Town Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room

1. Approval of agenda
2. Approval of minutes
3. Correspondence and bills
4. Signal quality
5. Subscriber complaints
6. Report from Media Network
7. Report from Cable Coordinator
8. Comments
9. Adjourn



Waterford Township Cable Commission

Minutes of the Tuesday, June 15, 2021, Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Ken Fuerst, Nathan Shoemaker, Anthony Bartolotta, Bob Piggott, Jim Powers, Laura Petrusha

Members Absent: Al Pavlish,

Guests: Josh Bowren, Diana Casetti, Gary Allison (Cable Coordinator)

Chairperson Laura Petrusha called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call Attendance: All members present but Al Pavlish. All Commissioners signed on from Waterford Township, Michigan.

Agenda – Anthony Bartolotta motioned to approve the agenda for June 15, 2021, supported by Nathan Shoemaker. Roll call vote: approved unanimously.

Minutes – Anthony Bartolotta motioned to approve the minutes from May 18, 2021, supported by Bob Piggott. Roll call vote: approved unanimously.

Correspondence and Bills – Gary Allison read a memo for the record from Comcast regarding package name changes and new pricing.

Signal Quality – Nothing to report.

Subscriber Complaints – No outstanding complaints.

Media Network Report – Josh Bowren reviewed the Media Network report. Following discussion, Anthony Bartolotta motioned to accept the report, supported by Jim Powers. Roll call vote: approved unanimously.

Cable Coordinator's Report – Gary Allison reviewed the Cable Coordinator report. Following discussion, Anthony Bartolotta motioned to accept the report, supported by Bob Piggott. Roll call vote: approved unanimously.

Comments – Nathan Shoemaker announced stepping down from the commission, as he is moving out of state.

Adjournment – Bob Piggott motioned to adjourn, supported by Anthony Bartolotta. Roll call vote: approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Waterford Township Cable Commission

Minutes of the Tuesday, June 15, 2021, Virtual Meeting

Ken Fuerst, Secretary

Township of Waterford
Cable Coordinator Report July 2021
Submitted by Gary Allison

- Production
 - DIA exhibit video produced and distributed via township website and Channel 20.
 - Assisted in the production of a zoom presentation at the library featuring Waterford Police K9 unit.
- Police Training Video
 - Pre-production meetings in full swing. Production taking place off campus at an undisclosed location. Production dates will take place in October.
 - A tour of the production location will be conducted for tech scouting in the following weeks.
- Board of Trustees Meeting
 - Live, in person, meetings are in effect. Broadcast of the first meeting was successful.
- Editing System & Office Furniture
 - Waterford IT is currently building a PC to handle new video editing system the cable department will be switching over to in order to handle many aspects and demands of current video standards.
 - New office furniture was finally purchased for the cable department office.
- FCC & State
 - The White House has issued an executive order targeting, among many sectors, internet providers. The Order tackles four issues that limit competition, raise prices, and reduce choices for internet service. Lack of competition among broadband providers: More than 200 million U.S. residents live in an area with only one or two reliable high-speed internet providers, leading to prices as much as five times higher in these markets than in markets with more options. A related problem is landlords and internet service providers entering exclusivity deals or collusive arrangements that leave tenants with only one option. This impacts low-income and marginalized neighborhoods, because landlord-ISP arrangements can effectively block out broadband infrastructure expansion by new providers. In the Order, the President encourages the FCC to:
 - Prevent ISPs from making deals with landlords that limit tenants' choices.
 - Lack of price transparency: Even where consumers have options, comparison shopping is hard. According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), actual prices paid for broadband services can be 40% higher than advertised. During the Obama-Biden Administration, the FCC began developing a "Broadband Nutrition Label"—a simple label that provides basic information about the internet service offered so people can compare options. The Trump Administration FCC abandoned those plans.

- Revive the “Broadband Nutrition Label” and require providers to report prices and subscription rates to the FCC.
 - High termination fees: If a consumer does find a better internet service deal, they may be unable to actually switch because of high early termination fees—on average nearly \$200—charged by internet providers.
- Limit excessive early termination fees.
 - Companies discriminatorily slowing down internet access: Big providers can use their power to discriminatorily block or slow down online services. The Obama-Biden Administration’s FCC adopted “Net Neutrality” rules that required these companies to treat all internet services equally, but this was undone in 2017.
- Restore Net Neutrality rules undone by the prior administration.