

## **Elko Television District**

Board Meeting Minutes, November 13th, 2025  
6:00 p.m. at the Elko County Courthouse

### **Board Members:**

Present: Dale Lotspeich, Kent LeBarts, Raymond Mowrey, Brian Riley, and Misty Atkins

Absent:

**Others Present:** Mike Murphy representing Diversified Consulting Services, Paden Hilyard representing Eagle Communications, Ken Wiley as employee of Elko TV District, and Marisa Reeves representing McMullen, McPhee & Co., LLC

### **Proceedings**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Brian Riley, as Dale Lotspeich was on Zoom.

**Public Comment:** None

### **Comments From the Chairman**

Dale would like to schedule budget workshops in December. He wants to have the workshops in 30-minute increments at each meeting, from December through February. Dale wants to create a generalized budget. He would like the board to provide guidelines, and then the employees will carry out the day-to-day activities. He would like the board to do less micromanaging and more empowering.

### **Approval of the Minutes October 9th, 2025 Meeting**

Misty Atkins moved to accept the minutes from the October 9th, 2025 meeting. Ray Mowrey seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

### **Approval of the Treasurer's Report**

Kent LeBarts moved to accept the Treasurer's report as written. Misty Atkins seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

### **Approval & Ratification of Outstanding Bills for payment**

Kent LeBarts read aloud the outstanding and ratified bills. Ray Mowrey moved to accept the outstanding and ratified bills as read. Kent LeBarts seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

### **Reminder to Fill Out Contribution and Expense Reports**

There are two different reports to file: the Annual Report and the Contributions & Expense report. The state's system has crashed. The last time they didn't open the system until January 1 and the reports are due January 15.

### **Repair Service Report and Site Updates**

Ken is restructuring the agenda a little to make it more organized and concise. There have not been any real outages. The move of NBS News to channel 11.2 didn't happen, so Ken had Crystal take down the banner on the website. The dehydrator replacement by Cenni is completed. Maggie Creek Road has been graded with drainage ditches.

Paden took the insurance adjuster to Grindstone to look over all the equipment. There are 4 line items to complete, and all received invoices have been submitted. The only thing to receive is an Ethernet switch.

The grouting on the new grindstone tower was completed today. Cenni completed the innerducts and shared pictures. Premier will be working next week to complete the Amateur Radio club project. The 45' waveguide ladder needs to be installed, but the winds were too high. All materials are there, and it should be done by the end of next week.

The Interlocal agreement has been transitioned into a Cooperative Agreement. Nancy is still currently reviewing the contract. Ken will get with Nancy next week.

Ken has been keeping the Committees more updated. He would like to do a bi-monthly meeting, but a formal schedule has not been set up as of now.

The Ruby Vista Building is still being worked on.

#### **On-Call Engineering Report – DCS Mike Murphy**

*Grindstone Road Improvements/Site Plotting/Right-of-Way, Ruby Vista Survey, Plotting, Field engineering, coordination, water, sewer cost estimates, Peavy/Lamoille Right-of-Way/Survey and plot planning*

Mike reported that the only major project he worked on was Grindstone. There were about 2 weeks of grading the road. They were able to haul gravel for two days. The road is set and will look at the road again in the spring. He will now work on the Ruby Vista Building and the Peavey easement with the BLM. Mike noted pavement at Ruby Vista would probably not be done until April or May, depending on the weather. There is a lot of work that needs to be done. There will be some extra utility ducting before the pavement is done. The other problem is that the yard needs to be cleaned up. Paden is tasked with cleaning up the yard. The county has a dump truck, and Paden has a loader, so it shouldn't take very long to get it cleaned up. Eagle cleaned up all the weeds.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### *Infrastructure Committee*

Everything is on hold until the end of winter.

##### *Translator/Programming Committee*

They are still working on a meeting with the Pershing County High School. The best date will be after the first of the year. Dale would like to plan a two-day trip down there to possibly swing by Reno to talk with some of the TV stations.

##### *Budget Committee*

Tabled until the next meeting.

#### **Discussion and Possible Approval of Cooperative Agreement with Elko County Public Safety Services, Legal**

Tabled until the next meeting.

### **Discussion and Possible Approval of Opening a Credit Card Account for Employees to Purchase Supplies**

Ken said right now we have one debit card in sole custody at McMullen McPhee. The TV District does have an Amazon account. In the future, it may be prudent for someone to be the keeper of the card. Dale said a credit card could be used to purchase network equipment or other items that aren't on Amazon. Right now, the TV District has been going through subcontractors to purchase equipment. Dale doesn't think we need to take action today. Part of the budget will be approving a purchasing policy. Tabled until the budget process.

### **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Verizon Grindstone and Lamoille Equipment Upgrades and Lease Modifications**

Cenni has sent back the language that needs to be updated. Once it is done, Dale will sign electronically.

### **Discussion and Possible Action on NDOT Amendment**

Ken noted that all the people at NDOT who had knowledge of the contract are no longer there. There is a considerable amount of new equipment up on Peavey that has been there since May, but it has not been turned on. Ken will take over on this item, and NDOT needs to start paying rent on the equipment.

On another note, there were never any batteries in the generator at Peavey. Cummins never actually commissioned it, so they are scheduled to fix it.

### **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Close of Project New Tower on Grindstone and Contractor Updates**

Cenni noted the wind speeds were too high to perform tower work today. They will be up there first thing on Monday and should wrap up the project in about two days.

### **Updates Regarding Lightning Strike On Grindstone**

Paden took the insurance adjuster to Grindstone last week. They were making sure equipment was being replaced with like and kind. All the invoices have been provided. All the tenants had their equipment repaired, except for NDOT. They are waiting for their budget. A new transformer is on order.

Cenni said T-Mobile sat on generator power for about a week. Everything is fully replaced. They blew the transformer at the site and blew the breaker down near the ranch houses.

### **Update on Pequop Repairs, Generator, HVAC, Antenna Line Report**

Paden noted the generator is back in service, and it should last the winter. He is trying to source a new engine control, but it is difficult to find due to the age of the generator. Ken asked if the generator should be replaced. Paden said the generator is sound, so it may just be better to update the controller.

### **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Future Communication Shelter at Grindstone**

Ken had a meeting with Misty & Kent. There are two buildings at the Ruby Vista yard right now. Pads will need to be installed before using those shelters. This project won't be until spring. Paden mentioned that conduits will also need to be installed. Kent said the buildings also need to be set up to receive equipment.

**Discussion of Site Generator / HVAC Repair and Maintenance**

Ken had Paden get Cummins to service all the generators. They are all working great. Grindstone has a new battery due to the lightning strike. Cummins will be discontinuing the refrigerant, so eventually all HVACs will need to be replaced with modern refrigerants. The board reviewed the 5-year maintenance agreement from Cummins. Paden thinks it's a good price. Dale said to get a formal contract and include it in the next meeting.

**Old Business:** Paden will be working on the board tablets next week.

Paden is still working on the emails. This will record all TV District business on a server, so personal emails won't be subject to a subpoena. The email provider he is looking at just came out with archive capabilities that meet the government requirements.

Kent asked if Ken had heard anything on West Twin. Ken said Global One Media is filing for Chapter 7 bankruptcy. They just recently paid their bill. They sent an email asking if we would be interested in any other sites or assets. We could be interested in West Twin Peak. Ken has reached out to Shappiro twice, but never heard anything back. If we got twin peaks, The TV District could broadcast like what was planned for Sowbowl. It could also be a fill-in site for Elko County for EMS and fire, etc.

**New Business:** Cenni was confronted by NGM about reserving locations on the new Grindstone Tower. They don't want anyone to acquire the rad centers they currently have on the Everest tower. They want to relocate to the new Grindstone tower when their lease ends next year. They wanted to make a payment to reserve the spot. Dale said a formal agreement would need to be drafted.

**Public Comment:** None

**Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.**

**The next regular meeting will be held on December 11th, 2025.**