

## **Elko Television District**

Board Meeting Minutes, February 12th, 2026  
6:00 p.m. at the Elko County Courthouse

### **Board Members:**

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

Absent: Raymond Mowrey

**Others Present:** Mike Murphy representing Diversified Consulting Services, Paden Hilyard representing Eagle Communications, Lori Gilbert representing KNCC Radio, Howard Fine representing SCFCC, Inc., and Ken Wiley and Marisa Reeves as employees of Elko TV District

### **Proceedings**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dale Lotspeich

**Public Comment:** None

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

Mike got everything done with Peavey Hill with the BLM. There are now new laws that if we disturb private-owned property, there will be mitigation or a fee for someone to mitigate on our behalf. It will probably be a year or more for the right of way to be complete. Mike also showed an updated map with Labels for the Lamoille site. He is also working on the sewer system and any other items that can be done in-house.

### **Comments From the Chairman**

Dale noted that registration for elected officials is March 2nd through the 13th. Dale, Misty and Ray are up for re-election and election. There is a debt management commission meeting coming up. Steve Guitar is the representative for small government and GID. Kent will keep watch on the agenda.

### **Approval of the Minutes January 8th, 2026 Meeting**

Brian Riley moved to accept the minutes from the January 8th, 2026 meeting. Kent LeBarts seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

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

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

The road project will most likely be started in April or May. Dale noted the board should create budget policies to assist employees in monitoring and running the budget.

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

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

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

Ken reported ongoing fiber outages. Paden did run new fiber into the switch. It took 3 seconds to fail over. The new circuit is working. The only thing to purchase is a \$1,000 router. There will be a second one for redundancy. Some transcoders needed to be reset. Ken has been working with Faith Communications, who possibly want to make changes on Grindstone. Ken also met with Pool Pact regarding signage on the sites. He will start working on this in the spring. LPTV will be available again on March 19 of this year. The TV District will be able to match the programming with the new licenses. One more license is needed on Lamoille and 3 more on Peavey. A test will be run on the new Technalogix to check their reliability. Ken talked with the infrastructure committee about instead of building a new site on east twin, it may be possible to lease space from Global One Media or American Towers up there. This would allow for a test run to cover north Elko for a few years. EDX Software is currently \$2,000 per license. The software would be a total of \$33,000. This could be cost-shared with Eagle Communications. The Grasshopper phone is now in service. Marisa noted texting is an option, but the board will need to create a texting policy to proceed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Infrastructure Committee

Nothing to report.

#### Translator/Programming Committee

Nothing to report.

#### Budget Committee

Nothing to report.

### **Discussion and Possible Approval of Board and Staff members Attending the NTA Convention in Reno, NV and All Matters Related**

The NTA convention is May 6 through May 9. If registration is done early, there is a discount. Dale and Brian plan on attending. Kent and Misty won't attend. Ken would like to go; he can fly into Reno. Brian Riley moved to allow board members and staff to attend the NTA convention. Kent LeBarts seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

### **Discussion and Possible Approval of Translator/Programming Committee Members and Staff Traveling to Lovelock and Reno for Facility Tours and Meetings with TV Station Managers and Engineers and All Matters Related**

Currently the contractors and TV Stations have relationships. Dale would like to visit Pershing County High School on March 2nd. Brian and Dale would leave March 1st and Ken would fly down to Reno. They would come back on Thursday. Roughly the trip, excluding Ken's flight, would cost about \$3,400 in per-diem, mileage and rooms. Dale wants to see what Lovelock has. Lori hopefully will be attending as well. Some in the community have expressed they would like to see some channels from Boise, ID. Brian Riley moved to approve the Translator Committee Members and Staff travel to Lovelock and Reno for Tours and meetings. Kent LeBarts seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget and Possible Budget Training with Various Board Members**

Marisa reported on the new Statement of Cash Flows she created for the Budget. She will get with the board members to schedule some training on the Budget. No action is needed on this item.

**Discussion and Approval of In-Kind Contributions for the Elko Fire District**

Tabled until the next meeting.

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Obtaining LPTV (Low Power TV) Licenses and Additional Translator Licenses from the FCC and All Matters Related**

Ken noted the licenses are first come, first serve. If things are not in order by March 19th, there might not be an opportunity again to get the licenses. There are some costs associated with the licensing. Dale noted that it would be \$22,000 to \$25,000 for the 10 licenses. Ken said he can look over all the licenses if the board approves getting the new software. Kent moved to approve purchasing the 10 LPTV licenses. Brian Riley seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Radio Frequency Software Shared License with Eagle and ETVD with Use MOU**

Dale's recommendation is to purchase and own the software. If Paden wants to come into a Use agreement, then Nancy can draft a contract with the parameters of use and what the shared cost of use would be. Ken noted the software will offset \$18,000 that would normally be paid to another vendor. It will be a major tool to manage, predict, and maintain sites. It can check for any RF interference and help build new sites. There was some other software, but the license was \$8,000 a year. The subscription must be paid in order to continue to use the software, so if it's not paid then the data becomes useless. Paden does not have a firm commitment to pay half. But Ken does agree with Dale that the TV District should own the software. Each year it can be decided whether to update the software or not. The software is still usable if it isn't updated each year. This software is needed in order to purchase the LPTV Licenses. Brian Riley moved to approve purchasing the EDX software for \$32,995. Kent LeBarts seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Installing Additional 20 Feet on New Grindstone Tower**

Ken is not ready to move forward on this. Ken thought the tower was built at 120'. But the board had decided to only do 100'. Ken said the tower could be stacked right now and there would be tower space for our customers and ourselves. If nothing is mounted off the top corners, then it could be done later. Ken was just thinking about costs going up in the future. An additional 20 feet at the top can hold a lot of equipment. Ken got a quote. Kent wondered if there really is a need for another 20 feet. Ken doesn't have an answer to that, he is just questioning if it is a mistake not doing it now while it's cheaper, or parts become obsolete. Kent also said if someone wants to be up higher, they could help pay for the extra 20 feet. Verizon wanted more innerduct, and ken told them they could have one and if they wanted more, they would have to build it themselves. Verizon also wanted the top of the tower, so that could be an opportunity to share cost.

Dale noted that when large projects, like the Grindstone Communications Shelter, is put out to bid, there could be add-on's, such as the extra 20 feet. If there are cranes up there to move the buildings, the crane could be used while it's up there to get the top of the tower up. The steel could be purchased and put in storage until installed later. Tabled until the next meeting.

**Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Future Communications Shelter at Grindstone**

Tabled until the next meeting.

Dale asked for the agenda items “Discussion and Possible Approval of Installing Additional 20 Feet on New Grindstone Tower” and “Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Future Communications Shelter at Grindstone” to be combined.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.**

**The next regular meeting will be held on March 12th, 2026.**