



# ELKO TELEVISION DISTRICT

PO BOX 456 ELKO, NEVADA 89803

*Serving our community through reliable communication*

## Board Meeting Minutes

September 8th, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Elko County Courthouse

### Board Members:

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

Absent:

**Others Present:** Mike Murphy representing Diversified Consulting Services, Cenni Jimenez representing Premier Wireless Services, Paden Hilyard representing Eagle Communications, and Ken Wiley and Marisa Reeves as employees of Elko Television District

### Proceedings

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dale Lotspeich

**Public Comment:** None

### Comments From the Chairman

Nothing to report.

### Approval of the Minutes - August 19th, 2026 Meeting

Kent LeBarts moved to accept the minutes from the August 19th, 2026 meeting. Brian Riley seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

### Approve Treasurer's Report

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

### Approval & Ratification of Outstanding Bills for Payment

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

### Repair Service Report and Site Updates by Ken

Ken noted there were outages on Peavey due to a UPS failure. Eagle Communications replaced the UPS. There was also a major fire event; fire crews did protect the site from damage. There has been a lot of work going on at Grindstone. NNE has begun work on the 24-foot ice tray. They used rock waste from the new tower construction to build the pathway. The new generator for Grindstone won't ship until December. There were a lot of delays with the amended agreement with Verizon on Grindstone. It was finally signed last week. Ken received a quote from Premier Wireless for the

relocation of two UTV-11 antennas on Grindstone once the tower extension is completed. Eagle Communications will install new doors and access locks on Grindstone and replace the damaged Peavey generator door. Ken is going to begin designing new signage for all the sites.

Dale noted the pathway created for the new electrical conduit on Grindstone was reduced from a 50-foot cliff down to about 15 feet. The reason the TV District is still using an over-the-air signal at Peavey is due to the inability to send all the channels back to Peavey. But in the future, as capacities increase, it will be taken down or at least provide an emergency backup. Ken noted he would like to get a fiber circuit from NDOT in Wells.

Misty Atkins moved to approve the Repair Service Report. Kent LeBarts seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

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

Mike reported it's been a busy month, mainly on Grindstone. Premier Wireless will be finishing up the cable trays on the modular buildings.

There has been progress on Ruby Vista. They downsized the sewer lift station price and got it closer to budget. He will be putting materials out for bid. He will be working on getting the bid out for installation by contractors. He finally got electrical plans from Quantum Electric. He is working on the building permit.

He is going up to Peavey for an evaluation and possible work with the County to get some funds to pay for damages caused by the fire. The mountain will need some moisture before anything can be done with the road, so hopefully the road can be fixed next spring.

Brian Riley moved to approve the Engineering Report. Raymond Mowrey seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

#### **Committee Reports**

Budget Committee, Infrastructure Committee, and Translator/Programming Committee

Nothing to report.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Premier Wireless and Complete Management Updates on Grindstone and Verizon Lamoille**

Cenni pushed the start of the ice canopies by a week due to scheduling issues. The materials are in and staged on the trailer, ready to go. He will be putting sealant on the roofs of the buildings before installing the canopies, leaving no access. He is still trying to push Verizon regarding the Grindstone site. Dale noted the contract has been signed. At Lamoille, the contact for Verizon is out of the office. The only problem Cenni saw was the gravel, which is now basically nonexistent. Drawings are fine, rad centers are good, and they are still a week or two out for finishing the move for Verizon.

Cenni was at Peavey due to fires. The power line was across the ground coming down the hill. Cenni recommends a full inspection out there. Brian asked if Cenni could take some photos of the site and all the damage.

**Discussion and Possible Action on LPTV Licensing and Updates as it Relates to Possible Future Local Broadcast and Content and FCC Status**

Ken said Eagle Communications has received all of the Technalogix equipment, which will replace all of the Transmitters on Lamoille Summit. The new UPS system will be installed this week. The FCC likes to see that the equipment is ready to conduct a temporary station.

Paden noted that all the licensing is filed except Adobe. There is a potential interference conflict with Eureka, so an agreement with Eureka must be created for the possible conflict; it is on next month's agenda for Eureka. All notices for Wells are on public notice; for Elko, they are set to go for public notice if they haven't already. It will be about 30 days for approval. Grindstone licensing is also waiting for FCC approval.

Paden was up at Peavey last week. There are a few spots where the road is a little rough. The dozer did a good job of not messing up the road until it got to the top. It looks like they built up a little extra dirt. They did a good job protecting the poles from fire.

Dale mentioned that on August 31st, the programming committee and Ken met with Shelly via Google Meet. Shelly brought them up to date on what she is doing. She has been able to take all her experience and is able to fast track the process. She was worried about where to put the equipment, but Dale said those are minor things. At the conclusion of the meeting, they noted the TV District would like it to be a non-profit organization that the TV Board isn't running, maybe have a non-voting member advising. The school district is involved, and a media teacher in Jackpot is already in communication. They will possibly be creating a documentary. Dale suggested to Shelly that the college might be an ideal location to set up a studio. She will try to pursue that. She has the dean of journalism from Reno actively involved. Lori Gilbert is actively involved. She will be taking the month of September off.

Ken noted content can be put up at any time. Paden offered an idea of using local pictures from local photographers; maybe offering a link to whoever wants to submit photos. The equipment itself is ready to go. He believes there is a call sign for the channel, but it's not quite ready to be turned on. The programming side of the operation is going to require some equipment and servers to produce the TV signal. Dale noted there are three years to put it online once the license is issued. Shelly will get a group together to get a non-profit 501-3c organization put together. The TV District will strictly provide technical support. The TV District wants to support the backbone but doesn't want to run it. Shelly said not to do anything or broadcast content for someone without charging a fee. Shelly's role will be to guide them through the process. Shelly will be on Zoom at the next meeting.

**Old Business:** Kent went to the county budget meeting. He gave them a rundown of what the TV District is doing. They asked about the TV Station, which Kent told them the TV District is putting it together slowly but surely. They were concerned about the TV District borrowing money to do this, but Kent told them "we came to play".

Ken said the Communications System job series is still being worked on. Ken has been approached by someone who is interested. Marisa will contact the county today to get an update.

**New Business:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.**

**The next regular meeting will be held on October 13th, 2026.**