

Blue Mountain Translator District 1

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes February 23, 2018

1. Call to Order and Roll Call Vote	<p>President Tim Wallender called the meeting to order at 12:17 PM. The meeting was held at the nearest practical location, Community Bank at 2313 Adams Avenue in La Grande, Oregon.</p> <p>Directors: President Tim Wallender, Director April Simpson (by phone), Director Christina Wood (by phone).</p> <p>Staff: Secretary/Treasurer Alex McHaddad.</p> <p>Members of the Public: Mr. Stephen Donnell, Mr. Fred Leitch, Ms. Mary McCracken.</p>
2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	<p>Asked and none declared.</p>
3.a. Approval of Insurance	<p>Secretary/Treasurer McHaddad reviewed the insurance bill presented to the District. The Board could consider two insurance amounts, one in the original packet, and an amended amount reflecting the removal of automotive liability coverage from the insurance bill. Currently, the District maintains a contract with the Blue Mountain Nordic Club/Oregon Nordic Club for use of a Snocat that the District sold to the organization two years prior that required automotive liability insurance. However, the contract was outdated and discussions with the club regarding changes were more difficult than expected. If the District opted not to continue the contract, the current technician possesses the means to get to snowbound tower sites, and the District can pursue the option of transporting the technician to the tower via helicopter.</p> <p>President Wallender concurred that discussions with BMNC/ONC were not as smooth as expected, involving disagreements of the qualifications of the District's contract technician and costs associated with wear and tear.</p> <p>Director Wood recommended discontinuing the contract.</p> <p>Director Simpson stated that if the technician can reach tower sites without the Snocat, then the contract is unnecessary, but if the Snocat is</p>

Blue Mountain Translator District 2

	<p>needed, then negotiating with BMNC/ONC was worthwhile. If negotiations were not fruitful, the District could examine other Snocat rental options.</p> <p>Director Wood moved to approve the insurance packet with the insurance of automotive liability insurance as specified on the final page of the board packet, second by Director Simpson.</p> <p>Motion to approve the insurance packet as specified. Aye: President Wallender, Director Simpson, Director Wood. Nay: N/A. Abstain: N/A.</p> <p>Insurance packet as specified approved.</p> <p><i>The insurance packet is included on Pages 2-23 of the Board Packet, available online at http://www.bmtd.org/public-notice/</i></p>
8. Public Comment	<p>President Wallender recognized Mr. Fred Leitch and Ms. Mary McCracken for public comment. President Wallender noted that prior to the establishment of quorum and the beginning of the meeting, he had discussed service charges with Mr. Stephen Donnell. The Secretary/Treasurer will review Mr. Donnell's situation.</p> <p>Ms. Mary McCracken asked for an update on broadcasting Free Speech TV. President Wallender announced that the channel is not broadcast in Portland. Ms. McCracken asked for the definition of broadcast station. President Wallender declared that the channel needed a physical tower that broadcasts the channel. Mr. Fred Leitch clarified the need for a license to broadcast in the designated market area. Free Speech is not broadcast over the air in Portland. Ms. McCracken noted appreciation for the some of the current channels and the broadcast of the Olympics despite the presence of advertisements, and thought that BMTD received a broadcast packet from Portland. President Wallender clarified that the District received signals from Portland stations via a fiber optic cable; all stations sending data through the cable broadcast over the air from towers in Portland. Ms. McCracken asked how she received the signal on Dish Network. Mr. Leitch clarified that the channel was a closed-circuit television channel that sent its content directly to Dish. Following further comments by President Wallender and Mr. Leitch, Secretary/Treasurer McHaddad summarized that Free Speech TV needs to broadcast over the air from a tower in Portland, and if they are not, the District is not permitted to broadcast them. In response to a query from President</p>

Blue Mountain Translator District 3

	<p>Wallender, Mr. Leitch noted that Free Speech TV would be permitted to operate an over the air tower in Portland.</p> <p>Mr. Fred Leitch noted that he attended because the newspaper announced the meeting as “special,” and he suspected that the topic would be important. Secretary/Treasurer McHaddad clarified that the meeting was held only to consider insurance, and that the paper chose not to print the contents of the agenda. Mr. Letich noted that conversations with Mr. Stephen Donnell were interesting because of the individual’s key involvement in the creation of Translator Districts.</p> <p>Mr. Stephen Donnell recounted his efforts lobbying the Oregon Legislative Assembly for the creation of Translator Districts. Mr. Leitch recounted the relationship between the District and the predecessor organization, the Blue Mountain Translator Association.</p>
<p>9. Scheduling of Next Meeting and Adjournment</p>	<p>The Board will hold its next regular meeting on March 6, 2018 in La Grande at noon.</p> <p>Director Simpson asked Mr. Leitch if he had ever written a history of the District. Mr. Leitch clarified that he had not. Mr. Leitch clarified that Mr. Donnell would be a better source of district history. Mr. Donnell mentioned property documents maintained by a local county assessor and that he was turning 92 soon. He mentioned other valuable documents and offered to provide them to the District. Director Simpson clarified that because public comment times were short, she believed that the Board rushed through discussions with Mr. Leitch, and that she would appreciate learning his knowledge in advance of meetings. His compilation of important information would be important for the Board and allow the District to better address his public comments. Director Wood noted Mr. Leitch’s mortality and concurred that his knowledge would be useful for the District’s institutional memory. President Wallender concurred with Director Simpson’s suggestion, and noted the uniqueness of the District in Oregon.</p> <p>President Wallender adjourned the meeting at 12:42 PM.</p> <p><i>Respectfully submitted,</i> <i>A. Alex McHaddad, Secretary/Treasurer</i> <i>February 26, 2018</i></p>

Blue Mountain Translator District 4
