

# Blue Mountain Translator District<sup>1</sup>

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## **Board of Directors** **Regular Meeting Minutes** **September 17, 2019**

<p>1. Call to Order and Roll Call Vote</p>	<p>President Wallender called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. The meeting was held at the nearest practical location 1215 Adams Ave. La Grande, OR 97850</p> <p>Members Present: President Wallender, Vice President Innerarity, Director Mike Kenny.</p> <p>Staff Present: Executive Director Alex McHaddad, Mr Rob Stilson.</p>
<p>2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest</p>	<p>Executive Director McHaddad declared a potential conflict of interest. An expenditure was proposed for the Union County Chamber of Commerce where he is concurrently employed. The Executive Director believes that the expenditure will not contribute to his wages at this entity.</p>
<p>3.a. Director Reports</p>	<p>Directors had no reports.</p>
<p>3.b. Staff Report</p>	<p>Mr. Rob Stilson of RS Technology, who provides technical services to the district, discussed the state of the district's telecommunications. A new transmitter had recently been installed on Mt. Fanny, and the old transmitter replaced equipment on Mt. Harris that was in need of repair. He will attempt to repair this transmitter or send the device to another firm to complete the repairs. The Mt. Harris facility is in need of a new air conditioning unit.</p> <p>Mr. Stilson discussed ATSC 3.0 upgrades, including the equipment necessary for the upgrade and the timeline. New ATSC 1.0 transmitters that can be upgraded to ATSC 3.0 can be purchased. The District should not expect to upgrade for at least 7-8 years. Early</p>

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adoption will be more expensive, and consumer adoption will take time. If a 3.0 license for a local channel is all that can be received, the District should apply for one, but applying for a 1.0 license is preferable.

Transmitters are being replaced at a rate of 2 per year. EAS options will add approximately \$1,500 more. Transmitters will be replaced for channels requested. Executive Director McHaddad clarified Meredith opposes local EAS due to contracts with Fox. NexStar and Sinclair are favorable.

Mr. Stilson had requested an increase in hourly rate from \$85.00 to \$95.00 and an additional fee for the use of additional vehicles, \$100.00 for use of a 4-wheeler and \$200.00 for use of a tracked 4-wheeler or snowmobile.

Vice President Innerarity moved to approve the proposed hourly rate increase and vehicle fee, second by President Wallender.

Yes: President Wallender, Vice President Innerarity, Director Kenny.

No: N/A.

Abstain: N/A.

Motion passes.

Executive Director McHaddad reviewed the staff report written in the Board Packet. He had recently visited the Mt. Fanny and Mt. Harris sites for the first time, the latter with Mr. Stilson and a representative of ShakeAlert. He had also finally completed FCC Form 399 reimbursement applications for the 2017 repack. He thanked Mr. Stilson for his assistance completing these forms.

Executive Director McHaddad requested that health insurance bills be paid via automatic bill pay.

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	<p>Vice President Innerarity moved to pay health insurance bill via automatic bill pay, second by president Wallender.</p> <p>Yes: President Wallender, Vice President Innerarity, Director Kenny.</p> <p>No: N/A.</p> <p>Abstain: N/A.</p> <p>Motion passes.</p> <p>Director Kenny requested an update on the Fanny Fire. Executive Director McHaddad recalled that the fire had come closer to the southern ridge atop Mt. Fanny.</p> <p>The lease fee with University of Oregon for Mt. Fanny facility use to install ShakeAlert and AlertWildfire systems was discussed at the request of Executive Director McHaddad. Mr. Stilson opposes including Internet access due to security concerns. A \$30.00 monthly lease fee was proposed if ShakeAlert does not prefer the lack of Internet access, and \$50.00 altogether to include installation of AlertWildfire equipment.</p> <p>Executive Director McHaddad discussed the Board's request for an audit. He regrets that FCC engagement had delayed the process and that he is excited for the audit. Conversations with potential auditors had begun earlier that morning. He asked for the length of the audit, and President Wallender suggested back to 2014 due to actions undertaken by a former employee of the district. Past public records retention issues were discussed, including the deletion of all emails in the Gmail account used by the District.</p>
4.a. Safety	President Wallender asked if the Executive

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	<p>Director had maintained a safe workplace environment since the last meeting. Executive McHaddad confirmed that he had maintained a safe workplace environment since the last meeting.</p>
<p>5.a. Approval of Expenditures</p>	<p>Executive Director McHaddad reviewed the three groups of expenditures listed, including the list of expenses and two proposals. The list of proposal needed to have an expenditure with EO Media Group removed because it will be discussed separately.</p> <p>Vice President Innerarity moved to approve the expenditures as amended, second by Director Kenny.</p> <p>Yes: President Wallender, Vice President Innerarity, Director Kenny.</p> <p>No: N/A.</p> <p>Abstain: N/A.</p> <p>Motion passes.</p> <p>Executive Director McHaddad reviewed the advertising authorizations and clarified the pricing.</p> <p>Vice President Innerarity moved to approve the advertising authorizations, second by Director Kenny.</p> <p>Yes: President Wallender, Vice President Innerarity, Director Kenny.</p> <p>No: N/A.</p> <p>Abstain: N/A.</p> <p>Motion passes.</p> <p>Executive Director McHaddad reviewed the proposed changes to database software as noted in the board packet. The cost to implement these changes is not included in the current fiscal year budget but can be included the following</p>

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	<p>year. Directors suggested waiting until the following year and only pursuing a database update that allows payment receipts to be emailed.</p>
5.b. Future of TV Summit	<p>Executive Director McHaddad reviewed the summary of the Future of TV summit included in the board packet.</p> <p>Mr. Stilson reviewed the equipment necessary to create the channel, including a new transmitter, combiner, and transmit antenna to send a signal from the valley floor to Mt. Fanny. President Wallender suggested placing the antenna on the roof of the Joseph building in La Grande.</p>
6. Public Comment	<p>Asked and none received.</p>
7. Scheduling of Next Meeting and Adjournment	<p>Executive Director McHaddad expressed a preference to hold the next meeting closer to the beginning of October. Directors discussed scheduling restrictions.</p> <p>President Wallender adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.</p>

Author: Alex McHaddad, Executive Director

Approval: 10/22/19