

ILLINOIS VALLEY PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

Executive Committee Meeting

January 30, 2014

Minutes

Present: Chairman Joe Strupek, Jon Burklund, Dr. Cynthia Fischer, Jerry Kolb, Andrew Rand, Chet Tomczyk, Chuck Walker; staff – Margie Stieghorst, Karen Button (webex); Guest – Dean Jan Slater, College of Media, University of Illinois

Absent: Wayne Baum

Chairman Strupek brought the meeting to order at 7:35 am noting the presence of a quorum. He introduced Dean Slater and a review of the collaboration with WILL ensued.

Dean Slater related highlights from the Bornstein report that she received at the end of December: continued commitment for a five year period; do a different kind of executive search than is normally done for a station manager considering the different kind of duties and relationships the person hired would have to handle; develop an ongoing plan for sharing of personnel and equipment resources; connect both stations by fiber optic (perhaps through UICOMP); consolidate producers into a common production unit; quickly look at other regional opportunities once the IPM/WTVP relationship is in place.

Following extensive conversation on the appropriate length for the initial relationship between the University of Illinois and IVPTC, the Executive Committee decided to maintain three years and expand afterwards if warranted. Dean Slater indicated that arrangement would likely work with the University. She would seek a three year agreement that could be extended annually thereafter.

The group then determined that next steps would be to develop a joint job description. Dean Slater presented first draft for consideration by the committee. She felt the person ultimately hired should be an employee of UI because of better benefits. She then reported that a three year MOU from the University is currently being processed in their legal department.

Chet presented a list of search firms; Dean Slater will see if any are already on the University's approved list. She will have to seek approval from the Provost and Chancellor, and ultimately the University's Board of Trustees would also have to approve. The matter could be placed before them at their February 18, 2014 meeting.

Agreement was made to form a joint search committee made up of representatives from both entities. IVPTC's search committee will be chaired by Jon Burklund and include Andrew Rand and Jerry Kolb. The UI representatives will likely include the head of the Journalism Department and a WILL staff member, and another to be determined.

In other business, the Executive Committee approved a letter of support to accompany an application for a Ready to Learn grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The grant is being jointly submitted by WILL, WSIU and WTVP.

Karen Button presented the December 2013 financials. Membership and Satellite Services were up, while Production Services were down. Expenses were on target. Mr. Tomczyk noted that recent passage of a federal budget removed the sequestration cuts from the CPB appropriation. We will not know until March what the ultimate effect is on this year's second CSG payment. A known benefit of the budget passage is continuation of the two year forward funding for public broadcasting.

Work continues on trying to secure the bid for establishing and operating WQPT's master control from WTVP's facility. The Committee authorized Mr. Tomczyk to secure funding from PNC to acquire necessary equipment and to build payback of any loan into the monthly fee assessed to WQPT.

In personnel actions, Mr. Tomczyk noted that Linda Miller, VP of Programming retires January 31, 2014 and that her duties will be assumed in the interim by Stacey Tomczyk, Promotions Director, until a new program executive is hired.

The Executive Committee commended the WTVP Production Department for their exceptional work on January 29 when they produced a remote broadcast of the Governor's State of the State speech in Springfield and then quickly returned to the Peoria Civic Center to set up and produce a broadcast of the Bradley vs. Illinois State University men's basketball game.

Mr. Tomczyk presented a draft Code of Integrity Policy for adoption by WTVP. Motion to accept was made by Mr. Kolb, seconded by Mr. Rand, and passed unanimously.

In other business, Mr. Strupek asked that Dean Slater and Mr. Tomczyk put together some talking points about the WILL/WTVP collaboration for use by Board members. Mr. Burklund and Mr. Rand suggested that we should be prepared to raise money for something in the "we haven't seen this before" column, such as a new satellite truck or a new HD production truck that could be leased to other stations in lieu of constructing separate HD studio facilities. Mr. Tomczyk noted that we are will be airing a program produced by Caterpillar regarding the 1950 US Olympic basketball team which was essentially the Caterpillar Diesels (Cat's company team). Mr. Rand urged production of a program on returning wounded soldiers from contemporary wars.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Chet Tomczyk
President & CEO