

MINUTES OF MURRAY CABLE COMMISSION
December 6, 2017
3:00 P.M.

The Murray Cable Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Chair John Yates presiding.

Members Present: Chair John Yates, Ms. Brenda Rowland, and Ms. Jane Shoemaker

Members Absent: Mr. Buford Anderson and Janice Thomasson

Staff Present: Dannetta Clayton and Jim Osborne

Guests Present: Tina Cox, Mandy Philips, Carla Deaton, Sherry Purdom, Randy Herndon, Chris Hayes, and general audience.

Chair Yates called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of October 25, 2017 were presented for approval. **Ms. Rowland Moved; seconded by Ms. Shoemaker.** All members present voted aye.

Check Presentation

Chair Yates stated that the amount the schools were receiving is \$5,000.00 each, which is less than previous years due to Charter (Spectrum) not making a donation this year. Chair Yates expressed the disappointment of the Commission because of Charter (Spectrum) not donating. Chair Yates recognized representatives from the three school districts, which benefit from the funding received from Murray Electric Cable. The representatives were Chris Hayes, Murray State University; Randy Herndon, Calloway County Schools; and Sherry Purdom, Murray Independent School. A student from Murray High School and Mr. Herndon from Calloway County High School gave a brief thank you for the benefits derived from the use of those funds.

Chair's Report

Chair Yates began his report by stating Brenda Rowlands term expires January 1, 2018 and he would like her reappointed if she would accept. Ms. Rowland confirmed she would accept another term on the Cable Commission. Chair Yates stated that the next meeting would be January 24, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. and he would have a list of all 2108 meeting dates at the January meeting.

Resolution Passed by City Council

Chair Yates stated that the City Council passed a resolution allowing Calloway County Schools and Murray Independent Schools to utilize a portion of franchise funding; up to \$150.00 per student to attend the Student Television Network Conference in 2018. Mr. Osborne stated the City Council was very supportive of the Resolution.

Chair Yates recognized Carla Deaton, a representative from Charter (Spectrum). Ms. Deaton stated the meetings, she is unable to attend; she could be available by conference call. Ms. Deaton reported 2018 rate increase letters will be mailed out next week. Ms. Deaton also reported, at this time, Spectrum will be going all digital on October 9, 2018, which means all customers will need a box on their TV. Ms. Deaton continued by stating on December 12, 2017, internet speeds will increase with no increase in price to the customer. Ms. Deaton also reported that Spectrum has an Internet Assist program and she will be emailing the Commission a copy of the flyer. Dr. Yates asked if Charter (Spectrum) had a local telephone number because he believes the franchise agreement requires providers to have a local telephone number. Ms. Deaton stated that all Spectrum calls are routed through a call center because there is not enough staff in local offices to handle the volume of calls. Mr. Osborne stated that the City has moved into the new City Hall and Murray Electric System was able to switch over the broadcast equipment over a weekend, and he was told by Charter (Spectrum) it would be a month before they could swap over. Ms. Deaton stated she would check into it. Ms. Rowland asked if the rejection of funding for the schools would be permanent. Ms. Deaton stated she believes that it will be permanent. Mr. Osborne stated the franchise donation is the only funding that Murray City Schools receives.

Chair Yates recognized Tina Cox, representative from Murray Electric Cable. Ms. Cox reported they are in the middle of their transition negotiations and they have send post cards to customers asking for feedback because the rate increase is sufficient. Ms. Cox stated their contracts end December 31, 2017, and they are trying to make the best decision possible for Murray Electric Cable and their customers.

Chair Yates stated there was a good article in today's Murray Ledger & Times on net neutrality. Janice Thomasson will be talking about net neutrality in a future meeting.

With no further business before the Commission, **Ms. Shoemaker moved to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Rowland.** All members voted aye.

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.