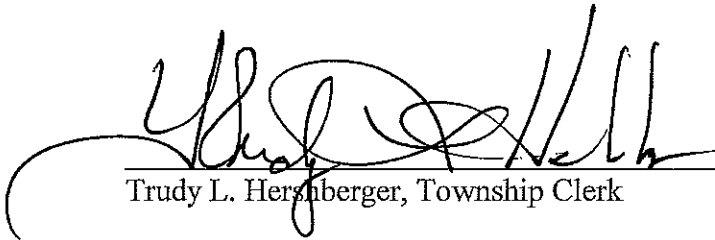


NOTICE OF THE COMMUNICATION/MEDIA COMMITTEE MEETING

8100 Jackman Road
Temperance, MI 48182
(734) 847-6791

The Bedford Township Communication/Media Committee will hold their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 13th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at 8100 Jackman Road, Temperance, MI 48182, in Conference Room C.



Trudy L. Hershberger, Township Clerk

02/06/2017
10:00 a.m.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72 (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Township of Bedford will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon one week's notice to the Township of Bedford. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township of Bedford by writing or calling the following:

Paul Pirrone, Township Supervisor
8100 Jackman Road, P.O. Box H
Temperance, MI 48182
Telephone: (734) 847-6791

A copy of this notice is on file in the office of the Clerk

AGENDA
COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA COMMISSION
Bedford Township Hall
8100 Jackman
February 13, 2017
6:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting.
4. Presentations: Millward Beaudry, Monroe Public Access Cable Television
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. Buckeye Cable
 - b. Township newsletter
6. **New Business**
 - a. Review of goals and expectations of this committee
7. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Comments limited to 2 minutes
8. Commissioner's Comments
9. Adjournment

The Township of Bedford will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon one week's notice to the Township of Bedford Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Bedford Township Supervisor, Paul Pirrone, 8100 Jackman Road, Box H, Temperance, Mi 48182, Phone 734-224-7321.

Communications/Media Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017
Township Hall Room C

Called to order at 6:38 pm

Present:

1. Deborah Merritt Lucius
2. Corey Welch
3. Jodi Russ
4. Lori Welling
5. Nate Elarton
6. Trudy Hershberger

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from November 14, 2016

Lori Welling moved the Minutes be accepted as presented. Nate Elarton seconded. All in favor.

Agenda for January 9, 2017

Corey Welch moved to accept the Agenda as is. Nate Elarton seconded. All in favor.

Issue or Topic	Complaint center for Buckeye customers
Points of discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This commission is not the complaint center for Buckeye Cablesystem.• Corey Welch brought forward the Michigan Public Service Commission Formal Video/Cable Complaint forms that are available which a resident can file if they have been unsuccessful resolving an issue with their cable company.
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forms are available through the Township Hall, the Bedford Branch Library, or directly with the MPSC at 800-292-9555 or michigan.gov/mpsc

Old Business:

Issue or Topic:	Research school's channel provided by Buckeye to see if it's viable for use
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No progress yet• Nate Elarton will reach out to school board members and the superintendent

Issue or Topic:	Research possibilities of removing Township phone number from Buckeye bill
Points of Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Township phone number will remain on the bill as the local franchise holder. • Other service numbers are on the bill.

Issue or Topic:	Franchise Agreement with Buckeye
Points of Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed in 1999 with 20 year agreement • Expires in 2019 • States in Section 10: LOCAL OFFICE. Buckeye will open an office in Bedford Township within one year of connecting its first customer in the Township. This office will be in the southern one-third of the Township. It will offer Buckeye customers the ability to obtain, return, or exchange equipment, and to conduct all financial transactions with Buckeye.
Action Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Ordinance 86 and 86A-1 to determine agreements with Buckeye for next meeting – Trudy provided copies

Issue or Topic:	Communications and Social Media
Points of Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Bork assigned by Township Supervisor to manage Township Facebook account • Trudy Hershberger noted that the MTA is very specific about what should and shouldn't be posted to the Facebook page so that we don't have potential legal action based on posting one group's information but not another group's. • Jodi Russ noted that the exploratory committee that asked the Township Board to establish this commission fully intended that the social networking sites NOT be official government entities, but rather more promotional services for our township. This is where we can help people see how wonderful our township is. • Nate Elarton suggested we also establish Twitter and Instagram accounts for the Township. • A community calendar noting all events should be established. • Blue township newsletter could possibly be handled in a less costly manner – inserts in local newspapers

Action Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trudy Hershberger will contact Karen Daggett at the Bedford Press about the cost of inserting the blue township newsletter.
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New Business:

Issue or Topic:	Representation on commission by Buckeye personnel
Points of Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many unknowns for us to speculate or resolve – Ordinance details from Buckeye’s perspective, \$2 charge for paper bill and increased late fee, details of Buckeye’s services to residents • Ask for official liaison from Buckeye to our commission
Action Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trudy will ask the Township Board to add an addendum to the Communications/Media Commission By-laws to have our Buckeye Rep as a liaison • Trudy will contact Bedford’s Buckeye Rep to get him scheduled to attend our meetings.

Public Comment:

- Tim McAfee – Noted that the Communications/Media Commission is breaking federal law by holding two different meetings at the same time.
- Ken Shreve – Noted that he was asked to attend the meeting by Gene Stock and that he thinks we’re on the right track in trying to establish more communication opportunities for Bedford residents with Buckeye. His service has increased in cost and decreased in reliability. Buckeye’s response is that he should purchase new equipment from them for \$150, plus a \$20 TiVo fee monthly, to receive more reliable service.
- Patrick Mahoney – letter presented by Corey Welch as Patrick could not attend meeting. Full letter attached with Minutes. Patrick disapproves of Buckeye’s requirement that customers use their modem, which are obsolete, at a cost of \$7 monthly, and won’t let customers purchase their own. Since there is no competition for high-speed internet in our community, Buckeye is taking full advantage of us.

Next meeting set for: Monday, February 13, 2017 at **6:30 pm**

Meeting adjourned: 8:25 pm

January 9, 2017

Corey Welch

Jodi Russ

Re: Buckeye Broadband

I cannot attend the open meeting this evening, so it was suggested that I forward my concerns to the two of you.

I had an issue with Buckeye Broadband regarding the policy of the customer being forced to rent their cable modem. One cannot simply purchase their own. In fact, Arris, the manufacturer of their cable modems, laughed at the fact that all of the modems they approve of (there are 12 or so on their list that they support) are obsolete. So maybe you can find one on line somewhere to buy, but you get no warranty. It is nothing short of a tie-in contract. They charge \$7.00 per month for use of their modem.

They acknowledged this a year or so ago, said they contacted Keith Wilkowski, their corporate attorney, and he would look into the matter. I never heard back. I am not surprised, this is just the type of company Buckeye is. So I, and many others have probably paid for our obsolete modems 2 or 3 times over, and no reasonable opportunity to purchase our own.

I also resent the fact that they charge a \$2.00 printed statement fee.

I wish there was competition for high speed internet in our community, but the reality is, there isn't, and Buckeye Broadband takes full advantage.

Sincerely,

Patrick Mahoney
1433 Winding Way
Temperance, MI 48182
419-250-1627