

CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD

06/13/2025

A meeting of the Cable Television Advisory Board was held June 13, 2025 at 8:30 am in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Members of the Committee: Andrew Cernota, Chairman

Tim Cummings, Administrative Services Director

Ernest Jette, Alderman

Jennifer McCormack, Library Director

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO

Steve Buxton, Fire Chief

Lauren Byers, DPW Designee

Cole Morgan

Captain Pat Hannan

Emily Vassar

Gregory Rodriguez

Rony Camille, Citizen Representative

Also present: Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator

Dan Young, Nashua Community Media

George Russell

Bob Bartis

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Welcome everyone to the June 13, 2025 meeting of the Cable Television Advisory Board. We'll begin with roll call. Jeff Poehnert

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:
Here

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
Dan Young

Dan Young, Nashua Community Media:
Here

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
Pete Johnson

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:
Here

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
I am here. Alderman Jette

Ernest Jette, Alderman:
Here

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
Nick Miseirvitch

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:
Here

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:
The two-year project to replace the cameras in the TV studio was ending. Three new Canon CR-N500 4K PTZ cameras, point-tilt zoom cameras, including new cabling and pedestal mounts, were delivered and installed in early May. Each camera has a front-facing talent monitor, and one of the cameras have also been outfitted with a teleprompter. As part of the project, the 15-year-old compact fluorescent bulbs in the TV studio lighting were replaced as well. The makeshift stage was permanently removed, and both studio and control rooms were completely cleaned out and have their floors cleaned and waxed. The equipment in the control room was rewired. The audio mixer was replaced, and an area rug was installed to help protect the floor. There are still a few cosmetic things left to complete, but all in all, we are pleased with the progress to date. We may want to consider getting an additional, matching point-tilt zoom camera that could be used when needed in the studio for larger events or for field production work.

The video editing computers that were purchased for use by Jeff and Pete in 2019 are nearing the end of their five-year service life. These computers get continuous use, almost daily, and we would like to purchase new editing graphic design systems for Dan, Jeff, and Pete. The two current computers would be repurposed to be used as the public editing computers in the lobby. Those computers, that are now 10 years old, are limiting the program updates for several pieces

of software, including current Adobe Suite programs and VEGAS Pro editing software. More recently, the computers have been completely freezing during routine editing tasks, forcing hard system reboots. One of the systems has been unable to successfully perform an update to Windows 11. Mid-range editing systems of the type we would need are running close to \$5000 each. We have been very busy recently, but we hope to bring you a more concrete number in, today, and actually, Pete's got the numbers. He's, so, I apologize. I'm not really sure. When he comes back, he can give you those details.

The Alliance for Community Media will be holding their national conference later this month in Boston. It is a unique opportunity to have the event so close and within driving distance. Seminars include driving new revenue streams, free speech and empowerment in community media, legal, legislative and FCC updates, reaching younger audiences with sports coverage, state legislative solutions, creating local news operations, and the potential benefits of regionalization and the use of AI and access. If anyone is interested in looking at the full list of seminars and events, we can get you a copy.

Dan Young, Nashua Community Media:

Dan Young, Nashua Community Media. I'll take the place of Pete this morning. Pete has included or we've included on ETV a list of the programming accomplishments which everybody can read. But just to highlight a couple in March, which seems like such a long time ago now, we did a bunch of live basketball. We recorded several Ion Educations, including one in particular with Lisa Gingras, the Athletic Coordinator for Nashua High North and South. She chatted about something that we'll talk about a little bit later, which is the National Athletics Hall of Fame. April, one of the, the key ones was the live coverage of the National School District Budget public hearing at Nashua High North. In May we, as you can see, we did a lot of sports, some playoff games. We recorded a loyalty day ceremony at the Nashua Senior Activity Center and with some of our partner stations through the New Hampshire Coalition for Community Media, we were able to help record joint games between Bishop Guertin and Bedford. We do a lot with Exeter as well, when either Exeter comes to town or when Exeter, or when one of our teams go out to Exeter. We carry their coverage, they carry our coverage, we help each other through everything.

Also, in May, we recorded the Nashua Community College 2025 Spring Commencement and the Battle of the Bridge baseball game, which announced the inductees into the National Athletics Hall of Fame, which, the following, which the following Sunday, we then recorded the Hall of Fame ceremony itself. Then this week, we've also recorded and live-streamed, the Nashua High South and Nashua High North graduation ceremonies on it, and it was a late-night last night. But when we got back, the, our Telview server, which is our playback server, allows us to look at a couple of numbers now, which Comcast normally or Comcast doesn't provide, and looking at those numbers for the Nashua High South graduation, and this is only on the live-stream off of the city website, we had a total number of views of 942, with 489 viewers. North received 894 total views with 450 viewers, ranging as far as, New Zealand, India. We had a lot of viewers in the Dominican Republic and the Islands area.

Then, I just took a quick look back and for the Nashua Community College graduation, which was also the same night as the Battle of the Bridge baseball, so these two numbers combined, we

had a total of 628 total views, with 306 viewers, which, to me, those numbers are big and it's nice to see numbers of physical viewers, and I'm just going to also say that last night at the Nashua High North graduation, I was wearing my ETV shirt, and a couple stopped me and thanked us for the airing their grandson's basketball games that they watched. They were down in Lester, Mass, and they were very happy that we do that, as well. And now I'm rambling, so there we go. I played the part of Pete.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Thank you. Mr. Johnson, part of the report touched on the editing suites.

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

Pricing, yes.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Mr. Poehnert said that you had some updated pricing on that.

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

Correct, so we asked the IT department what it would cost for them to actually build us computers. So, what we were looking at in that \$5000 number I believe Jeff mentioned was direct pre-built computers from Dell that they list as for editing purposes. We spoke with them, and looks like they believe they could do it for \$6000 with everything brand new, including widescreen monitors, which we don't currently have, either.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Moving on. The next item on the agenda is Alderman Jetty.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

So, before you move on, I have a couple of questions.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Sure.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Mr. Poehnert, you talked about, in the paragraph entitled Studio Camera Replacement Project Update, the last sentence says we may want to consider getting an additional matching PTZ-

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:

Point-tilt zoom.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Camera that could be used when needed in the studio for larger events or for field production work. So, I'm trying to imagine, what, what kind of larger events would occur in the studio that would require this camera?

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:

Well, I'm not so sure about the studio, but certainly field production, it would be. I mean, the

way I look at it, this would be more for field production, because we don't have a very big studio. But there is, there could be, some events where we were pointing the camera back, to the back of the studio, and we would need something like that, but it wouldn't be very normal. It wouldn't be something we'd use a lot.

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

I can give a little bit of an example. The Public Access is currently producing a music show, and they bring a band in, and the band, you could set a PTZ camera within the group there and be able to get different types of shots of a band. We've had bands in there occasionally. Sometimes we need that area. Since there's no longer a stage, we do have more area on the floor and we could do, like, a small debate or something of that nature in the studio as well.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Okay.

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

I think we've been very happy with the new cameras, and when you look at them compared to the old PTZ, which we've had there for six years now, the first one we got, that's what we're using for remote productions, it's just a night and day difference between the, the good Canon camera and sort of the cheaper ones that we bought, basically for meeting coverage. It's same as we have in this room here, which is fine for Aldermanic meetings, but get out and kind of, you want to have as, as good a camera as possible, especially in low light situations and such.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Okay. Thank you. Can you remind me again what PTZ means?

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

It stands for a point tilt zoom, so the camera itself, like these that you see on the wall, somebody's controlling them from a different room, and they're able to maneuver the camera left and right, up and down, and also zoom in and out from another room, so when you're watching a meeting in this room, you might notice that you're on camera at one point in time. It switches to Mr. Cernota, and then could switch back over to me. And each time there's a switch, you could maybe come out to a two-shot or the whole desk here, so that's how you see all the different views that you see when you watch a meeting.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Okay. Thank you, and I have another question, if I could?

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Certainly.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

So, in the report we were given, you were talking about going back and seeing how many people looked at a program. And you gave us two numbers. What, and what, so what, what are those two numbers? What's the difference between them.

Dan Young, Nashua Community Media:

That is a very good question. Dan Young, Nashua Community Media. I am under the impression that viewers is individual people viewing the show, so in this case, South, 489 viewers did a total number of 942 views, which sounds to me, and this is research that I need to do, or that we need to do, sounds to me like 489 people tuned in and at some point, tuned out, but then that same person tuned back in again. So maybe they lost a network connection. Maybe they saw that, "Oh, we're only at the As and my kid is in the Zs," or, "My grandson," or whoever. That's kind of the impression that I got from it. It's something that I need to do a little bit more research to find out. But I think for me, the big number is the viewers at 489.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Okay.

Dan Young, Nashua Community Media:

Hopefully that answers ...

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

I don't know an answer to that question specifically, but in looking at last year's YouTube statistics for people that watched on YouTube after the fact, both graduations were at about 1000 viewers on YouTube, and obviously we have no information as how many watches on Comcast, which there's still a large number of Comcast subscribers in Nashua.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Okay. Thank you.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:

Mr. Chairman?

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Mr. Miseirvitch.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:

Nick Miseirvitch, I have a question for Mr. Poehnert. For the Community Media National Conference, are you planning or any of your staff planning on attending?

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:

Yes. We all are going to attend, although I may not be able to because of personal family things, because it's happening in the second week that I might be out in California. For my daughter's operation.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:

All right, thank you.

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

I did not get a chance yet to create that list, I was hoping, of the events at the conference. I will try to get that out to the group this afternoon. If Mr. Poehnert isn't able to go, we're already past

the deadline that you could get your money back, but maybe, anyone from the committee that might be interested in going down for a day and seeing what happens, sort of on our side of the world, I think it would be a great experience, and certainly be willing to bring somebody down with us if they're interested in seeing that. It's a great time to go and see what others are doing in the field of community access television.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Thank you. National Public Television Report.

Bob Bartis:

Thank you. Bob Bartis on behalf of National Public Television. During the last quarter, we programmed and played over 2800 shows. 382 of that 2800 were first run or first aired shows. There were 21 live events that were presented on Channel Six. We continue to operate the live cameras throughout the city that we have had now for a year or two years now, between Nashua River, Chamber of Commerce, The Art Center, the Library, Senior Center, entrance to Mines Falls, and North and South views on Main Street. In addition, we've added a camera during the last quarter at the, to capture the mural painting at 14 Court Street, and we thank American Legion, for allowing us to gain access to the building, put the camera up, and be able to have that mural viewed 24/7 as that was painted on the backside of the, what was the, well, 14 Court Street.

The live events that we've had this past quarter included the Nashua Fire Rescue promotion ceremony, the Nashua Police Cone with a Cop, the VFW Loyalty Day, the Memorial Day parade. We covered some ward meetings, that Mayor Donchess attended. There was some timing and personnel conflicts with the Government Channel, so Public Access was able to cover those while Government Channel was covering Budget Meetings and such here in this building. So, those were covered, along with United Way functions and some Chamber of Commerce events, and Nashua Community Media as a collective whole, we continue to do quarterly lunch and learns with Mr. Johnson, Dan Young and myself. We go, and then the last quarterly meeting was hosted in Merrimack and there were 10 other towns or cities that participated, so it's an opportunity to meet and hear what other towns and cities are doing. They showcase a town. They have some guest speakers come in, so it also brings us together, the Hillsborough, Merrimack, and Rockingham County Public Access Channels, to see what, what's all going on.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Thank you. There's no old business on the agenda, so moving on to new business. There is a request for editing computer discussion and approval. Let's start off with a motion, and then we'll have discussion of the motion. Would anyone like to make the motion to approve the purchase of the editing computers?

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:

I guess it would be a, not to exceed amount of 6000.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Okay. At a price of not to exceed 6000.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:
And that's for how many?

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:
Three.

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:
That would be for three.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:
So, three for 6000, or 6000 each?

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:
No. Each. All three for 6000.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:
Okay

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
Mr. Miseirvitch?

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:
Nick Miseirvitch, I move to approve the purchase of three additional PCs, not to exceed \$6000.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
There is a motion. Any discussion? Alderman Jetty?

Ernest Jette, Alderman:
I'd like to hear more about buying it from Dell would cost 5000, and, but our IT department could build them themselves for 6000? Was there-

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:
Mr. Miseirvitch may be able to answer that question a little bit better. In general, the ones that we had prior, that were done five years ago, were also built by the IT department. So, we basically, order the computer parts, which are less expensive than going through Dell. Nick, maybe you could explain a little better.

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:
Sure, no problem. Nick Miseirvitch. What happens is we purchase the individual components that the team wants as opposed to ordering a prepackaged item that's provided by a manufacturer, so, they get the exact components they want, so it might be a better video card than what Dell offers, or it may be an additional item that Dell didn't offer, and so it just ... we order the parts independently and then assemble it and, get it ready for the staff.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:
Alderman Jetty.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

So even though it costs more, it would, end up with better products?

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

More tailored for what we're doing, so specifically tailored. So, there are some items on it that we need for certain programs to run properly. Most things don't use card readers anymore, internal card readers, but we need card readers to be able to look at the, the camera cards that come in when people come back from an event. So, a camera card reader is not much, but those types of things aren't being built into computers anymore. They said it was actually difficult to get new ones, the card readers, but, so it, more tailored for what we need as opposed to a general computer which you're buying from Dell.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Mr. Poehnert.

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:

Jeff Poehnert. I just want to say, Mr. Malevich's IT department, you built the ones we've got now and they've been flawless through all these years, and they service them. If something did happen or something like that, we can go right to them, so it's been really good as far as that goes, the partnership.

Ernest Jette, Alderman:

Okay. Thank you.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Any other discussion? And we'll move the question. All those in favor?

EVERYONE:

Aye.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

All those opposed? The motion passes. We're back to public comment. Still no members of the public present, so remarks by members. Anyone like to make any remarks?

Pete Johnson, Education Channel Access Administrator:

I'll just say that starting next week we'll have replays on the channel for the graduations. We did three graduations this week. We also went and did the Brentwood Academy yesterday as well.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Thank you. Mr. Poehnert.

Jeff Poehnert, PEG Program Manager:

We will be covering Flag Day events tomorrow.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

Terrific. Any other remarks? If not, is there a final motion?

Nick Miseirvitch, IT CIO:

Motion to adjourn.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

There's a motion to adjourn. Well, no discussion on the motion. All those in favor?

EVERYONE:

Aye.

Andrew Cernota, Chairman:

All those opposed? All right. Thank you, everyone.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50 am.