

## **NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MEETING**

December 18, 2024  
6:00 P.M.  
200 Civic Heights Circle  
Circle Pines, Minnesota

### **AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS
3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
4. CONSENT AGENDA
  - a. Minutes of regular meeting of September 18, 2024 **pp. 2 - 4**
  - b. Minutes of Cable Commission Workshop of November 19, 2024 **p. 5**
  - c. Minutes of Executive Committee meeting of December 11, 2024 **pp. 6 - 7**
  - d. Minutes of Operations Committee meetings of October - December, 2024 **pp. 8 - 11**
  - e. Approve September 2024 – December 2024 financial reports and bill lists
5. REPORT OF INTERIM CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
  - a. September Miscellaneous Updates **pp. 12 - 14**
  - b. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Comcast Franchise and PEG Fee Reports **p. 15**
6. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. Franchise Extension **pp. 16 - 18**
7. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Set Date for February 2025 Cable Commission Meeting **p. 19**
8. RECOMMENDED READING **pp. 20 - 24**
9. COMMUNITY CALENDAR
  - a. Next Meeting Dates:
    - i) Operations Committee – January 7, 2025
    - ii) Executive Committee – February 5, 2025
    - iii) Cable Commission – TBD at Spring Lake Park City Hall
10. ADJOURN

## **NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

### **UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**Commission Meeting – September 18, 2024**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair B. Goodboe-Bisschoff called the regular meeting of the North Metro Telecommunications Commission to order at 6:03 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Directors Present:** Chris Massoglia; Blaine, D. Love; Centerville (arrived at 6:07 p.m.), Nici Dorner; Circle Pines, Jesse Wilken; Ham Lake, Brandon Winge; Lexington, Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff; Spring Lake Park

**Directors Absent:** Dale Stoesz; Lino Lakes

**Others Present:** Mike Bradley; Legal Counsel, Greg Emmerich; CPA, Eric Houston; Interim Co-Executive Director, Danika Peterson; Interim Co-Executive Director

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

#### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

No changes were made to the agenda.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The June 13, 2024, NMTC meeting minutes, the September 11, 2024, Executive Committee meeting minutes, the June, July, and August, 2024, Operations Committee meeting minutes, and the financial reports were approved as presented. **Motion for approval made by: C. Massoglia. Second: B. Winge. The motion was approved by C. Massoglia, N. Dorner, J. Wilken, B. Winge, and B. Goodboe-Bisschoff. D. Love was not yet in attendance.**

#### **2023 AUDIT PRESENTATION**

G. Emmerich, of Harrington, Langer and Associates, reviewed the 2022 North Metro Telecommunications Commission annual report. No abnormalities were found and the Commission is in a strong financial position.

**MOTION:** To approve the 2022 North Metro Telecommunications Commission annual financial report as presented. **Motion for approval made by: C. Massoglia. Second: N. Dorner. Motion approved unanimously.**

### **REPORT OF INTERIM CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

E. Houston and D. Peterson reported on the following items:

- Kenton Kipp, Ted Leroux and the sports team brought their talents to the annual USA Cup Soccer Tournament in Blaine, taping 27 games and opening ceremonies. This was a work for hire project for the National Sports Center, grossing the station \$16,750.
- Public Access Producer Rick Larson of Blaine completed the 1,900<sup>th</sup> episode of his show LovePower.
- The NMTV Sports team was honored with several awards at this year's NATOA Government Programming Awards.
- Eric Houston introduced a new class which teaches seniors how to use internet resources to appraise their antiques.
- Eric Neslon and TJ Tronson taped stories about Night to Unite parties in Blaine and Lino Lakes.
- Danika Peterson and Eric Nelson have launched their 2024 Local Decision election coverage with plans to interview 43 local candidates.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Comcast franchise and PEG fees were received. Franchise fees were within expectations, while PEG fees were a bit lower than hoped. Funding for the 2024 budget is in good shape.

**MOTION:** To accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Comcast PEG and Franchise Fees. **Motion for approval made by: C. Massoglia. Second: D. Love. Motion approved unanimously.**

### **REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL**

M. Bradley reported on the following items:

- Attorney Mike Bradley brought a new Digital Equity Competitive Grant from the NTIA to the Commission's attention and highlighted plans by Commission staff and the Operations Committee to apply.
- He also discussed new DOJ rules on ADA compliance for city web pages and mobile apps.
- The FCC has reclassified broadband from an information service to a telecommunication service, giving the FCC more authority over broadband. That order, however, has been stayed.

**MOTION:** To accept the Report of Legal Counsel. **Motion made by J. Wilken. Second: C. Massoglia. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- The Commission considered an offer from Comcast of a five year extension of the current franchise.

**MOTION:** To authorize staff to negotiate an acceptable, five year extension of the current franchise with Comcast. **Motion made by C. Massoglia. Second: J. Wilken. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m. **Motion for approval made by: C. Massoglia. Second: B. Winge. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Brandon Winge; Secretary, NMTC

# **NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

## **UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**Workshop – November 19, 2024**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair B. Goodboe-Bisschoff called the North Metro Telecommunications Commission workshop to order at 6:08 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Directors Present:** Chris Massoglia; Blaine, D. Love; Centerville, Nici Dorner; Circle Pines, Jesse Wilken; Ham Lake, Brandon Winge; Lexington, Dale Stoesz; Lino Lakes, Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff; Spring Lake Park

**Directors Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Mike Bradley; Legal Counsel, Eric Houston; Interim Co-Executive Director, Danika Peterson; Interim Co-Executive Director

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- The Commission discussed a potential merger with the Northwest Suburbs Cable Communications Commission/CCX Media. The Commission agreed by consensus to discontinue the merger discussions.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Brandon Winge; Secretary, NMTC

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Meeting of December 11, 2024

Executive Cmte. Present: Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff; Spring Lake Park, Dale Stoesz; Lino Lakes, Chris Massoglia; Blaine, Brandon Winge; Lexington

Absent:

Others Present: Eric Houston; Interim Co-ED, Danika Peterson; Interim Co-ED, Mike Bradley; Commission Attorney

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion to approve the September 11, 2024, Executive Committee meeting minutes and the November 19, 2024, Cable Commission Workshop minutes was made by D. Stoesz. Second, B. Winge. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

- The North Metro TV News Team recorded 32 candidate interviews for election season. The interview videos were popular on social media, receiving 8,181 views in total.
- The NMTC applied for a Digital Equity Competitive Grant through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The total ask was \$5,091,04.08 in federal funds.
- NMTV staff met recently to discuss ways of streamlining city meeting recording procedures.
- Several members of the NMTV staff have attended seminars relating to web content accessibility, with the goal of being able to provide support to city staff in advance of new ADA requirements.
- On November 19, the NMTV News team acted quickly to interview Blaine Police following gunfire and arrests near the NMTV studios. The resulting video was very popular, receiving 5,000 online views in its first 24 hours. This was an excellent example of the successful station pivot to shortform, web based content.
- The North Metro TV Sports Team taped nine playoff games between October and November, covering all three of our area high schools. Winter coverage is planned for 20 different high school matchups, with all 20 games exclusively featuring our three area high schools playing each other.
- Comcast informed the Franchise Administrator of an increase in subscriber rates beginning January 1, 2025.
- The Commission received the third quarter gross revenue, franchise, and PEG fee reports and payments from Comcast. PEG fees remained within the expected range, but franchise fees were lower than expected. Overall, though, 2025 budget estimates remain in good shape.

### **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

- As he is unable to attend the regular Cable Commission meeting, Commission Attorney Mike Bradley presented his report to the Executive Committee.
- Mike informed the Commission of his recent experience speaking on cable franchising to several different groups, including to the ACM NE conference.
- The Commission briefly discussed possible changes that may come with the appointment of a new FCC Chair.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- The Commission discussed the draft ordinance extending the current Comcast Cable Franchise for five years. The ordinance was drafted by Commission Attorney Mike Bradley and the language has been approved by Comcast.

**MOTION:** To recommend that the Commission approve and recommend the cable franchise extension for adoption by each of the member cities and for Interim Co-Executive Director Eric Houston to accept the Ordinance Extension following adoption by the member cities. **Motion made by D. Stoesz.**

**Second: B. Winge. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- The Interim Co-Executive Directors recommended rescheduling the February 2025 Cable Commission Meeting to avoid conflicts with City Council schedules.

**MOTION:** To recommend that the Commission reschedule the February 2025 Cable Commission Meeting date from February 19, 2025, to February 13, 2025. **Motion made by D. Stoesz. Second: C. Massoglia. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn made by D. Stoesz. Second, C. Massoglia. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.**

**NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
UNAPPROVED OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting began at 11:14 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

P. Antonen, D. Buchholtz, S. Cotton, M. Statz, D. Webster, M. Wolfe

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

B. Petracek

**OTHERS PRESENT**

E. Houston, D. Peterson

**APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES**

The meeting notes of September, 2024, were approved by consensus.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- North Metro TV News has launched their 2024 Local Decision Election Coverage with 32 local candidate interviews airing on cable and online.
- The NMTC applied for a Digital Equity Competitive Grant offered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Staff updated the committee on the status of the Comcast franchise extension.
- The committee discussed the potential merger between the NMTC and NWSCC/CCX Media.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- The committee discussed moving the November 2024 Operations Committee meeting date, but decided against it. The meeting remains scheduled for November 5.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.



**NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
APPROVED OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting began at 11:05 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

P. Antonen, S. Cotton, M. Statz, D. Webster (departed at 11:45 a.m.), M. Wolfe

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

D. Buchholtz, B. Petracek

**OTHERS PRESENT**

E. Houston, D. Peterson

**APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES**

The meeting notes of October, 2024, were approved by consensus.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- North Metro TV staff filmed multiple fall events across the area.
- The 32 candidate interviews created for Local Decision 2024 received another 6,360 views.
- The Interim Co-Executive Directors met with station staff to discuss new policies and procedures to improve city meeting recordings.
- The Commission received the third quarter Franchise and PEG Fee Reports from Comcast.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- The committee reviewed the Comcast Cable Franchise Extension Ordinance drafted by Commission Attorney Mike Bradley.

**MOTION:** To authorize Commission staff to send the draft Comcast Cable Franchise Extension Ordinance to Comcast. **Motion for approval made by: M. Statz. Second: S. Cotton. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- The committee discussed the potential merger between the NMTC and NWSCC/CCX Media.
- The committee considered ongoing discussions concerning a potential partnership with the City of Columbia Heights.
- The Interim Co-Executive Directors presented a report on the current status of the partnership between North Metro TV and School Space Media and their website NSPN.tv.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- The committee discussed temporary pay for Commission staff member TJ Tronson for additional duties relating to managing city meeting part-time staff.

**MOTION:** To authorize temporary pay to TJ Tronson for additional duties managing city meeting staff of 8% of his current salary with pay retroactive to September 1, 2024.

**Motion for approval made by: M. Statz. Second: M. Wolfe. The motion was approved by P. Antonen and S. Cotton. D. Webster was no longer in attendance.**

- The committee considered rescheduling the January 2025 Operations Committee Meeting from December 31, 2024, to January 7, 2025.

**MOTION:** To reschedule the January 2025 Operations Committee Meeting from December 31, 2024 to January 7, 2025. **Motion for approval made by: M. Statz. Second: M. Wolfe. The motion was approved by P. Antonen and S. Cotton. D. Webster was no longer in attendance.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.**

**NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
APPROVED OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting began at 11:14 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

P. Antonen, S. Cotton, M. Statz, D. Webster, M. Wolfe

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

D. Buchholtz, B. Petracek

**OTHERS PRESENT**

E. Houston, D. Peterson

**APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES**

The meeting notes of November 5, 2024, were approved by consensus.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- The North Metro TV news team took quick action to cover a breaking story involving police action in a nearby neighborhood. The resulting video was very popular, generating 5,000 views in its first 24 hours.
- Kenton Kipp, Ted Leroux, and the NMTV Sports team covered nine playoff games between October and November, highlighting all three area high schools.
- Station staff continues to research ADA compliance for government website accessibility.
- The Commission received notice of a Comcast rate increase beginning January 1, 2025.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- The committee discussed the status of the Comcast Cable Franchise Extension Ordinance drafted by Commission Attorney Mike Bradley, which has been sent to Comcast for their review.
- The committee discussed the November 19 Cable Commission Workshop.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- The committee considered how best to support Commission and MACTA legislative efforts regarding the Equal Access to Broadband Act.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m. Motion to adjourn made by: M. Wolfe.  
Second: M. Statz. The motion was approved unanimously.

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## NORTH METRO TV

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**TO:** CABLE COMMISSION  
**FROM:** ERIC HOUSTON & DANIKA PETERSON  
**SUBJECT:** DECEMBER MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES  
**DATE:** 12/5/2024

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### **Local Decision 2024**

Election season is over and the results are in. North Metro TV's Local Decision coverage was a big hit once again. Interim Co-Executive Director and News Director Danika Peterson and News Producer Eric Nelson created 32 candidate interviews for 2024. The interviews aired on Channel 15, on the relevant city channels, on YouTube, and on northmetrotv.com. Voters could also see biographies of all of the candidates on our website. Altogether, these election videos received 8,181 online views, with nearly a quarter of all viewers watching in the first five days of November

TJ Tronson was also hard at work on election programming, filming a total of 10 candidate forums hosted by the League of Women Voters and the North Metro Mayors Association. Most of these forums were work for hire projects, earning the station nearly \$2,000.

### **NTIA Grant**

On September 23, the NMTC applied for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)'s Digital Equity Competitive Grant. Our final federal request was \$5,091,064.08 and includes equipment upgrades and additional staff for the station. It also includes nearly \$1.5 million dollars in funds for upgrades to city video equipment and assistance with ADA compliance. We hope to hear if the application was successful by the end of the year.

### **City Meeting Improvements**

In October, the Interim Co-Executive Directors met with Events Coordinator TJ Tronson, Programming Coordinator Michele Sylvester, and Engineer Matt Waldron to discuss new policies and procedures to improve city meeting recordings. Plans were put in place to create new, more detailed "how to" guides for each city, improve back up recordings and file management, and to create a new system for improved video and audio signal checks before and after meetings.

### **Website Accessibility**

Programming Coordinator Michele Silvester attended a seminar hosted by the Alliance for Community Media that focused on Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG-2). She learned about future requirements for alternative text, audio description, font colors, and more. Interim Co-Executive Director Danika Peterson completed an accessibility class through the University of Illinois that highlighted legal requirements through the ADA, learning about captioning, subtitles, and audio description. Staff will continue learning about the upcoming requirements for the commission and its member cities that begin in April of 2026.

### **Blaine Police Department Video**

On November 19, a flurry of sirens signaled trouble just blocks from the North Metro TV studio. The NMTV news team jumped into action, racing to the scene and filming the Blaine Police Department and Anoka County Sheriff's Office responding to reports of shots fired. News Producer Eric Nelson was the only reporter on the scene and secured an exclusive interview with Chief Brian Podany, while Interim Co-Executive Director and News Director Danika Peterson edited the piece, getting it online within just a couple of hours. The story quickly received a number of likes and shares along with some 5,000 views in its first 24 hours of posting. This is a great example of NMTV's successful pivot to short form content and social media posting, which allows us to quickly publish timely content with broad local appeal.

### **Fall and Winter Sports Update**

Kenton Kipp, Ted Leroux and the NMTV Sports Team covered a whopping nine playoff games between October and November. Teams from all three north metro high schools competed in the playoffs this year with football, volleyball, and soccer all receiving North Metro TV coverage. And with fall behind us, the winter season is officially underway. Kenton has crafted a really exciting schedule this year with all 20 of the planned games exclusively featuring matchups between our three local schools.

### **Cable Rate Increase**

In November, Comcast informed the Franchise Administrator of an increase in subscriber rates beginning January 1, 2025. The email from Comcast is included in this packet as is a sheet comparing the old and new rates. The rates impact both cable and internet fees. Cable rates will increase between six percent and 60 percent, depending on the service. We expect to see an impact on Franchise Fees in the first quarter 2025 report, which we should receive by the end of April.

# Important information regarding our Xfinity services and pricing

Effective January 1, 2025

Xfinity TV	Current	New
Limited Basic (Includes Broadcast TV Fee)	\$36.90	\$42.75
Choice TV Select	\$43.50	\$48.00
Choice TV Select - with TV Box (Flex upgrade)	\$53.50	\$60.00
Choice TV (Includes Broadcast TV Fee)	\$55.30	\$61.15
Popular TV (Includes Broadcast TV Fee and Regional Sports Fee)	\$97.55	\$93.05
Ultimate TV (Includes Broadcast TV Fee and Regional Sports Fee)	\$116.05	\$122.75
Genre Packs		
Sports & News (Includes Regional Sports Fee)	\$42.25	\$31.90
Ultimate TV Upgrade (Includes Regional Sports Fee)	\$18.50	\$29.70

Xfinity TV Service Fees (Included in package price where noted)	Current	New
Broadcast TV Fee	\$25.30	\$31.15
Regional Sports Fee - Popular TV and Sports & News	\$12.25	\$1.90
Regional Sports Fee - Ultimate TV and Ultimate TV Upgrade	\$12.25	\$13.10

Xfinity Internet	Current	New
Connect	\$64.00	\$67.00
Connect More	\$76.00	\$79.00
Fast	\$86.00	\$89.00
Superfast	\$96.00	\$99.00
Gigabit	\$106.00	\$109.00
Gigabit Extra	\$116.00	\$119.00

Xfinity Discounts	Current	New
Autopay and Paperless Billing Discount (Credit or Debit Card)	\$5.00	\$2.00

Xfinity Equipment	Current	New
TV Box (Includes Remote)	\$10.00	\$12.00
TV Adapter for Primary TV (Includes Remote)	\$10.00	\$12.00
TV Adapter (Limited Basic - Primary TV, Includes Remote)	\$0.00	\$0.50
TV Adapter (Limited Basic - 1st and 2nd Additional TVs, Includes Remote)	\$0.00	\$0.50

## **NORTH METRO TV**

**TO:** CABLE COMMISSION  
**FROM:** ERIC HOUSTON & DANIKA PETERSON  
**SUBJECT:** THIRD QUARTER COMCAST FRANCHISE AND PEG FEE REPORTS  
**DATE:** 12/5/2024

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The Commission has received the third quarter gross revenue, franchise, and PEG fee reports and payments from Comcast. Comcast is required to provide these payments and reports within 30 days of the end of the quarter. PEG Fees remained within the expected range, but Franchise Fees were lower than expected. Overall, though, 2025 budget estimates remain in good shape.

## NORTH METRO TV

**TO:** CABLE COMMISSION  
**FROM:** ERIC HOUSTON & DANIKA PETERSON  
**SUBJECT:** FRANCHISE EXTENSION  
**DATE:** 12/11/2024

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At the September Cable Commission meeting, the Commission voted to pursue a five year extension of the current Comcast Cable Franchise. The Commission authorized Attorney Mike Bradley to draft an ordinance amending the franchise to reflect the extension. That draft has since been approved by Comcast.

Once approved by the Commission, the Interim Co-Executive Directors and Attorney Bradley will customize the ordinance for each city. Since each member city has its own franchise, each city council will need to individually approve the ordinance.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** to approve and recommend the cable franchise extension for adoption by each of the member cities for Interim Co-Executive Director Eric Houston accept the Ordinance Extension following adoption by the member cities.



NOTE: THIS WILL NEED TO BE AN AGREEMENT AND ORDINANCE  
EACH MEMBER CITY WILL NEED TO ADOPT IT. THE NMTC CAN RECOMMEND IT  
FOR ADOPTION

CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

#### FRANCHISE EXTENSION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, effective \_\_\_\_\_, between the City of \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Ham Lake, Lexington, Lino Lakes or Spring Lake Park], Minnesota (the “City”), and Comcast of Minnesota, Inc., a Minnesota corporation (“Comcast”).

WHEREAS, the City granted Comcast a non-exclusive franchise to construct, operate and maintain a cable television system through a cable television franchise ordinance accepted and agreed upon by Comcast (the “Franchise”);

WHEREAS, the City, is a member of the North Metro Telecommunications Commission (the “Commission”).

WHEREAS, Comcast and the Commission are parties to (1) a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated January 29, 1996; (2) the 1997 Resolution Transferring Community Television Programming Responsibilities from Group W of the North Central Suburbs, d/b/a Meredith Cable to the North Central; and (3) the Franchise Settlement Agreement dated December 17, 2014 (collectively the “Agreements”).

WHEREAS, the term of the Franchise expired on or about December 31, 2020, and Comcast continued to operate under the terms and conditions of the Franchise.

WHEREAS the parties desire to extend the current Franchise and Agreements.

#### **Section 1**

Section 2.4 of the Franchise is hereby amended by extending the term of such Franchise through and including June 30, 2030. The Parties do not waive any rights under Section 626 of the Federal Cable Act and agree that Grantee shall not be required to file an additional Section 626 Letter to preserve its rights to formal proceedings under the Franchise.

#### **Section 2**

Except as specifically modified hereby, the Franchise shall remain in full force and effect.

#### **Section 3**

Neither party waives any rights under law as a result of agreeing to this Franchise extension.

#### **Section 4**

The Agreements shall remain effective so long as Comcast, including any successors or assigns, continues to operate under the Franchise, including as it may be extended pending the completion of the renewal process. Neither the Commission nor Comcast may terminate the Agreements prior to renewal.

**INSERT CITY ORDINANCE SIGNATURE BLOCK**

**ACCEPTANCE BY COMCAST**

**Comcast agrees to the terms and conditions of this Ordinance and Franchise Extension Agreement.**

**Comcast of Minnesota, Inc.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kalyn Hove

Title: Regional Senior Vice President, Comcast Midwest Region

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCEPTANCE BY NORTH METRO TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**North Metro Telecommunications Commission**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commission Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **NORTH METRO TV**

**TO:** CABLE COMMISSION  
**FROM:** ERIC HOUSTON & DANIKA PETERSON  
**SUBJECT:** FEBRUARY CABLE COMMISSION MEETING DATE  
**DATE:** 12/5/2024

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The first Cable Commission meeting for 2025 is scheduled to fall on February 19, the third Wednesday of February. As that date is the same week as President's Day, it will likely conflict with rescheduled city council meetings. The Interim Co-Executive Directors suggest that the meeting be moved to February 13.

[reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com)

# Trump taps Big Tech critic Carr to chair Federal Communications Commission

*David Shepardson, Timothy Gardner*

5–6 minutes

- 
- Summary
  - Companies
  - Carr has taken hard line on Chinese telecom companies
  - Trump will need to name third Republican to FCC before administration can take full control
  - Carr has opposed many key Biden telecom regulations including net neutrality rules

WASHINGTON, Nov 17 (Reuters) - President-elect Donald Trump has picked Brendan Carr, a critic of the Biden administration's telecom policies and Big Tech, as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, he said in a statement on Sunday.

Carr, 45, is currently the top Republican on the FCC, the independent agency that regulates telecommunications.

He has been a harsh critic of the FCC's decision not to finalize nearly [\\$900 million in broadband subsidies](#) for Elon Musk's SpaceX satellite internet unit Starlink, as well as the Commerce Department's [\\$42 billion broadband infrastructure](#) program and President Joe [Biden's spectrum](#)

[policy](#).

Last week, Carr wrote to Meta's Facebook

[\(META.O\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

, Alphabet's

[\(GOOGL.O\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

Google, Apple

[\(AAPL.O\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

and Microsoft

[\(MSFT.O\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

saying they had taken steps to censor Americans. Carr said on Sunday the FCC must "restore free speech rights for everyday Americans."

Democratic Senator Ed Markey said on Sunday Carr's letter amounted to "a regulator implicitly threatening private companies for their speech. The FCC under Trump is prepared to become the Federal Censorship Commission."

The president-elect has scorned actions by Disney's

[\(DIS.N\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

[ABC](#), Comcast's

[\(CMCSA.O\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

NBC and Paramount Global's

[\(PARA.O\)](#), [opens new tab](#)

[CBS](#) and suggested they could lose their FCC licenses for various actions. Trump [also sued CBS over its "60 Minutes" interview](#) with Vice President Kamala Harris.

Carr criticized NBC for letting Harris appear on "Saturday Night Live" just before the election.

## CHINA CRITIC

Item 1 of 2 Brendan Carr answers questions during an oversight hearing held by the U.S. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in Washington, U.S. June 24, 2020. Jonathan Newton/Pool via REUTERS/ File Photo

**[1/2]**Brendan Carr answers questions during an oversight hearing held by the U.S. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in Washington, U.S. June 24, 2020. Jonathan Newton/Pool via REUTERS/ File Photo

[Purchase Licensing Rights, opens new tab](#)

Trump in [his first term called on the FCC](#) to revoke broadcast licenses, prompting then FCC Chair Ajit Pai to reject the idea, saying “the FCC does not have the authority to revoke a license of a broadcast station based on the content.”

The National Association of Broadcasters praised Carr as “a steadfast leader in holding Big Tech accountable and supporting policies that will allow local broadcast stations to better compete with these behemoths and thrive.”

Carr has called on the FCC to loosen rules that limit the number of radio and TV stations a company can own in a single market and criticized the [Biden FCC’s digital discrimination rule](#) arguing it give “the federal government a roving mandate to micromanage nearly every aspect of how the internet functions.”

The FCC issues eight-year licenses to individual broadcast stations, not to broadcast networks.

In 2022, Carr, a strong critic of China, became [the first FCC](#)

[commissioner](#) to visit Taiwan. He has been an advocate of the [FCC's hard line](#) on Chinese telecom companies.

Carr was a [strong opponent of the FCC's decision](#) in April to reinstate landmark net neutrality rules that were repealed during the first Trump administration. The Biden FCC rules were put on hold [by a federal appeals court](#).

Trump nominated Carr to the FCC in his first administration in January 2017 after he had served as the FCC's general counsel.

The incoming administration will need to nominate a Republican to fill a third seat on the five-member commission before it can take full control of the agency. Democrats did not gain full control of the FCC [until September 2023](#) - more than two-and-a-half years into Biden's term.

Carr "is a warrior for free speech, and has fought against the regulatory lawfare that has stifled Americans' freedoms, and held back our economy," Trump said in a statement.

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