**JAG General Meeting Minutes**

**1/29/2020, 12:00 pm in East Brunswick, NJ**

Meeting attended by: Bloomfield- Bob Duthaler, , East Brunswick- Dave Ambrosy, Anthony Pagliuco, Fair Lawn-Dimitry Mikhoylov, Saul Rochman, Robert Horvath, Greyshore Studios, North Brunswick, Craig Yetsko, OPTV -Nick Besink, Linda Besink, Perth Amboy -Dave Garb, Piscataway-Peter Namen, Doug Seidel, George Fairfield, Elio Selvaggio, Val Stevens, Dick Craig, Scotch Plains-Darryl Love, Stephanie Gibbons, Rutgers -Jeff Arban, West Milford – Bob Nicholson, Geoff Belinfante, Woodbridge- Lee Beckerman, JAG Managing Director-Rich Desimone, Independents- Ron Rossnick, Berrie Owens, Vivian Gaspar and guest presenter Joe Castellano-JVC.

JAG President, Bob Duthaler, called meeting to order at 12:05pm. Welcomed everyone and installed newly elected Trustees.

Motion to approve minutes from December meeting by Jeff and second by Geoff. Approved

Introductions went around the room.

Bob reported the board of trustees voted and installed new elected members and gave their positions. Overview of the Trustee meeting and goals: More member friendly and more benefits. Education through webinars. Budget was approved and sent to Executive Committee. Next meeting will be at the retreat in August. Executive Committee will focus on the mission statement.

Reports:

Executive: Clarifications were given regarding some budget lines. The committee will vote on the budget at the next meeting.

Finance: Linda reported the committee met in January, completed any loose ends for 2019.

Production: Lee reported testimonials were completed and will go on the web site after new site changes are completed. NJLM video was being edited. JAG video on hold until mission statement is completed. Discussed Access NJ and participation from the membership.

External Relations: Geoff reported Montclair Univ. reached out regarding helping with Access NJ. Web site needs updates and some changes. Asked for membership input.

Membership: Stephanie said invoices for dues went out. 15 have paid and there are 13 PO’s. 28 members so far. Darryl reported the first non-profit, Cathedral International in Perth Amboy has joined. They want outreach for their community events.

Legislative: Dave Garb received word from NATOA that Massachusetts Senator Markey was putting legislation together to protect local channels from FCC Cable Franchise changes. Talked about having local and state officials send letters of support. No feedback from NJ legislators so far. Discussed Vermont legislation requiring cable providers to give HD channels to PRG stations. Lee reported Comcast will give Woodbridge an HD channel but in the very high number range. Darryl talked about apps for ways to provide for “cord cutters.”

Conference Committee: Stephanie- Registration is open. Reaching out to NATOA for workshop participation. Rich told members to reach out to Linda for a discount code. Independent producers can attend free. There are station volunteer discounts. Call for vendors has been positive.

JAG Awards: George reported the committee has been meeting regularly. Gave details on submitting. 1st entry is free for members of JAG. Will be held at the banquet during the conference.

Continuing Business: Bob gave meeting dates and locations coming up.

Update from the Managing Director: Rich spoke about new changes to P&P and By-laws. He meets with Bob weekly on Mondays. Appreciates the committees commitment to their work.

New Business: Introducing the budget was tabled.

Assistance: Jeff was having trouble with Telvue’s closed captioning and editing content. Bob Nicholson having VOD issues but more to do with his web site design.

Doug Seidel will be handling social media for the conference and Awards and asked for more likes and comments when he posts. This will help posts circulate.

Bob talked about a possible webinar on recovering missed franchise fee monies. He will send an email when it will be scheduled.

Bob introduced Joe Castallano from JVC.

Motion to adjourn by Dave A, second by Darryl. Meeting ended at 1:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Ambrosy, JAG Secretary