**JAG General Meeting Minutes**

**2/24/2021, 12:12 pm Online**

Meeting attended by: Bloomfield- Bob Duthaler, , OPTV – Linda & Nick Besink, Perth Amboy -Dave Garb, Piscataway-, George Fairfield, Doug Seidel, Brian Belzer, Ronnie Garret, Valerie Stevens, Scotch Plains- Darryl Love, Stephanie Gibbons, West Milford –Geoff Belinfante, SOMA- Dustin Dumas, JAG Managing Director-Rich Desimone, Asbury Park- Ed Salvas & Nate McCallister, Fairlawn- Dimitry Mikhaylov, Tiffany Oshinski, North Brunswick -Craig Yetsko, Old Bridge- Mary Granahan, Ind. Member-Robert Horvath, Woodbridge- Lee Beckerman , C-Net-Cindy Hahn, Larry Fast, West Milford-Bob Nicolson, Jesse Lerman and Denise Rolf from Telvue, George Bumiller, Ken Fellman

JAG President, Bob Duthaler, called meeting to order at 12:13 pm.

Motion to approve the January minutes by Geoff, second by Linda. Minutes were approved.

Discussion Topic: OTT and Cord Cutting

Members discussed OTT apps and some have had dedicated station apps developed. Old Bridge researched prices and reported around 18K. Asbury is a station with dedicated apps. Telvue now offering packages for dedicated apps for Apple, Roku for Android and IOS. Discussed more people “cutting the cord.” Ken Fellman’s thoughts are franchise fees will continue to dwindle.

Bob D. introduced Jesse Lerman from Telvue who gave a presentation on Telvue products.

2:20pm Reports

Executive- Bob announced the virtual social “hangs” are on hold for now.

Finance- Linda reported the annual JAG Membership dues are now due. Please join the committee

Production- Youtube Channel is up and running

External Relations- Thanked Doug Seidel for his work on the YT channel. Mentioned improvements to the web site. Valenti will present at the next meeting. North Brunswick will have an article for the newsletter. Thanked Rich for work on the newsletter.

Legislative- Dave G. reported the BPU has been receiving complaints about Altice and plans a hearing in March on service complaints. Ken Fellman briefly discussed a Bill that was introduced that could limit local authority over issues such as Rights of Way and NJLM were aware of it.

Membership- Stephanie reported HB Communications is back as an organizational member. George F said NJAAW who produce Aging Insights became a “non-profit” member and RWJ producers of Health Talk and Middlesex County will soon be members. Linda and Nick have River Edge joining.

Leadership Development- Dave G. said the committee is working with all committees.

JAG Awards- George reported the awards are open now for submissions and the 1st entry is free. $25 per thereafter. Web site section has been updated and they will close on March 31st.

Conference- Bob said it will be virtual in 2021 and details will follow. Thanked Telvue and other vendors for their contributions and support.

New Business- Bob gave the second reading on the budget.

MOTION: To approve JAG Operating Budget for 2021 in the amount of $41,679.00. Motioned by Geoff and second by Linda.

Voting Yes were- Ed Salvas APTV, Bob Duthaler Bloomfield, Dave Ambrosy EBTV, Mary Granahan OBTV, Dave Garb PATV, George Fairfield PCTV, Darryl Love SPTV, Bob Nicholson WMTV, Lee Beckerman TV35.

No abstentions or No votes. The 2021 budget was approved.

Assistance- Old Bridge asked who has responsibility to keep the records of Twp. meetings. The group discussed how their towns handle it as well as legality of editing anything during the meeting.

Darryl brought up a discussion of future virtual conferences to attract interest from around the country.

Meeting ended at 3:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Dave Ambrosy, JAG Recording Secretary