

**Trustees 2022**

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- Doug Seidel VP – 2024
- Anthony Pagliuco
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- Linda Besink Treasurer- 2023
- Stephanie Gibbons
- Corresponding Sec. – 2022
- Dave Garb - 2024
- George Fairfield- 2023
- Bob Nicholson – 2022
- Rick Gearhart – 2024

**Inside This Issue**

- Legislation- The Net Neutrality and Broadband Justice Act pg2
- Operation- Cablecast OTT Spotlight: MCTV Network pg3
- Members Spotlight- Old Bridge Television pg4
- Feature- Glad to be Back Communication pg5  
pg6

**General Meeting Schedule 2022-23**

- Sept. 28- Hybrid**
- Join us at Varto Technologies or via Zoom
- Presentation –Varto Technologies
- Oct. 27- TBD**
- Presentation- TBD
- Dec. 1- TBD**
- Presentation- TBD
- Jan. 25, 2023- TBD**
- REORGANIZATION
- Presentation-JVC
- Feb. 22- TBD**
- Presentation- TelVue
- Mar. 31- TBD**
- Presentation- TBD
- Apr. 26- TBD**
- Presentation- RUSHWORKS
- Jun. 28- TBD**
- No Presentation

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## President’s Message

**Bob Duthaler**



### Short and Sweet ... Just Like Summer

I think the title of my article tells my feelings about summer, it is a great time of the year, but way too short. In summer, you find ways to cram a whole bunch of things to be done in a short time both on the personal and business side. From a production standpoint at the stations I am involved with, summer is a very busy time. There are events throughout the summer we are covering, along with meetings and concerts. I find myself covering three concerts a week at times! Then there are the graduation parties, summer BBQs and most importantly .... VACATION!

The same can be said with running JAG as well. The executive board and committees don’t take time off during the summer. These groups continue to meet and develop the plans that keep the organization running now and in the future. Committees like the JAG Awards and Conference Committee are coming off their annual events. They spend the summer reviewing their performance, making their recommendations to the board and preparing to start up again. Other committees throughout the year work on updating their plans and strategies, and pass these on to the leadership committee which reviews and recommends the final plans. The plans are then passed on to the executive board.

The executive board will hold their annual retreat during the month of August. During this three-to-four-day event, the board will review every facet of our organization. We examine both our Policies & Procedures along with our By-Laws, review our running of the organization, examine its structure, and come up with solutions to move the organization forward. Most of these come directly from Leadership (via individual committees) helping make the review process easier. Unlike a vacation that you look forward to every summer, I am not sure the board thinks this is the highlight of their summer. But we do know that it is very important, and we continue to take seriously this event and the work entailed. Thankfully we also have the help of our managing director to help steer us through this process, prepare all the documents and make changes/updates to all documents after the board goes through them and votes.

As you can tell, summer is a very busy time of year and yet still way too short of a time. I do love the warm summer days, the extended hours of light and the feeling of a nice vacation. But this all-passes way too quickly. So, in keeping with the summer is too short theme, I will make my article Short and Sweet – just like my title says! Final Note: In September, we will begin in person meetings again. We also plan to hold a hybrid online version as well. Look for details next month.



# The Net Neutrality and Broadband Justice Act

Dave Garb, Legislative Committee Chair

## Legislation

A couple weeks ago, Vice President Kamala Harris announced that millions of American households have signed up for broadband internet credits through a provision in the bipartisan infrastructure bill called the Affordable Connectivity Program. This bill passed in November of 2021 and White House officials are calling it an example of the administration's efforts to lower costs for Americans amid the high inflation that has swept our nation.



This program provides eligible households a \$30 monthly credit toward the cost of their internet service plan, or a \$75 monthly credit for households living on Tribal lands. Households with an income at or below 200% of the poverty level are eligible, as well as any household with at least one member who participates in Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Pell Grants, and other programs.



FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel circulated a Notice of Inquiry in mid-July to kick off the agency's annual evaluation of the state of broadband across the country. As part of this assessment, Chairwoman Rosenworcel proposed increasing the national standard for minimum broadband speeds and proposed setting a long-term goal for broadband speed.

"The needs of internet users long ago surpassed the FCC's 25/3 speed metric, especially during a global health pandemic that moved so much of life online," said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. "The 25/3 metric isn't just behind the times, it's a harmful one because it masks the extent to which low-income neighborhoods and rural communities are being left behind and left offline. That's

why we need to raise the standard for minimum broadband speeds now and while also aiming even higher for the future, because we need to set big goals if we want everyone everywhere to have a fair shot at 21<sup>st</sup> century success."

This Notice of Inquiry proposes to increase the national broadband standard to 100 megabits per second for downloading and 20 megabits per second for uploading. The FCC previously set the broadband standard at 25/3 Mbps in 2015 and has not updated it since. It also proposes to set a separate national goal of 1 Gbps/500 Mbps for the future.

Looking beyond speed, Chairwoman Rosenworcel also suggested that the Commission consider affordability, adoption, availability, and equitable access as part of its determination as to whether broadband is being deployed in a reasonable and timely fashion.

Speaking of broadband, the FCC is also hoping to reclassify the Net Neutrality and Broadband Justice Act. They would like to change the designation of internet access as a Title II telecommunications service and return the FCC's authority to impose net neutrality rules.

That authority went away in 2017 when the FCC, under then Chairman Ajit Pai, reclassified it as a Title I information service not subject to mandatory access or potentially rate regulation rules.

This bill has been introduced by Senator Mikey with a companion bill by Rep. Matsui. If passed, broadband would become this Title II status and would then be subject to net neutrality, and other potential requirements

"The pandemic made clear internet access is no longer a luxury, but a necessity—and that consumers don't just need broadband, they need to be able to hold their providers to account," said Chairwoman Rosenworcel.

"After all, everyone should be able to go where they want and do what they want online without their broadband provider making choices for them. I support Net Neutrality because it fosters this openness and accountability. While I trust the FCC has the authority it needs to adopt Net Neutrality rules, legislation that helps ensure it is the law of the land is welcome."

Commissioner, Geoffrey Starks, also gave his support of the bill, "I have previously stated that the FCC's 2015 Net Neutrality rules were the right approach. That approach is undergirded by a voluminous record and overwhelming public support, and it has been tested in court," said Starks. "The Net Neutrality and Broadband Justice Act would codify just that. COVID and the last few years have proven that broadband is essential for the 21st century. This legislation is an important step that will provide certainty to consumers and broadband providers and allow everyone to move forward."





As the community media hub serving the City of Midland, Michigan, Midland Community Television (MCTV Network) enables residents to create original content to inform, entertain, and educate. Operating four cable access TV channels on Charter Spectrum and AT&T U-verse, MCTV expanded its reach last year to include Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire, and mobile devices as well as enhancing its streaming offerings.



MCTV's four channels contribute to a sense of community, providing hyper-local content, transparency in government, and a free speech forum to individuals and organizations. They include Midland Government TV, Midland Public Schools TV, Community Voices (public access), and Community Messages (bulletin board content, as well as live programming beyond what is offered on the other three channels).

While the four Cablecast SX LE HD servers that MCTV purchased in 2014 were still going strong and working reliably, the station knew it needed to expand its distribution platforms to maintain and grow its audience. "We just weren't able to reach people who were dropping cable television," said Matt Richardson, Manager of Midland Community Television. "As a non-commercial entity, we also didn't want to be tied to a commercial service like YouTube."

Working closely with Tightrope's professional services team, MCTV launched custom-branded Cablecast apps for bringing all four of its channels to viewers on three OTT streaming platforms. The MCTV Network Community Voices app was released in early 2021 for Roku, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire. MCTV's channels are also available on iOS and Android mobile devices through the standard Cablecast Community Media mobile app.

"Cablecast made the process of going OTT incredibly easy, with Tightrope support helping us create our branded apps," said Richardson. "Most importantly, our viewers like the OTT option. A lot of people have downloaded our apps, and love being able to watch our channels in HD since our cable channels are limited to SD."

At the same time as launching the new OTT apps, MCTV also upgraded the streaming capabilities on its website. VOD content is now served from Cablecast VOD via the Cablecast Reflect service (it was previously hosted on YouTube), and the addition of Cablecast Live servers enabled live streaming of all channels for the first time.

MCTV is planning to upgrade to Cablecast VIO servers next year, and looks forward to reducing its equipment requirements by running the Cablecast CG bulletin board software on the same server as the station's channel payout. The station is also switching its government meeting coverage from a dedicated municipal governance platform to Cablecast, and is excited about the rich capabilities the Cablecast platform offers for publishing civic meetings. "The ability to have VOD chapter markers and associate agendas as part of every government meeting recording is huge for us operationally, and for our viewers," concluded Richardson.



My name is Aime Alonzo. I am the newly appointed Station Manager of Old Bridge Television or as we call it, OBTV. I was pleased to learn about JAG and to meet many of its supportive members on the phone and at this year's Eastern Video Expo. Let me tell you a little about myself and the station.

I am an actor and a member of SAG/AFTRA. In college I majored in Theater and Film Production, but life's twists and turns took me to Law School. After earning my Juris Doctorate Degree, I worked traditional jobs, but the yearning to be creative kept nagging at me. I went back to acting. I acted in award winning independent projects, produced some independent films and directed an independent series. I also worked as a background actor on TV shows like "Law & Order", "The Equalizer", "FBI" and movies like "Players", and "Your Place or Mine" which will be out soon on Netflix. I am very happy to have joined OBTV. My duties also include overseeing the township website and serving as the Business Administrator's executive assistant.

Old Bridge Television is one of the founding members of JAG. Currently it has only two staff members, including me, the station manager, and Jacob Turchi, a media production technician. OBTV covers the township council meetings, the zoning meetings, and the planning meetings. Original shows include the "Old Bridge Outlook", the Mayor's PSAs, and coverage of township events like the Memorial Day Parade and Old Bridge Day to name a few. We broadcast on Altice channel 15, on Fios channel 22, and on YouTube. In addition to the cable channels, I worked on getting OBTV programming to broadcast on streaming platforms. Residents of Old Bridge can now watch OBTV on Apple TV, Roku, Fire Stick and on android and iPhone apps. Before I began working at the station, I reviewed programming footage. Since my first day on the job, I made it a point to improve the look of our broadcasts. I have experimented mostly with lighting and with JAG's help, I have explored other technical solutions until we are able to upgrade our equipment.

Our studio is comprised of a filming area and a control room. We use three JVC PROHD compact shoulder mount cameras (model number GY-HM850CHU) that are permanently mounted on Bogen tripods (model number 3068 and 3127). Attached to our cameras are JVC Zoom Servo Units and Focus Manual Units which are manipulated on our tripods. We have Swit Electronics Co. LCD Monitor Screens that we use for more flexible viewing and as a composition and framing tool. The studio has 12 ceiling mounted lights that we manipulate as needed. Five lights are Dracast LED 1500 Wi-Fi Headlights, six are Dracast LED 200 Headlights and one Dracast LED 1500 Headlight with no Wi-Fi. We also have, positioned behind two white window panels which are used as a background in the studio, four ADJ Mega Go Bar 50 RGBA LED lights that change color.

Our court room/council chamber has three PTZ cameras and a second control center right in the council chamber. This is unusual because we also have a control room which has all the equipment necessary to broadcast from. The cart holds a broadcast switcher from Broadcast Pix (1000 Panel) a microphone mixer from Shure (model M367), and a Sony joystick remote camera controller (model RM-IP10). During council meetings our technician sits at the controls in the council chamber to monitor the broadcast. In the chamber we use 14 Shure XLR Gooseneck microphones (model MX418D/C), two Shure Wireless Gooseneck Microphones (model MX890G5) and one Shure wireless handheld microphone (model DD4ULX2). The XLR microphones are used by the council members, the two wireless goosenecks are used at the guest table and the wireless handheld mic is used by residents that want to make comments during the meetings. The equipment on our cart allows us to zoom in and out to provide viewers with a closer look at each speaker. This makes for a more interesting meeting.

When we film on location, we use a Panasonic 4K Portable camera (model AG-DVX200) that we attach to a LiveU Live Unit (model LU-SOLO) to enable us to broadcast live to our YouTube channel. We also use a NetGear WIFI puck (model Nighthawk MR1100) as a hot spot. We recently started broadcasting live on Facebook as well. We are always working with the Mayor and the Business Administrator to identify programming opportunities that will keep our residents informed and involved in the community. We thank the Mayor and the Business Administrator for their continued support, and we look forward to upgrading our equipment so that we may provide residents with high quality programming.



The Eastern Video Expo 2022 brought a welcome end to a two+ year drought of local, in-person trade shows and other industry events, giving participating vendors the opportunity for face-to-face engagement with valued customers once again. It was great to say goodbye to endless Hollywood Squares-like Zoom meetings and welcome back the kind of meaningful conversations and collaborative-based discussions that generate important feedback, crucial for product development.



Before the pandemic, trade shows were a mainstay line item for any company’s marketing budget, and exhibiting to current and prospective customers, suppliers and other business associates was crucial. Most importantly, the EVE gave us a chance to access key decision makers in current and prospective organizations, and to service and support any current accounts’ requests in-person. In addition to having direct exposure to long-time clients, it was a chance to see what other products are being introduced to the market, as well as a forum to unveil TelVue’s key product roadmap items.

While the attendance was lighter than past years, not unexpected for the first post-pandemic return, it actually fostered a very productive climate for more one-on-one discussions with station operators, producers and other stakeholders, so vital to the region’s PEG channel operations. Having a single day on the exhibit floor for vendors to showcase and highlight products felt just right. Ho’Iki’s J Robertson always wins the prize for the most frequent flier miles accumulated to attend the expo once again this year, and it was great to see him, along with everyone whose commute to the event was considerably shorter! Thanks very much to Montclair’s Rick Gearheart for furnishing a huge box of salty snack bags to balance the otherwise heavily chocolate candy-skewed bowl at TelVue’s booth, giving nice balance for grazing throughout the day.

We also said “bon voyage” to one of TelVue’s first customers in the Garden State, Woodbridge’s own Lee Beckerman, as he prepared to sail off in the retirement sunset, and, after 20+ years, it was also the swansong show for TelVue’s own founding partner and SVP of Sales & Marketing, Paul Andrews. It’s been said that retirement is when you trade the boss who hired you for the one who married you, so good luck to Lee and Paul, with both of your new bosses! At least in retirement, you don’t have to request paid time off anymore.



The EVE conference always affords vendors the opportunity for larger group presentations, and TelVue covered a range of new items this year: from next level, integrated social media streaming directly from our very affordable new AIO+ line of Hypercaster server models, automation rules, dual language closed captioning, and a special users group for the JAG Shared Server. Both of our presentation slots on captioning and social streaming were well attended with great engagement, questions, and feedback.

Any trade show will offer potential to satisfy one or more of a company’s marketing objectives, but it’s also the chance for engineering and product development staff, who seldom get as much customer contact as they need, to engage directly with end users. EVE is like a dynamic day-long focus group, where we get to review our products and services and assess preliminary customer reactions, critical or not. The annual conference is a valuable testbed for an appreciative audience and TelVue is always grateful to be a part of the robust NJ station community.



JAG General Meeting- HYBRID  
Sept. 28, 2022 @ 12:12pm  
at Varto Technologies or via Zoom  
Committee Update

For more information and access to the meeting email [JAGinfo@jagonline.org](mailto:JAGinfo@jagonline.org)

JERSEY ACCESS GROUP

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EASTERN VIDEO EXPO

[facebook.com/Easternvideoexpo](https://facebook.com/Easternvideoexpo) [instagram.com/easternvideox/](https://instagram.com/easternvideox/)

New Content on JAG YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YX23Ok9eU4>

Piscataway Summer concert series Julian and Dominique -PCTV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7cAdpf1s2SI>

2022 Mayor's Summer Concert featuring: Shadows of the 60's -Woodbridge Channels

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lxzvgNmZLuc&list=PL1GODzEKbOu7YPv4dhjna4NA6jbRnWj63&index=2&t=1s>

My Voice Only - Stephen Fuller -SOMA TV

Do not forget to check out our YouTube channel. Have something you want on our YouTube channel?  
Send a link to [dseidel@piscatawaynj.org](mailto:dseidel@piscatawaynj.org) for review.

New Content on JAG Eastern Video web site

If you registered and missed a session, they will be available with password.

New Content on JAG Members Only Section

The JAG Job Board is currently being populated with opportunities.

New Password as of June 1- contact Linda Besink [lbesink@gmail.com](mailto:lbesink@gmail.com) for access

New Content on JAG Web Site

List of all of this year's JAG Award recipients. <https://jagonline.org/jag-award-winners/>

Share the value of Jag's newsletter with your elected officials, cable committee, station volunteers, associates, and friends. Send this invitation: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/B7EMU1R/JAGnewsletter>

Organizational Members



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