



February 2012

Society of
Broadcast Engineers
Chapter 24
Newsletter
Madison, Wisconsin



Next Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15



**DIGITAL MEDIA FORMATS IN TODAY'S
BROADCAST ENVIRONMENT
&
NOMINATIONS
&
WMTV CONTROL ROOM TOUR**

Burt Young of Harris Corporation will cover some of the more popular file formats used in today's broadcast environment, the difficulties that both engineering and operations encounter on a daily basis, why they encounter them and how to rectify them. We'll take a deeper look into various file format essence and wrappers, non-linear editors versus servers in the area of file-based content, as well as several generic solutions that you can investigate and possibly implement back at the facility. This presentation has a very strong focus on media file formats but does naturally lean into workflow due to the nature of how and where digital media files are used on a daily basis.

We will also have the first call for nominations for chapter officers for the 2012-2013 terms. After the Harris presentation, Tom Weeden, WMTV Chief Engineer, will give interested members a tour of his new control room.

Tom reminds us that parking is limited at the WMTV studios and we are not to park in the reserved spaces normally occupied by the news vehicles. You can park on Forward Drive if all of the WMTV public spaces are occupied.

Dutch Treat Dinner at 5:30 PM
Babe's Bar & Grill
5614 Schroeder Road, Madison, WI

Meeting and Program at 7:00PM
WMTV Studios
615 Forward Drive, Madison, WI



**FCC
Rulemakings**

compiled by Tom Smith

FINAL RULEMAKINGS

EB Docket No. 04-296

Review of the Emergency Alert System; the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, Inc., and the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council, Petition for Immediate Relief; Randy Gehman Petition for Rulemaking

On January 9th, the FCC released the Fifth Report and Order (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0110/FCC-12-7A1.pdf) on the rules concerning EAS and the CAP Notification System. The Report and order was released on January 10th. In the notice the FCC issued rules that required EAS participants to be able to convert and process CAP-formatted EAS alert messages in the same matter as the current EAS protocol. All EAS participants must be able to convert and transmit CAP to meet EAS protocol with video programmers required to provide enhanced text in their video alerts. The use of intermediary devices will be allowed to convert the CAP Protocol messages to feed an existing EAS decoder. All EAS participants must monitor FEMA's IPAWS system for Federal CAP formatted messages. Participants will not have to have to monitor and transmit CAP formatted messages for state governors. The FCC also streamlined certification of EAS equipment and several rules concerning Emergency Action Notifications including Emergency Action Termination (EAT) event code and the Non-Participating National (NN) status.

The Report and Order is 130 pages including the normal FCC housekeeping notices and includes a section with the rules to be published in the FCC rulebook. There is discussion of every aspect of the new rules and the reading should answer most questions on the new EAS-CAP rules.

Proposed Rulemakings >>> continued on page 3



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Meeting Minutes

from the January 2012 Business Meeting

Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers held their monthly meeting on January 17, 2012 at Full Compass Systems in Madison. There were 12 members present, 8 who were certified, and one guest.

At 7:00pm the meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Hamilton, who started things off with quick introductions of everyone present. The very brief December meeting minutes as published in the January Newsletter were approved on a motion by Tom Smith and a second by Steve Paugh.

Treasurer Matt Glissendorf reported that following recent transactions the Chapter bank account balance remained solidly in the black.

As Program Committee Chair, Steve Paugh reviewed the next few programs scheduled for the Chapter. Coming up in February will be a presentation by Harris on video compression, along with a tour of the WMTV control room. A tour of Token Creek Mobile Television's newest HD production truck is planned for March, with Chapter elections included in April.

Education and Certification Chair Jim Hermanson forwarded information with a reminder that the next local exam session was February 3 – 13. The following opportunity will be on April 17 at the NAB convention in Las Vegas; the deadline to submit applications to the SBE National is March 23rd. Frequency Coordinator Tom Smith noted there were no recent coordination requests to report.

For the National Liaison report, Leonard Charles announced that the SBE has arranged with the NAB to offer a discounted registration rate to members for the upcoming NAB Show. The SBE is also offering a webinar titled “The Nuts and Bolts of the FCC FM Allocation Procedures” on February 16, presented by Doug Vernier, CPBE. See the SBE.org web site for more information and to register.

Sustaining Membership Chair Fred Sperry announced the Chapter has a total of 21 sustaining members. Recent renewals since the last report include Canon USA, Belden Wire and Cable, JVC Professional Products, Heartland Video, WISC-TV, WKOW-TV, and Sound Devices.

There was no old business to cover and no new business brought up. In professional announcements, Bill Hamilton mentioned that KFXB/Dubuque was offering space for lease on its tower in Southwest Wisconsin.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09pm and Steve Paugh introduced James Daniels with JVC Professional Products, who gave a presentation on 3D television monitors, converters, and cameras.

Submitted by Mike Norton, Secretary



Coming Up

Tues.,	Mar 13	Token Creek HD Truck Tour — Nominations
Tues.,	Apr. 10	File Delivery — Elections
Wed.,	May 16	TBD

Proposed Rulemakings

>>> continued from page 1

**MB Docket No. 11-154
Closed Captioning of Internet
Protocol-Delivered Video
Programming: Implementation
of the Twenty-First Century
Communications and Video
Accessibility Act of 2010**

On January 12th, the FCC adopted rules (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0130/FCC-12-9A1.pdf) concerning the captioning of video delivered by the Internet. The Notice was released on January 13th. These rules will require program suppliers to send caption files with all video files. Internet providers must be able to pass the caption files along with the video files. The captions must be the same quality as those that are sent on television for the particular program. Any prerecorded programming not edited for Internet distribution and shown on television with captions must be captioned for Internet distribution within 6 months of the rules being published in the Federal Register -- any live or near live programming within 12 months. Programming edited for the Internet must be captioned by 18 months from publication of the rules. After 2 years the rules go into effect, archival programming must be captioned within 45 days of being aired on television with captions, with the length of time decreasing to 30 days after 3 years and 15 days after 4 years.

By January 1, 2014 all devices that record and playback video must be able to display captions including computers, smartphones, tablets, TV set-top boxes, removable media players and recording devices and manufacturers must install or provide software that is capable of displaying captions in those devices. Some types of equipment for commercial use are exempt. Also these rules exempt some types of commercial video clips and You Tube type videos from the public at this time. What is exempt is not entirely clear from the rules published, but was in the FCC discussion of the rules. Full-length programming will not be exempt. The exemptions should become clearer after discussions on legal newsletters and blogs.

PROPOSED RULEMAKING

**MB Docket No. 12-3
Commission Seeks Comment on
Petition for Rulemaking Seeking
Elimination of the Sports Blackout
Rule**

On January 13th, the FCC asked for comments (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0112/DA-12-44A1.pdf) on a group of petitions asking the FCC to eliminate the rules prohibiting multi-program video distributors (cable and satellite) from carrying games blacked out by local TV stations. The petitions claim that the blackout requirements could be done with private contracts and the rules are not necessary. Comments are due February 13th, with replies due February 28th.

REPORT

**MB Docket No. 11-83
Economic Impact of Low-Power
FM Stations on Commercial FM
Radio: Report to Congress
Pursuant to Section 8 of the Local
Community Radio Act of 2010**

On January 4th, the FCC adopted a report (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0105/DA-12-2A1.pdf) on the economic impact of low-power FM stations on commercial FM radio. The report was required by Congress under the Local Community Radio Act of 2010 (LCRA), which Congress also required the FCC to allow LPFM stations on the 3rd adjacent channel to full-power FM stations and to provide a measure of protection in the allotment of some frequencies for LPFM stations from additional allotments for FM translators.

In the report, the FCC reported on the comments of a number of parties and studied ratings and other data. Finally they studied eight LPFM stations and their impact on their markets. The report is 106 pages of discussion, ratings data and the surveys of the eight stations, and the final conclusion, which was stated in one paragraph, was that LPFM stations have no economic

impact now or will in the future on full-power FM stations. LPFM stations are too small and their programming is not in direct competition with commercial stations to have either a financial or ratings impact.

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Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

• While two hurdles still remain to be cleared, the effort to gain a new amateur medium frequency (MF) allocation reached a major milestone on Thursday, February 2 at the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) in Geneva, Switzerland.

According to American Radio Relay League Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, a Sub Working Group is dealing with Agenda Item 1.23: “To consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services.” In a series of 12 meetings over a 10-day period from the beginning of the WRC on January 23, this group has worked to resolve differences among various proposals for an amateur allocation between the proponents and opponents of an allocation.

Sumner explained that the formulation that has been agreed upon by most administrations calls for a worldwide secondary allocation to the Amateur Service at 472-479 kHz, with a power limit of 1 W Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP). A provision has been made, however, for administrations to permit up to 5 W EIRP for stations located more than 800 km from certain countries that wish to protect their aeronautical radionavigation service (non-directional beacons) from any possible interference. In addition to these protections for aeronautical radionavigation, the Amateur Service must avoid harmful interference to the primary maritime mobile service.

“The International Amateur Radio Union team that has been working on this agenda item since

2007 is cautiously optimistic that the thousands of hours of work that have been devoted to achieving a positive outcome are about to pay off,” Sumner said. “ITU decisions are made by consensus and success is still not assured, but prospects have brightened considerably since the first week of the WRC.”

• On November 18, 2011, the FCC released a Report and Order (R&O), defining new rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. These rules are in response to a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and a June 2010 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). In the February 3 edition of the Federal Register, the FCC announced that these new rules will go into effect on March 5, 2012.

In summarizing the new rules, the FCC explained that the new rules amend the current rules to facilitate more efficient and effective use by the Amateur Radio Service of five channels in the 5330.5-5406.4 kHz band (the 60 meter band): “Specifically, and consistent with our proposals in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding, the Commission replaces one of the channels with a less encumbered one, increases the maximum authorized power amateur stations may transmit in this band and authorizes amateur stations to transmit three additional emission designators. The Commission also adopts an additional operational rule that prohibits the use of automatically controlled digital stations and makes editorial revisions to the relevant portions of the Table of Frequency Allocations and our service rules.”

The Amateur Radio Service in the United States has a secondary allocation on 60 meters. Only those amateurs who hold General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class licenses may operate on this band. Amateur stations must not cause harmful interference to — and must accept interference from — stations authorized by any administration in the fixed service, as well as mobile (except aeronautical mobile) stations authorized by the administrations of other countries.

• In November 2011, FCC Commissioners unanimously agreed to allocate spectrum and adopt service and technical rules for the utilization of new implanted medical devices that operate on 413-457 MHz (70 cm). These devices will be used on a secondary basis as part of the Medical Device Radiocommunication (MedRadio) Service in Part 95 of the FCC rules. In the Federal Register for Friday, January 27, the FCC announced that the effective date for these new rules is Monday, February 27. The new rules expand the existing MedRadio Service rules to permit the use of new wideband medical implant devices that employ neuromuscular microstimulation techniques to restore sensation, mobility, and other functions to paralyzed limbs and organs.

The rules will allow these new types of MedRadio devices to access 24 megahertz of spectrum in the amateur 70 cm band at 426-432 MHz, 438-444 MHz, and nearby at 413-419 MHz and 451-457 MHz on a secondary basis.

(Excerpts from the American Radio Relay League’s <arrl.org> web site)





Chapter 24 Notice of Elections

By Steve Paugh, Nominations Chair

In April we will hold elections for Chapter 24 offices of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for the 2012-2013 terms. All interested members of Chapter 24 who are current in their dues are eligible to run for elected office. The nominations committee is now accepting nominations. Our current officers and their status is:

Chair-	Bill Hamilton	can run again for same office
Vice Chair-	Kevin Trueblood	can run again for same office
Treasurer-	Matt Glissendorf	can run again for same office
Secretary-	Mike Norton	3-year term limit reached

Call For Nominations

During the February 15th meeting, the nominations committee will solicit the members present for additional nominations. If you would like to run for an office, or know someone who wishes to run, please bring it to the attention of the nominations committee. All nominees are requested to submit a short biography for publishing with the ballot. The nominations committee consists of Steve Paugh (Chair), Mike Kulis and Leonard Charles.

Appointed Officers

The appointed offices do not fall under the jurisdiction of the nominations committee and are appointed by the Chair of Chapter 24. Traditionally, the existing appointed officers continue for another term automatically. If you are a current appointed officer and would like to step down, please contact the current Chair, Bill Hamilton. If you would like to serve as an appointed officer please make your desire known to the Chair.

The current appointed offices are Program Committee Chair- Steve Paugh, Program Committee Members- Steve Zimmerman & one vacancy, Newsletter Editor- Paul Stoffel, Membership- Paul Stoffel, Sustaining Membership- Fred Sperry, Certification and Education- Jim Hermanson, Frequency Coordination- Tom Smith, Webmaster- Leonard Charles and National Liaison- Leonard Charles.

Ballots

Thanks to the efforts of nominations committee member Leonard Charles, we will again have on-line voting! We will publish the ballot in the April on-line newsletter. You can either vote on-line or print the on-line ballot and mail it in to the Nominations Chair. Ballots will also be available at the April meeting for on-site voting. The deadline for nominations and the submission of biographies will be March 28th, 2012.



SBE NEWS

Discount NAB Show registration available through SBE

As a proud partner of the 2012 NAB Show, the Society of Broadcast Engineers is pleased to extend a special offer. Register today with code EP09 to get \$100 off SMART Pass or Conference Flex Pass non-member rates. Or use code EP18 for a free exhibits-only pass.

The SBE has partnered once again with the NAB to produce the annual NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference, held as a part of the NAB Show, Saturday, April 14 through Thursday, April 19. The SBE hopes members will make their way to Las Vegas to attend the world's largest broadcast and media exhibition and conference.

Webinar examines FCC FM Allocation Procedures

The SBE will present the webinar "FCC FM Allocation Procedures" February 16 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. CT. This webinar exposes the history and technology behind the FCC's current FM allocation rules and procedures for non-commercial FM stations, FM translators, LPFM and full service commercial stations.

Instructor Doug Vernier, CPBE, president of V-Soft Communications, LLC, clarifies the differences in the various allocation procedures of the services and the reason behind the differences. Advantages and flaws in the methodology, as well as, recent petitions to amend the procedures are also covered. Attendees will gain insight into how a station can improve its coverage or move its city of license using the rules. Vernier will also discuss the role of directional antennas, which provide protections in certain directions allowing more power to be transmitted in other directions.

This webinar is recommended to station engineers and managers to help them understand FM allocation and why their licenses limit transmission power and tower height and what they can do to

improve coverage over the population they reach.

Vernier has been a member of the SBE since 1990 and in broadcasting for over 35 years. V-Soft Communications, LLC, is the largest provider of broadcast communications propagation software in the U.S. and Canada.

The cost is \$49 for SBE members and \$69 for non-members. Visit the SBE website for more information and to register.

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March 2012 Chapter 24
 Newsletter Deadline:
 Saturday, March 3
paul.stoffel@wpt.org
edited using Adobe InDesign CS4



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Thanks to Leonard Charles for maintaining the Chapter 24 web site and to Steve Paugh for mailing the meeting reminder postcards.

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CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Recent Renewals

- Ross Video
- Scharch Electronics
- Sound Devices, LLC

Thanks to all our Sustaining Members

- Alpha Video
- Belden, Inc.
- Clark Wire and Cable
- Canon U.S.A., Inc.
- Full Compass Systems
- GEPCO International, Inc.
- Heartland Video Systems
- Joseph Electronics
- JVC Professional Products Company
- maney-logic
- Midwest Media Group
- Resonant Results, Ltd.
- Token Creek Productions
- WISC-TV 3
- WMTV-TV 15
- WKOW-TV 27
- WMSN-TV 47
- Wisconsin Public Television

Certification Exam Session Dates

For more information about SBE Certification, contact Jim Hermanson, services@jimhermanson.com, Chapter 24 Certification Chair, or contact Megan Clappe, Certification Director at the SBE National Office at (317) 846-9000, or mclappe@sbe.org.

EXAM DATES	LOCATION	APPLICATION DEADLINE
April 17, 2012	NAB convention	March 23, 2012
June 1-11, 2012	Local Chapters	April 13, 2012
August 3-13, 2012	Loca; Chapters	June 1, 2012
November 2-16, 2012	Local Chapters	September 14, 2012