

SBE Chapter 24 Monthly Meeting
March 18, 2026

Chairperson Jim Hermanson called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM, on Zoom online. There were nine members present, and one guest, five of whom are SBE certified.

Secretary's report: Roy Henn – Approval of the February 2026 meeting minutes was tabled until the next chapter meeting.

Treasurer's report: Derek Murphey - We had a Chapter 24 Website WordPress renewal of \$96 reimbursement to Travis Wussow. Our bank account balance stands at \$5426.66.

Program Committee: If anyone is interested in assisting with that, please let us know. The chapter chair has been working a bit with Travis to develop a poll on chapter member meeting programs of best interest and meeting times. Travis gave an update on creating a poll for chapter member preferences on programs, meeting times, etc.

Our next month's programs will be...

April 23: Internet Radio Stations and Madison's WLHA

National Report – Jim: SBE Member Dues are due to the national office by April 1st.

The SBE will be at the 2026 NAB Show in Las Vegas April 18-22. The SBE Ennes Workshop at the NAB Show will span two days, April 21 and 22. SBE member can use SBE code SBENAB26 for a free exhibits-only pass or \$150 off the NAB non-member rate for full conference registration.

The SBE will hold the annual Membership Meeting on April 20 at 5 p.m., which will be followed by a Member Reception at 6 p.m.

The SBE Membership Drive runs from March 1 until May 31. The drive calls on current SBE members to encourage their non-member colleagues to join the association. In 2025, 49 individual members were recruited. As a recruiting incentive to members, the SBE asks for prize donations from SBE sustaining member companies. In addition, the recruiter will earn \$5 per new member (up to \$25) off his or her 2027 membership dues.

Membership Report - Jim: Our chapter had 34 members listed with 21 certified.

Certification and Education – Jim: The next local certification exam window is June 5-15, with application deadline to the national office by April 13th.

There's an SBE CertChallenge going on!

If you take an exam, upgrade to a higher certification or obtain CBT by license from November 2025 to November 2026, you will be entered into a drawing for the following prize:

- An Upgrade to SBE MemberPlus

- Registration to the SBE Ennes Workshop at the 2027 NAB Show
- \$100 Amazon gift card
- An SBE certification pin
- An SBE membership pin

Keep an eye out for your local chapter to host a CertConnect meeting dedicated to all things SBE certification. If you attend, you will receive a coupon code for \$5 off of an SBE CertPreview.

Check out the SBE website for more details.

Upcoming Webinars by SBE:

March 26, 2026 at 1:00 PM CT

“Technical Proof of Performance: What Remains Required and What Data Makes Sense to Routinely Collect”

The FCC deleted most proof-of-performance requirements in the 1980s and 1990s. Prior to that, complete studio-to-transmitter output proofs were an annual requirement. Few of us remember those tedious overnights. Even though most measurement regimens have been eliminated or substantially reduced, some remain. In addition, there are additional measurements that should be occasionally performed to ensure the facility is operating in its highest fashion. In this webinar, Greg Buchwald, a distinguished member of the technical staff at Motorola, will discuss the mandatory as well as the best practices data to collect, the required timeframe for collection, and the importance of these records. We cover new transmitter installation data sets, NRSC-AM annual measurements, data pertaining to AM and FM directional arrays, and a host of other related topics.

April 9, 2026 at 1:00 PM CT

“Automation Basics”

Radio automation systems sit at the heart of every modern broadcast facility, yet many stations only scratch the surface of what they can do. In this practical session, broadcast automation veteran Adam Robinson shares real-world tips and lessons learned from decades of building, operating, and troubleshooting automation systems in stations of all sizes. Topics include networking and infrastructure, hardware planning, digital asset management, operational workflow, and building redundancy into mission-critical systems. Attendees will come away with practical ideas to improve reliability, simplify operations, and get more out of the automation systems they rely on every day.

Frequency Coordination –Gary Trendera: Not present

Old Business – Nothing mentioned

New Business - We have the following open positions:

- Sustaining membership chair

- Membership chair
- Program Chair
- National Liaison
- Nominations committee (3 persons)

Travis Wussow agreed to take on our chapter Webmaster role.

By-laws possible amendments...

Chapter 24 officers met on March 12 to discuss chapter business. The discussed items included volunteers for a nominations committee; updating the bylaws to reflect voting method with the new Website; if we need four or maybe now three elected officer positions; number of programs per year; finding upcoming programs; vacant appointed officer positions; and removing officer email addresses on the SBE Chapter 24 Website due to possible scraping and resulting spoofing. By-law changes under consideration for change are highlighted below.

ARTICLE VIII

Nominations and Elections

Section 1. A Nominations Committee shall be appointed by Chapter 24 Officers at least 60 days prior to elections for Chapter Officers. This committee shall be made up of **at least three Chapter 24 members** who are in good standing who are not currently Chapter Officers. The Nominations Committee is responsible for determining how to solicit nominations for Chapter Officers and should attempt, when possible, to nominate two members for each office.

Section 2. The Nominations Committee should make ballots along with candidates biographies available to Chapter members **through the Chapter website**. These items should appear in April in conjunction with the election.

Section 3. Elections shall take place beginning the first of April and end at the April Chapter meeting. **The preferred means of voting is electronic via the Chapter web site.** If any member cannot vote electronically they may **download a paper ballot from the Chapter web site**. Only Chapter 24 members in good standing are eligible to vote.

Our chapter has an invitation from Matt Rockwell and Shaun Dolan of Inrush Broadcast Services for a tech tour of the Willis Tower combiner room in Chicago. Shaun also said he'd reach out to the folks at the Hancock building to see if they'd allow a visit the same day. They also like to extend the invitation to the Chicago SBE chapter to give everyone the opportunity to visit with our Madison colleagues. Would anyone in attendance have ability and interest to do such a trip, perhaps on a Saturday?

Adjourn- Meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM

Program –

Chapter Chair Jim Hermanson introduced the program, **“WBA ABIP Inspections Discussion & Q&A.”**

Radio and TV station inspectors Clif Groth and Tom Weeden talked about what the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association Alternate Broadcast Inspection Program (ABIP) is, key inspection items, some common inspection findings, the current checklists to prepare and be FCC compliant, and took questions.