

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 1957

Lubbock, Texas
February 18, 1957

The Board of Directors of Texas Technological College met in a called session in the Office of the President, Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas at 9:30 a.m., on Monday, February 18, 1957. The following Directors were present for the meeting: Chairman Thompson, Mr. Orme, Mr. Benson, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Callaway, Mr. Haley, Mr. Linebery and Mr. Lindsey. In addition, President Jones, Vice President Giesecke, Vice President and Comptroller Pennington and Secretary Wells were present.

940. On February 9, 1957 Chairman Charles C. Thompson sent the following letter to all Board members:

"I have been requested by five members of the Board of Directors for Texas Technological College to call a special meeting of the board for the purpose to reconsider the action taken by the Board at the January 26th meeting to withdraw the application of the college for T.V. Channel No. 5.

"The meeting is called at 9:30 A.M., on Monday, February 18, in the office of President of the college.

"This meeting is called in keeping with the provisions of Article I of the by-laws of the Board of Directors for Texas Technological College.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Charles C. Thompson

Charles C. Thompson
Chairman"

941. Upon motion made by Mr. Haley, seconded by Mr. Abbott, the Board waived the following provision of Article I of the By-Laws of the Board of Directors: "No other business than that embraced in the notice for the special meeting shall be transacted except by consent of a majority of all the Board."

942. Upon motion made by Mr. Lindsey, seconded by Mr. Callaway, the Board granted permission to Dr. E. N. Jones, President of Texas Technological College, to go to Washington, D.C.; Chicago, Illinois; New York City, New York, and other points as may be necessary to interview prospective staff members; to attend a meeting of a group of College Presidents called by the American Council on Education to consider the operation of a new Office of Statistical Information and Research to be established by the American Council on Education; from February 18, 1957 through February 25, 1957; expenses to be paid from the Office of the President Maintenance, Equipment and Travel Account. This item supersedes Item No. 907, Board Minutes of January 26, 1957.

943. Upon motion made by Mr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Linebery, the Board gave specific approval for Dr. E. N. Jones, President; Mr. M. L. Pennington, Vice President and Comptroller; Dr. G. E. Giesecke, Vice President; Mr. J. Roy Wells, Assistant to the President; and Dr. W. C. Holden, Director of Texas Technological College Museum, to travel to Austin, Texas from February 27, 1957 through March 1, 1957 to attend a Hearing on the Appropriations for Texas Technological College and Texas Technological College Museum, before the Subcommittee of the Senate on Thursday, February 28, 1957; and for President E. N. Jones to attend the Hearing for the Cotton Research Committee of Texas, before the Subcommittee of the Senate on Thursday, February 28, 1957; expenses to be paid from the Maintenance, Equipment and Travel Account of the various offices involved (Office of the President, Office of the Vice President and Comptroller, and the Texas Technological College Museum).

944. President Jones read the following excerpt from a letter under date of January 25, 1957 from Mr. William H. Crenshaw, Director of Development:

"The Texas Technological College Foundation Board of Directors in their meeting Friday, January 25, 1957, took the following action which should be transmitted to the College Board of Directors:

'Mr. O. B. Ratliff, Chairman of the Foundation TV Committee, moved that the Board of Directors of the Foundation convey to the College Board of Directors the message that this Board stands ready to assist the College and its Board in any possible way its efforts in obtaining TV Channel 5 for use by the College as an educational channel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Frank Kelley and unanimously passed.'

Sincerely,

/s/ William H. Crenshaw

William H. Crenshaw
Director of Development"

Dr. Jones then reviewed the major developments preceding and following the filing of an application with the Federal Communications Commission. (Re: Attachment No. 27, Board Minutes of January 26, 1957).

945. Upon motion made by Mr. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Haley, the Board voted to invite Mr. W. D. Rogers, Jr., from KDUB-TV; Mr. George Tarter and Mr. Lloyd Croslin, representing Mr. Joe H. Bryant, KCBT-TV; Mr. Robert W. Blake, Lubbock, Texas; Mr. O. B. Ratliff, Lubbock, Texas; and Mr. Cecil L. Trigg, Odessa, Texas to appear before the Board to discuss the question of securing an Educational TV Channel for Texas Technological College and the problem of financing the construction and operation of such a station in event a channel is granted Texas Technological College.

946. Mr. Benson, a member of the Board of Directors, requested permission to have a statement read to the Board concerning the TV station and stated that he would like for the statement to be made a part of the Minutes. Upon motion made by Mr. Lindsey, seconded by Mr. Abbott, the Board voted to include the statement by Mr. Benson in the Minutes. A copy of the statement is attached. Attachment No. 1.

947. Mr. Haley stated, "that according to correct parliamentary procedure, the action of the Board had been out of order since no Board member voting for the original motion had made a motion to reconsider the question."

He read the following statements from Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, Seventy-fifth Anniversary Edition, page 156:

"Reconsider.--This motion is peculiar in that the making of the motion has a higher rank than its consideration, and for a certain time prevents anything being done as the result of the vote it is proposed to reconsider. It can be made only on the day the vote to be reconsidered was taken, or on the next succeeding day, a legal holiday or a recess not being counted a day. It must be made by one who voted with the prevailing side. Any member may second it."

Mr. Haley requested that the Minutes reflect his statement, "The call of this meeting was in order; consideration of the question of the TV application is out of order."

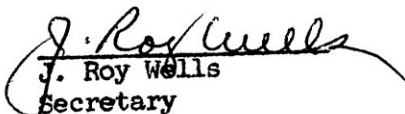
948. Mr. Linebery made a motion that the Board of Directors abide by Robert's Rules of Order and reaffirm the action of the Board of January 26, 1957, Item No. 938. This motion was seconded by Mr. Haley. Mr. Benson, Mr. Haley and Mr. Linebery voted "yes" on the motion. Mr. Abbott, Mr. Callaway, Mr. Orme and Mr. Lindsey voted "No" on the motion. The motion failed by a 4 to 3 vote.

949. Mr. Benson made a motion that the Board adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Linebery. The motion failed to carry by a 4 to 3 vote.

950. Upon motion made by Mr. Lindsey, seconded by Mr. Orme, the Board of Directors voted to rescind the action of the Board of Directors of January 26, 1957, Item No. 938, which reads in part, ". . .the Board voted to withdraw the application with the Federal Communications Commission for a change of TV Channel 5 from Commercial use to Educational use. . .", and that the College renew its efforts to secure TV Channel 5 for Educational use, in keeping with the original application; that the financing be restricted to funds secured through contributions to the College; and that the original application under date of August 11, 1956 be amended to reflect this.

Mr. Benson, Mr. Haley and Mr. Linebery requested that their votes be recorded "No."

951. Upon motion made by Mr. Callaway, seconded by Mr. Abbott, the Board voted to adjourn at 1:47 p.m., February 18, 1957.


J. Roy Wells
Secretary

JRW:g

Attachment:

1. Statement by Mr. Benson, Item No. 946.

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF LUBBOCK §

George E. Benson, duly sworn upon his oath says:

On January 26, 1957 at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of this College a motion duly made and seconded by other members of the Board than by me, was adopted to withdraw from the Federal Communications Commission a then pending application on behalf of the college for Commercial Television Channel Number 5.

As a member of the Board I voted in favor of such motion for the primary reason that should such application be approved by the Washington authorities it would deny to Lubbock the privilege of a third Commercial television facility if such additional facility should be desired by this rapidly growing community.

I was also motivated by a realization of the very heavy expenditure which would be involved, funds for which are not available nor likely to be provided by a tax-conscious Legislature. And, further, my information was, and is, that the effort to seek private funds for that purpose, to the extent needful, has proved abortive. My vote, therefore, was reflective of what I felt, and still feel, is for the best interest of this community and for the continuing integrity of this college.

I bore in mind, also, that the withdrawal of said application would not affect the current and continuing privilege the college has to operate a Number 20 Channel for effective economy of administrative costs.

We are advised that this special meeting of the Board is now called to consider the matter of rescinding the action taken by the Board at the January 26, 1957, meeting hereinabove mentioned, not only upon the question of the merits or demerits of the issue, but to take into account the rumor that I was actuated by some personal interest I am reported to have in the establishment of a third television station at Lubbock. For reasons best known to themselves, but rather generally understood, there are those who, I am told, have been pleased to spread such rumors.

I deny categorically that I have had, now have or intend to have, any stock whatever that would inure to me, directly or beneficially, in any third or future television station to be established at Lubbock or in this area. Specifically, I have held no stock, directly or beneficially, now hold no stock nor intend to hold any stock in any such company.

I do, however, want the record to show that prior to my becoming a member of the Board of Directors of Texas Technological College, I was interested in forming a television company to acquire Channel 5 which had been made available for the City of Lubbock for a television company. At that time other people were interested along with me.

In connection with the application for such channel it was necessary that the company secure a site for the television tower. The V-8 Ranch is a partnership of which I own a one-fourth interest, my daughter, Marion Blake, owns one-fourth interest and Doctor S. C. Arnett, Jr. owns a one-half interest.

At that time the V-8 Ranch did give an option to this proposed company for 15 acres of land owned by the ranch southeast of Lubbock. This matter was never carried out and it was decided to withdraw the application for the permit and my interest in the permit was abandoned. As I understand it, Channel 5 was later granted to another group. At least my interest in a television company terminated prior to 1952.

Some time in the late spring or early summer of 1956 I met a representative of Cecil L. Trigg of Odessa, and he told me that his people were interested in securing Channel 5 Television rights here in Lubbock. Some time in August of 1956

the V-8 Ranch granted to C. L. Trigg and his associates an option for a period of one year to lease not to exceed 25 acres of land of the V-8 Ranch. If this option is exercised the lessees will pay to the V-8 Ranch of which I own one-fourth, \$1,250.00 per year.

I do not have any interest in the application for Channel 5 Television rights; I do not intend to acquire any such interest and no member of my family has any interest in such matter. I make this statement so that the facts may be known. I do not feel that because a partnership of which I am a member has granted an option to Mr. Trigg and his associates who are interested in securing the television rights for Channel 5 here in Lubbock, it would disqualify me from voting upon the resolution of January 26, 1957.

I ask that this statement be made a part of the Minutes of this Board Meeting.

/s/ George

George E. Benson

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, by the said George E. Benson, this the 18th day of February, A. D., 1957. To certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

/s/ Fredda Fite
Notary Public in and for
Lubbock County, Texas.