

Recruitment of New Board Members

Indian Wells Valley TV Booster, Inc.

7-29-23



The Indian Wells Valley TV Booster, Inc. ('TV Booster') has two vacancies in its Board of Directors ('Board'). The Board is seeking motivated, committed, and capable applicants to fill these vacancies. Longer-term commitments are of greatest value.

Background:

The TV Booster has been providing free over-the-air TV to the Indian Wells Valley (I WV) since the early 1950s, and FM radio since the late 1960s. Weak TV and FM stations from distant locations are received at TV Booster facilities on Laurel Mountain and rebroadcasted as strong signals to the I WV. The TV Booster currently rebroadcasts 8 FM stations and 88 TV channels, including one originating from the City Council chambers and three from local TV station KZGN.

The TV Booster's service supports the quality of life of military personnel and citizens who cannot afford or choose not to use commercial suppliers, such as fiber, cable, or satellite. This service is provided twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week unless factors beyond our control force stations off the air for short periods of time.

All funding is from donations by users and occasional grants from the WACOM thrift store. In recent years there have been reimbursement grants from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for expenses incurred in implementing changes mandated by the FCC. The City of Ridgecrest has recently donated three transmitters.

Our current list of active donors has over 350 addresses. The total number of users is unknown but likely much higher. We routinely encounter users who are either not aware that they are receiving stations from the TV Booster or appear unable to afford to donate.

Board members are unpaid volunteers who direct the activities of the TV Booster and collectively perform all the technical, bureaucratic, regulatory, social media, and public relations tasks required.

The two vacancies on the Board should be filled soon. A new Board member would be expected to gravitate over time towards contributing to needed capabilities. A new Board member could immediately assume the responsibility of web page manager or secretary, either of which would relieve a Board member who has multiple responsibilities. The position of treasurer could be passed to a new Board member. A new board member could begin training in technical functions that will need to be transitioned to younger members in the future.

For more information, to request a copy of a presentation about the activities and history of the TV Booster, to be invited to attend Board meetings (via Zoom), or to request to accompany Board members to the facilities at Laurel Mountain during work parties (which often are scheduled at short notice), please contact any of the people listed at the end of this document.





Responsibilities of the TV Booster:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
 - a. Financial expenditures, tracking, and reporting
 - b. Federal, state, and county filings, taxes, and fees
 - c. Records of equipment holdings and value
 - d. Grant applications
5. Technical
 - a. Television reception, translation, and transmission
 - b. FM radio reception, translation, and transmission
 - c. Networking and remote control of translator and other equipment
 - d. FCC requirements and maintaining licenses of TV and FM stations
 - e. Planning over-the-air reception opportunities and interacting with appropriate contacts
6. Social Media
 - a. Developing and maintaining social media presence and interacting with the public via social media (e.g., Facebook)
 - b. Developing and maintaining a web page and interacting with the public via the web page
7. Public Relations (e.g., with local media, local government)
8. Interacting with the public at public events (e.g., Santa's Art Shop, Home Show)

Contacts:

For More Information, contact:

West Katzenstein (wikatzen@mchsi.com)

Robert McGowan (bobandt@verizon.net)

Ken Wetzel (KenWetzel@mac.com)