

Item #73
City Manager's Report

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Ben Gorzell Jr., Director of Public Utilities
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report – Briefing on the Operation of the Public, Educational, and Government Access Channels
DATE: December 15, 2005

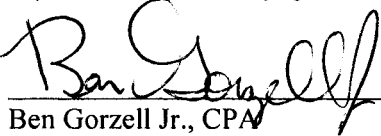
On November 30, 2005, City Council was briefed on options relating to the operation of the Public (Channel 20), Educational (Channel 19), and Government Access Channels (Channel 21). Staff has also provided individual briefings to City Councilmembers on these options and recommendations for the operation of these channels. Additionally, a memorandum dated December 5, 2005, was provided which detailed these options and staff's recommendation. As discussed, the City will become responsible for the operation of these PEG channels effective January 1, 2006. Staff is proceeding with transition plans which have been developed with the objective of maintaining all three PEG channels on the cable basic tier.

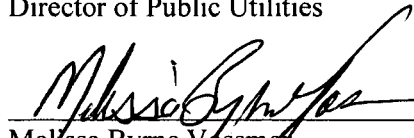
Staff has proceeded with the issuance of a solicitation for a vendor to produce City Council meetings and provide limited studio availability for the month of January 2006. This agreement will be done administratively as it is under the \$25,000 threshold and will provide sufficient time for staff to perform a complete request for proposal process to select a vendor provide services for the Government Access Channel for a one year period. These services include providing remote production services and studio services for programming on the Government Access Channel. It is anticipated that this agreement will be brought forward for City Council consideration in mid to late January 2006.

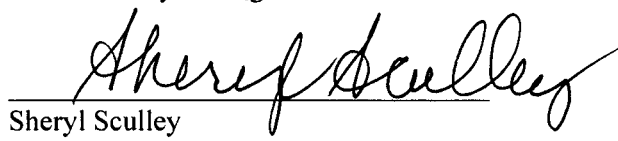
Additionally, bids have been issued for equipment necessary to implement staff's recommendations with respect to the Government and Public Access Channels. The purchase of this equipment will be on the City Council agenda for consideration in January 2006. The other components of the recommendations for the PEG channels can be executed administratively by City staff.

These actions should allow programming to continue on the Government and Educational Access Channels without interruption after January 1, 2006. Due to the time needed to order the required equipment, programming may not be aired on the Public Access Channel until February 2006.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at ext. 78652.


Ben Gorzell Jr., CPA
Director of Public Utilities


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