

2023-08-17 SBE Chapter 24 Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Leonard Charles

The SBE Chapter 24 meeting was called to order by Chairman Russ Awe at 06:10pm on August 17th, 2023. Russ welcomed everyone with a special thank you to Rush Media for hosting us and providing lunch at their facilities in Waunakee, WI.

Approval of Minutes

Russ Awe asked for a motion to approve the July 27th meeting minutes as posted on the web site. Stan Scharch made a motion to approve, seconded by Matt Mommaerts. Everyone voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Derek Murphey was not in attendance but sent an emailed report. Since our last meeting on July 27th Derek has received no sustaining member checks or other deposits. There have been no withdrawals or expenses. The checking balance stands at \$6,163.66.

Sustaining Member Chair Report

Mike Travis was absent so there is no update to report.

Program Committee Report

Russ Awe said the program set for Thursday Sept. 21 featuring Dr. Bob Heil and his history from Ham radio to Rock and Roll had to be postponed until spring 2024. We are looking for a replacement program. Please contact Russ with possible programs. The October 11th All Chapter SBE meeting at the Wisconsin Broadcasters Clinic is set. The program will be from ETC on purchasing the correct LED lighting fixtures for your video camera. Also a tour of the ETC factory is planned. The Thursday Nov. 16 program will be ATSC 3.0 transmission conversions including SFNs and On-Channel Repeaters by David Neff of Anywave.

SBE National Report

Russ Awe reported on two upcoming SBE webinars. On June 29th began a new four-part webinar series. It's called Basic RF for IT. The course is designed for newer engineers who may come from an IT or non-technical background and need some training on the theory and components involved in generating radio frequency signals, as well as the principals involved with respect to maintaining and optimizing operation. Jeff Welton of Nautel and Gary Cavell of Cavell, Mertz and Associates are the instructors. [Module 1](#) and [Module 2](#) are now available on demand. [Module 3](#) streams live on August 31, and [Module 4](#) streams live on September 21. The second webinar series is Back to Basics – Network Design & Configuration. It's a new series created by Wayne Pecena. [Part 1 will steam live](#) on Aug. 24, and [Part 2 will stream live](#) on Oct. 19. The series provides an understanding of the fundamentals required in the design of, implementation of, and support of an IP network in a broadcast and real-time media environment.

The results of the annual [SBE Compensation Survey](#) of the broadcast engineering community are available. The survey reports the latest available figures on salaries, benefits and other demographics for television and radio engineers. Included are survey results for those who provide contract engineering services. The SBE Compensation Survey is available free to SBE members. Access it via the [SBE Bookstore](#).

Membership Report

Russ reports the national shows us at 39 Members. 22 are Certified .

Certification and Education Report

Jim Hermanson reports our next local exam session is November 3rd through the 13th. September 8th is the deadline to apply to the national SBE office. The 2024 exam calendar is now out for the local exams and the SBE NAB exam. Check the [SBE national web site](#) for that information. Concerning the webinars reported by Russ in the earlier National Report, Jim reminds everyone that watching a webinar will earn you one point towards recertification.

Frequency Coordination Report

Gary Trenda was absent but sent an emailed report. There have been no new frequency coordination requests since our last meeting. There was a Crossfit Games event at Alliant Energy Center August 1-6 that likely used spectrum requiring coordination. Please advise if this caused any issues to our members and Gary will follow up.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Russ Awe asked for a motion to amend Article XIII; Don Borchert Fellowship as posted on the web site. Al Ritchie called for a motion to approve, seconded by Stan Sarch. The following By Laws change was approved: "Article XIII; Don Borchert Fellowship. In memorial and to honor the founder of the Broadcasters Clinic, Don Borchert, on an annual basis Chapter 24 will contribute towards "the Don Borchert Fellowship." The amount will be set and requested by the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association which administers the Fellowship and assesses the expenses across all four Wisconsin SBE Chapters. This recurring expense will be subject to the guidelines of Article IX (Disbursement of Funds) of these By Laws." Chairman Russ Awe went on to explain the more evergreen language will result in not needing to change this By Law every time the WBA increases the rate of contribution to the Fellowship. Russ called for a vote, all present voted Eye, there were no Nays.

General or Professional Announcements

There were a couple of people at the meeting who were interested in joining the SBE. Russ Awe asked members present to speak up on the benefits of being a member. Comradery and sharing of ideas and solutions along with the educational support of the national SBE were discussed.

Adjournment

Matt Mommaerts made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jim Hermanson. Meeting adjourned at 6:21pm.

Presentation

John Salzwedel started the program by introducing the members of Rush Media. The program included a pizza meal, a technical discussion of today's version of remote television programming- primarily sports broadcasts, then a tour of their facility. Thank you John!