

**MICHIGAN NATOA CHAPTER
Joint meeting with PROTEC
Wednesday, October 4, 2006
Southfield Public Library**

Meeting called to order by MI NATOA President Kathy Sherman at 2:00 PM.

Attendance

Mike Ager, Canton; Dave Albery, West Bloomfield; Ron Beacom, Midland; David Bertram, MTA; Linda Badamo, Clinton Twp.; Jim Calderone, Chippewa Valley Schools; Caren Collins, SWOCC; Janet Christian, Waterford; Kammy Cook, Cadillac; Joe Fivas, MML; Evelyn Goudrequ, Livonia; Jim Gillis, Macomb Twp.; Mike Grogan, West Bloomfield; Kathy Hagaman, Bingham Farms; Tom Hanson, Birmingham Area Cable Board; Lisa Hawkins, Southfield City Cable; Leslie Helwig, Bloomfield Township; Jan Howard, Mid Michigan Cable Consortium; Don Huegerich, Oxford; Naheed Huq, SEMCOG; Bill Irving, Dearborn; Michael Layne, Marx Layne PR; Neil Lehto; Eileen Marshall, Waterford; John Martin, Shelby; Bill Mathewson, MML; Celeste McDermott, Detroit; Susan McVale, Marx Layne; Elaine Marquis, Marx Layne; Lynn Meikle, Okemos; Glenn Oswald, Marx Layne; Ralph Painter, Lake Orion; Ralph Salmeron, Ann Arbor; Kathy Sherman, Southfield; Dale Stuart, Keego Harbor; Mike Talley, Commerce; Mike Watza, legal counsel, PROTEC; Cathryn White, Livonia; Jay Wiencko, ICCA & CMN; Marty Williams, Southfield; Sue Ward Witkowski, Southfield.

Introductions

Kathy Sherman asked everyone to introduce themselves. She introduced Joe Fivas from the Michigan Municipal League and David Bertram from the Michigan Township Association.

Discussion

Fivas and Bertram reported on the status of HB 6456 and the process by which it is moving through the legislature. They are very concerned because the interests of local governments have not been recognized. The bill would allow for abrogation of local contracts, it has very weak build-out provisions, and its customer service standards are poor. It will not promote competition and it allows a provider to cherry-pick the most profitable customers and not give access to service to the others.

There was general discussion about the role local governments and access stations can take to make legislators, access users, and the general public better educated about the impact this will have. Individuals were encouraged to undertake the most appropriate strategies for their circumstances.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.