

The SBE 38 Signal

The official newsletter of the El Paso chapter of the Society of Broadcast Engineers

MAY 2026



The latest from the SBE

AI: What you need to know, from Minnesota SBE Program Chair Taylor Robert Barker (Virtual Meeting May 8th, TBD)

Love it or hate it, AI is increasingly penetrating our daily workflows, and those of our colleagues. We're still too early in the ballgame to make sweeping prognostications about bubbles or trends. However, there is a potential challenge lurking under the surface, one that I don't think is getting talked about nearly enough.

David Axtell is a partner with Stinson LLP. Among other things, his practice covers intellectual property and copyright issues. He's going to talk about the legal agreements behind AI platforms, and who actually owns the material that generative services produce. Details to be announced for a may 8th virtual.

Getting Paid Enough?

Through May 18, 2026, the Society of Broadcast Engineers will conduct a survey to determine salary levels and benefits among broadcast and media technology engineers. The SBE conducted its first survey in 2016. This survey continues to help us establish a baseline for subsequent surveys and build compensation trends.

The complete results of the survey will be available at no charge to SBE members as a benefit of membership. A link to the survey will be posted on the SBE website. No identifying information is gathered; Working Engineers are welcome to participate by [clicking here](#)

MEETING NOTES

The minutes from our last chapter meeting

In Memoriam

Carlos Santillan Passes

CHANGES COMING TO DIRS

The changes would facilitate voluntary DIRS participation, NAB said

SBE 38 WELCOMES

New Chair

Warren Reeves

Secretary

Michael Rivera

Meeting Notes

Total Attendance: 11 (Zoom Call)

Meeting Called to Order: 11:00 AM

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: Minutes from the March Meeting accepted by Michael Rivera, David Halperin (2nd)

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: \$ 1,682.59 in the bank. Accepted by Warren Reeves, Norbert Miles (2nd)

REPORT OF THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE: New information from Megan Clappe to be posted on the website

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: invoices were resent, Jaime Martinez agreed with Telemundo 48 (KTDO) as a sustaining member, Invited David Sanderford for sustaining Membership

REPORT OF THE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: 95.1 FM is operating as a potential pirate signal; Warren Reeves will investigate and follow up. KRWG is coordinating a booster on "A" Mountain in Doña Ana county for extended reach

REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: NO REPORT

REPORT OF THE WEBSITE COMMITTEE: Noe Rodriguez updated all on the progress of SBE38.org. work continues to setup the redirect to KINT site with Norbert Miles

REPORT OF THE EAS CHAIRMAN: No statewide issues for TX and NM, KROD sent a RWT per FEMA guidelines. Michael also discussed KROD as an alternate PEP entry.

REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: we are looking for a May Presentation

NEW BUSINESS OR ANY ITEMS FOR THE CHAPTER INTEREST: Quorum was reached with 11 chapter members. Elections were held. Antonio Castro has moved to Treasurer, Warren Reeves was elevated to Chairman and Michael Rivera has taken over secretarial duties. Michael also won a portable projector

MEETING ADJOURNED: AT 11:46 AM.

In Memoriam:

Carlos Santillan



Entravision Engineer Carlos Santillan has passed April 21st.

From the KINT Management:

"With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our engineer Carlos Santillán, who leaves a legacy of professionalism, integrity and dedication.

For more than forty years, Carlos Santillán was a key piece for Noticias 26 El Paso, standing out as an example of responsibility, perseverance and ethics.

In a reserved character, his legacy transcends every teaching provided, every goal achieved, and every person who had the opportunity to learn from his experience and vocation.

Today we bid farewell not only to a great professional, but also to an exceptional human being, whose absence leaves a deep void.

Your commitment to excellence and your invaluable contribution will always remain in our memory.

Rest in peace, Carlos Santillán."

Our Next Chapter Meeting:

Wednesday, May 13th at Noon

El Rincon De Cortez, 3415 Sun Bowl Drive

We hope to see you there!



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Secretary | EAS Chair | Newsletter

Michael Rivera (KLAQ, KSII, KROD)

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Certification Chair: David Halperin

Membership | Sustaining Memberships

Antonio Castro

Warren Reeves

Frequency Coordination

Warren Reeves

Owen Smith

Scholarships

Rick Vilardell

Websites

Norbert Miles (Kint98.com)

Executive Committee

Antonio Castro

Bruno Cruz

Walter Hanthorn



FCC Believes Redesign Will Bolster Its Disaster Reporting System

By Randy J. Stine – Radio World

The Article in its entirety is [available here](#)

The Federal Communications Commission has released a draft report and order to be considered at its May open meeting that, if adopted, the FCC believes will “modernize” its [Disaster Information Reporting System](#).

DIRS is a web-based system that communications providers, including broadcast, wireless, wireline, cable and broadband service providers use to report their communications infrastructure status and collect situational awareness information.

In a notice released April 29, the commission said the proposed order will enhance DIRS’ capabilities “while eliminating unnecessary burdens on communications service providers, allowing them to focus more of their resources on service restoration instead of redundant paperwork in those circumstances when every second counts.”

In addition to saving time and streamlining DIRS report preparation, the FCC said the National Association of Broadcasters believes that the redesign of the system “would facilitate broadcasters voluntary participation in DIRS, especially smaller stations.”

Proposed changes include the elimination of fields that “do not offer significant value to public safety stakeholders.”

[\(Read the commission’s DIRS “modernization” report and order.\)](#)

The proposed DIRS rules would also allow manual filers to submit a single form instead of multiple worksheets, according to the release. It also establishes a “one-click” option for manual filers to indicate when there is no change from the previous day’s reports.

FCC Chairman Brendan Carr also said in the release the rules to be considered would augment providers’ ability to submit geospatial data about outages.

Additional changes

The report and order under consideration in May offers other DIRS modifications:

- Eliminates the requirement for DIRS filers to submit a final report after DIRS is deactivated.
- Limits DIRS reporting obligations to facilities-based providers, which the commission believes will eliminate “unnecessary reporting burdens” for resellers and mobile virtual network operators that do not operate communications infrastructure.
- Establishes mandatory DIRS reporting for public safety voice and broadband network operators on the status of public safety network infrastructure and public safety customer impact.

The FCC also directed the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to improve the ability of filers to voluntarily submit “geographic” information about service areas and the locations of facilities that are out of service.

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Advanced Broadcast
Services LLC

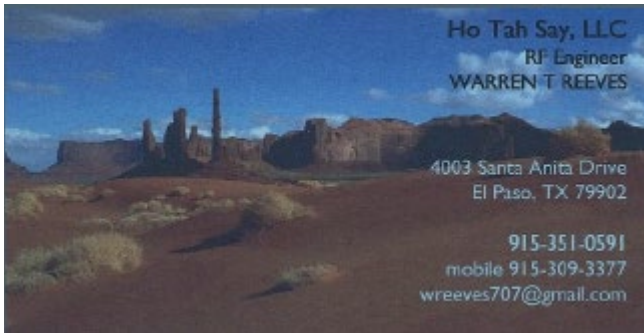
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