WATERLOO TECHNICAL SOCIETY

14 MARCH 2001 MEETING MINUTES

The 14 March 2001 meeting of the Waterloo Technical Society was held at the Holiday Inn Greenstreets Restaurant in Cedar Falls, IA with 32 members and 1 guest present. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Charles Angel at 7:15 PM. Past Presidents and Honorary Members were recognized. Minutes of the 7 February 2001 meeting were read, corrected, and approved.

Gordon Licht presented the Treasurer's report with the transactions that had taken place between February 7, 2001 to March 13, 2001. The ending balance was $580.26.

Our Program chairperson was Chuck Angel and he introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. William Hayes, Director of Engineering and Technology at Iowa Public Television. His program was High Definition Television.

Mr. Hayes presented some historical information on the Iowa Public Television Station. The Board was formed in 1967 and they purchased a station and started broadcasting in 1969. They are covering the state now through the use of 16 transmitters. They reach approximately 2.6 million people and about 93% of Iowans have access to IPTV. He then presented what IPTV is doing to prepare for the HDTV in Iowa. The cost of the power increase for broadcasting the digital signal for HDTV will be approximately $1 million. The FCC has been mandated that commercial stations have to be able to broadcast in this system by May 2002 and non-commercial stations need to broadcasting by May 2003. Much work needs to be done. The debate of using the European Standard or the U.S. Standard has been settled with the U.S. staying with the U.S. Standard. They should be starting some broadcasting out of the Des Monies station in June of this year. It is a whole new system with rabbit ears not working; neither will inline amplifiers or splitters; RG6 coax cable will work, but RG59 coax will not. Cable companies do not have to carry both signals. Adapter boxes will be available that will adapt the HD signal to our current TV sets.

Questions were answered at the end of the presentation. More information can be obtained by accessing their website **Error! Bookmark not defined.**.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Mohling, CO-Secretary