



December 16, 2016

Greetings Broadcasters:

It is with great optimism I write to all of you as the new Chair of the NHAB Board of Directors for 2017. I have taken the reins from Gerry McGavick of Binnie Media, and I'd like to thank him for his leadership and guidance through this year, which has been one of change, challenge and transition. We have plenty of work ahead of us and I believe we are well positioned for success going forward.

In order to address these challenges, and given the shifting environment of leadership at the state and federal level, NHAB is charting a new course in day-to-day operations. I'm happy to announce that we have retained The Spradling Group to help us manage daily operations, monitor political developments, work on NCSA revenue building and guide us into the future.

Tracy Caruso, former morning show host for WZID will assume the role of Executive Director of NHAB. It is a familiar assignment for Tracy as she worked closely with our association from 2001-2005. Her knowledge of NHAB's activities and the role it plays for all of us will serve her well during this transition and beyond. Her resume also includes on-air time at WMVU in Nashua and WKNE in Keene. Our new contact info is as follows:

NHAB
PO Box 5578
Manchester, NH 03108
603-232-0277

In addition, **Scott Spradling**, formerly of WMUR-TV and WGIR radio, will serve as our government affairs representative and will work in a support capacity on all NHAB activities. Scott's relationships from the State House to the White House, as well as his connections with both media and business will uniquely serve our association in meeting future needs.

I am excited to bring two former broadcasters back into the NHAB family. For those of you who don't know this duo, I'm confident you will quickly make positive connections and find them to be responsive and capable. We have the right people in place to meet the shifting needs of NHAB in 2017 and beyond, and together, we're ready to get started.



What about Ed? On behalf of the board and the membership, I would like to acknowledge the hard-work and leadership of Executive Director **Ed Brouder**. He stepped into this role during an unanticipated transition and his knowledge and dedication helped us survive and thrive throughout the year. Ed will remain in his position as chairman of our State Emergency Communications Committee dealing with EAS operations. He will also be assisting with the transition and working with his former WZID colleague, Tracy, in her new NHAB role.

As an association, we are monitoring a number of federally-driven and technology-driven changes in the way many of us do the business of broadcasting. We will be watching and likely offering our voice to issues including:

- Repacking digital signals for TV stations and its potential impact on radio broadcasters
- FCC fee and deadline changes for 2017
- NH Supreme Court litigation over potential taxes on broadcast equipment
- Fractional music licensing rules and regulations

Moving forward, the NHAB board will monitor these issues highlighted, but with new staff in place also comes a new opportunity to streamline internal operations with an eye towards saving on expenses and expanding revenue. Rest assured these changes can occur without sacrificing the important membership services NHAB has historically provided to all of you.

Thank you again, and I look forward to your continued support. Please feel free to reach out to me with thoughts and feedback at mark.ericson@townsquaremedia.com. My best wishes to you and your loved ones for a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Sincerely,

Mark Ericson, Chair
NHAB Board of Directors