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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** BOYD  
**SUBJECT:** EDNET BOARD  
**DATE:** 5/11/2000  
**CC:** COLE  
SIMMONS

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The EdNet Board needs some help. I attended the Board meeting (May 10) to learn about the corporation's functions at the request of Bill Bunch. There appears to be very little leadership from the president (Larry Miller) or from the Board to the EdNet staff.

The board approved the FY2001 budget (5-1) for EdNet that provides for a \$260,000 deficit. Without a clear explanation from the staff regarding the budget and with Rickey Garrett and Frank Spencer speaking in opposition to the budget, I voted against the budget. (Please note that Rickey and Frank voted for the budget.)

Larry Miller moved to have the by-laws amended so that the Executive Director of ETV does not serve as president of EdNet. His motion passed effective July 1, 2000. He stated that if his board required him to remain as president he would but the EdNet board did not have the authority to require him to serve as president.

The 20 channels that are licensed to EdNet are assumed to be worth \$16 million each. The board expressed a need for long-term planning sessions to discuss the direction of where EdNet should be in 5-10 years to guide the contract negotiations with WorldCom. These channels represent an opportunity for WorldCom, or any other communications group, to provide high speed data, video, and voice information over a statewide wireless network. (This could permit WorldCom to compete with BellSouth for local telephone service--home and cellular.).

Your appointments to this board need to be strong, business/technology types. I will be glad to discuss the events of meeting further at your leisure.