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County officials ^{403.} considering board meeting broadcasts

After years of discussion, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners finally welcomed television cameras into their auditorium Thursday to document a meeting.

It was an experimental recording designed to explore the logistics of regularly televising county commission meetings, according to Commissioner David Moffitt (R-Farmington Hills).

"We want to see how this works and see how we can use it in the future," Moffitt said. "The plan is to record the meetings and distribute tapes to cable systems throughout the county to run them."

Many Oakland County communities televise city council, township board and school board meetings, with some of them airing those meetings live. Some commissioners are not thrilled about the idea with the logistical concerns of coordinating the broadcast with the county's several community-based cable systems.

Moffitt, who chairs the commission committee that explores the cable television opportunities, said many

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David Moffitt

— commissioner,
Oakland County Board

cable systems have expressed interest in airing taped county board meetings. There are no immediate plans to broadcast these meetings live.

When the Commissioners Auditorium was remodeled in March, the \$550,000 project called for updated audio, video and production equipment that would give the county board the opportunity to televise meetings. This opened the door for the inaugural effort Thursday, the same day the 25-member board formally commemorated the completion of its newly remodeled legislative chamber.

— By Dan West