

**MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION**  
**Regular Meeting/Teleconference of the Board of Directors**

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m.  
Mississippi Public Broadcasting Board Room

**+  
TEAMS Videoconference**

**MINUTES**

Call to Order Chairman Mackey

*The regularly scheduled meeting of the MPB Board was called to order at AM.*

Roll call/Establish quorum Marvin Jeter

Members Present:

*Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chair/MCCB; Dawn Barham, Secondary Rep; Ric Sawyer, Elementary Rep;*

Members via TEAMS:

*Dr. Ormella Cummings, IHL Rep; Dr. Judy Nelson, MDE Rep; Russ Latino, Vice Chair*

MPB Staff Present: *Royal Aills, MPB ED; Anna Neel, MPB COO; Alicia Harris, MPB CFO; Dr. Marvin Jeter, COS; Kevin Cornel, IT Service*

Also Present: *Sarah Mann, Board Counsel, Office of the Attorney General; Angela Ferraez, MPB Foundation Executive Director*

Introduction of Visitors & New Members Chairman Mackey

*No Visitors; Dr. Mackey announced the resignation of Whitney Lipscomb, Board Member*

Approval of Agenda Chairman Mackey

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/seconded by D. Barham, the Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.*

Approval of Minutes *Tab 1* Chairman Mackey

*March 5, 2024, Regularly Scheduled Meeting Minutes*

*Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Meeting Minutes*

*With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by R. Sawyer, the March 5, 2024, Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.*

Chairman's Report

Chairman Mackey

*Dr. Mackey reported that there was no new information to share.*

Old Business

Chairman Mackey

*CFO, A. Harris reported on travel expenses for Board Members:*

- *Chair Mackey to travel to Washington, D.C., February 25-29, 2024, to attend the APTS Public Media Summit accumulating \$230.80 in expenses.*
- *Member R. Sawyer to travel to Columbus, MS, April 20, 2024, as an education subcommittee representative to attend the Columbus Family Fun Day Event accumulating \$386.50 in expenses.*

*With a motion by D. Barham/seconded by O. Cummings, the Board Member travel was approved by unanimous consent.*

New Business

- Executive Director Report                      *Tab 2*                      Royal Aills
  - Legislative Update
  - FY25 Budget Review
  - Human Resources Report – Tab 4: Alicia Harris
  - MPB Learning Report: Dr. Marvin Jeter
  - MS Antiques Showcase – Columbus Report
  - WZZQ Screening – Anna Neel
  - Strategic Planning Session Scheduled

Division Reports

- Finance    *Tab 3*    Alicia Harris

3A Monthly Financial Report April

*CFO Alicia Harris presented the Monthly Financial Report.*

3B Proposed FY25 Budget

*Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend FY25 Budget*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/seconded by D. Barham, the Proposed FY25 Budget projected for allocations in the recent legislative session was approved by unanimous consent.*

3C Approval of Expenses over \$50,000

*Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Anticipated Expenses*

*With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by R. Sawyer, the Projected Expenses of \$1,543,966 for PBS were approved by unanimous consent.*

- Human Resources                              *Tab 4*    Bobby Wicker

*This report was presented by Alicia Harris during the ED Report.*

- Foundation Report

Angela Ferraez

- Radio & TV Pledge
- Promote the Vote
- Legislative Dinners/Reception
- CDP Conference in Denver
- Radio Collaboration – Juke Joint
- MPB Learning Collaboration – Family Fun Day-Columbus
- Antiques Showcase – Top 5 Most Watched Show
- Underwriting Needs to Balance Budget
- Underwriting Process in Place
- Grant writer Software
- Membership/Donations Report

*Dr. Mackey expressed appreciation to MPB staff for hosting MCCB Annual Accountability Meeting in March.*

Consideration of Executive Session

Chairman Mackey

*With a motion by R. Latino the board unanimously agreed to enter into closed session at 11:19AM. to determine whether executive session was necessary.*

*In closed session, the board determined to enter executive session for discussion of pending litigation in four EEOC matters.*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/seconded by D. Barham, the board unanimously agreed to enter into executive session.*

*The board did not take any action during the executive session.*

*With a motion by D. Barham/seconded by R. Sawyer, the board unanimously agreed to exit into open session.*

Adjournment

Chairman Mackey

*With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by R. Sawyer, a recommendation to adjourn passed unanimously at 11:256AM.*

**SIGNED, this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024.**

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Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chairman  
Board of Directors

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Royal Aills  
Executive Director