# Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority

1:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 27, 2023 OETA Media Center Conference Room 7403 N. Kelley Ave. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

# DIRECTORS PRESENT:

James Isaacs

# **DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Lisa Greenlee, Chair
Larry Rice, Vice Chair
Jeanie Webb, Secretary-Treasurer
Wendy Argenbright
Karen Auer
Terri Cornett
Kara Hall

Allison Garrett Joseph Harroz, Jr Mike Martin Kayse Shrum Ryan Walters

**<u>VISITORS PRESENT:</u>** Tyler Talley of Quorum Call; Assistant Attorney General Madalynn Martin.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Executive Director Polly Anderson; Vice President of Engineering & Technology Lawson Adams; Vice President of Finance & Administration Shawn Black; Vice President of Marketing & Communications Jarred Smith; Vice President of Educational Outreach Darrell Strong; Vice President of Operations Janette Thornbrue; Director of Development Mairead Todd; and Executive Assistant Brandy Kennedy.

The Oklahoma Educational Television Authority Board of Directors met in person at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 27, 2023. A Notice of Meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State and copies of the Agenda and meeting documents were posted in accordance with provisions of the Open Meeting Act.

Chair Greenlee called the meeting to order. Anderson called the roll. It was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. Staff members and guests were introduced.

# Item #4 (Action)

The Board reviewed the minutes for the regular meeting of April 25, 2023. The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Webb made the motion to approve and Rice seconded the motion. Seeing there were no comments or discussion requested, the Chair called for a roll call vote. The motion carried at 1:02 p.m.

#### Item #5

The Chair noted that this was her final meeting as Chair on the Board, thanking the Board and staff for their professionalism through handling the challenges OETA faced this past year. The Chair congratulated the Documentary Department for their 7 Emmy nominations

as testament to the kind of work and dedication OETA exemplifies.

#### Item #6

Anderson reported OETA has been nominated for 7 Emmy awards, and that results will be posted July 1, 2023. She noted that Lawson Adams relocated the Idabel tower to an ODOT tower at Broken Bow with an MOU in place for the sharing of the tower. She specified that they are awaiting equipment which can then be installed in 3 days.

Anderson noted that OETA's ratings have been stellar, with April ranking nationally in the number 1 spot and with May in number 2, 5, and 14. Under development, Anderson confirmed that while the average gift is down, there are more donors compared to last year. She pointed out that during Public Media Giving Days, OETA raised over \$36,000, and that OETA outperformed most other public media stations.

In Education, Anderson updated the Board on the PBS Learning Media subscribers, which is now at 39,000 while prior to the pandemic subscribers were at 11,000. Anderson reported that OETA is 1 of 10 public media stations receiving the American Graduate: Jobs Explained grants. She informed the Board that OETA's educational focus is on Aerospace, so staff are currently creating partnerships with the aerospace industries in the state and creating 3 to 4-minute videos about jobs in aerospace.

Anderson announced that the News Department has outperformed commercial stations in some areas in Oklahoma. Anderson provided one area doing particularly well is the News Department's feature on Black towns in Oklahoma, where OETA is showcasing 1 of the 13 Black towns each month. She noted that this feature is being entered in a competition for a national award.

## Item #7 (Action)

Black reviewed the financial and personnel reports with the Board. OETA is below budget, partly due to supply chain issues. Expenditures went up partly due to increased costs in tower rentals and electricity at multiple sites. Black went over the detailed expenditures as well as the projection of the cash balance. Black noted the personnel changes. The Chair entertained a motion to approve the financial and personnel reports. Cornett made a motion to approve the financial and personnel reports. Hall seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion carried unanimously at 1:17 p.m.

## Item #8 (Action)

The Board reviewed the nominating committee's proposed officers to serve during FY 2024. The Executive Committee proposed Webb as Chair, Argenbright as Vice Chair, and Garrett as Secretary-Treasurer. It was noted the new officers will begin in August. The Chair called for a motion. Cornett made a motion to approve the slate of officers for FY 2024. Isaacs seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion carried unanimously at 1:19 p.m.

## Item #9

The Chair announced the next regular meeting is set for Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 1 p.m. at the OETA network headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK.

#### Adjournment

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Rice motioned and Argenbright seconded. There being no further business to come before the Authority, Chair Greenlee called the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Adopted this day of Tuesday, August 22, 2023.

Jeanie Webb, Chair

Wendy Argenbright, Vice Chair