



WMHT Public Media

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**WMHT Educational Telecommunications
WMHT Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2022**

A Meeting of the WMHT Board of Trustees was held on May 19, 2022, via a zoom visual and audio conference call. Kathleen Jimino, Chair of the Board of Trustees, presided.

Present

Kathy Jimino	Susan Kress
Robert Altman	Martin Mbugua
Don Applyrs	Barb Nelson
Bridgit Ball Shaw	Khadijah Peek
Ian Berry	Mary Ellen Piche
Karen Carpenter-Palumbo	Del Salmon
Angela Dixon	Viki Sand
Doris Fischer Malesardi	Danika Vittorio
Mona Golub	Teresa Zielinski

Excused

Lee A. McElroy	Shelby Schneider
Steady Moono	Mary Simoni
Tobi Saulnier	Kelly Smith

Also Attending

WMHT Staff: Sandra Beer, Val Belden, Virginia Claus, George Hauenstein, Will Pedigo, Julie Raskin and Chris Wienk.

Call to Order

Ms. Jimino called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

***Consent Agenda
Items***

On a motion by Ms. Fischer Malesardi seconded by Ms. Carpenter-Palumbo the consent agenda, of minutes and notes listed below, was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees.

Minutes and Notes

- March 17, 2022, Board Meeting
- March 17, 2022, Governance Committee Meeting
- April 14, 2022, Development Committee Meeting
- April 19, 2022, Investment Committee Meeting
- April 27, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting
- May 10, 2022, Audit Committee Meeting
- May 12, 2022, Governance Committee Meeting
- May 12, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting
- May 17, 2022, Finance Committee Meeting

***Finance Committee
Report and
Investment Sub-
Committee***

Ms. Ball-Shaw reported portfolio was 2 basis points above benchmark. Mr. Altman shared the numbers as of the end of April. Net Income before Depreciation is \$664,940 better than budget and \$322,911 better than prior year. We are in a strong cash position and are confident that we will end the year well. The sustainer program continues to grow with 42% of active donors giving monthly. While membership giving is showing some signs of softness that is smoothed out by sustaining giving and major gifts.

Preliminary FY23 Budget Review

Mr. Altman noted that he is presenting a draft operating budget. This draft of the budget is missing 2 key items, capital expenditures and additional NYS Education funds totaling approximately \$700,000 for special projects for which there will be additional expenses. The final budget, which will be presented to the board for approval in June, will include these two items.

This is a conservative budget with a 3% increase over where we expect to end FY22. This includes flat allocations from the federal and state governments and conservative but attainable goals set for membership, underwriting and production income.

We expect expenses to increase by nearly 14% in the coming year, in part because we have not been fully staffed during this past year. The budget assumes that the five current open positions will be filled as of July 1, and also includes the addition of a classical radio producer position. The expenses include a 5% salary pool that reflects the job market, the work of the staff, the financial strength of WMHT and the inflation that is increasing. Health care costs will increase modestly, there are more resources included for travel and training at conferences, and additional resources for strategic projects are included.

***Resolution- Vehicle
Lease***

WMHT currently leases a vehicle from Fuccillo Kia of Schenectady for production purposes. As we will be returning our current vehicle, we request a board resolution to approve a 3-year automobile lease for another Kia Telluride.

The resolution language is below:

Resolved, The Board of Trustees of WMHT Educational Telecommunications approves the 3-year (36 month) lease of a 2022 Kia Telluride from Fuccillo Kia of Schenectady.

On a motion by Ms. Sand seconded by Ms. Kress the above resolution was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees.

President's Report

Mr. Altman has just returned from the first DC for his first in-person PBS meeting in almost three years. A third of the PBS general managers are new to their jobs during that time. The acceleration of change from linear broadcast to many digital platforms, and the resulting fragmented audience continues at an accelerating pace. Already true for those watching PBSKids content, it is projected that the digital

audience will be bigger than the linear broadcast general audience for the first time later this year.

PBS is in a strong position in this fragmented environment. The growth of younger and more diverse audience is occurring on the new platforms, not in broadcast, reinforcing our commitment to these new digital platforms.

Chair's Report

Ms. Jimino thanked board and staff for their hard work, which has borne fruit. As we approach the end of the Fiscal Year Ms. Jimino reinforced the importance of 100% participation from the Trustees in our fundraising and will be following up in the weeks ahead.

Ms. Jimino asked that board members respond to the email that she sent out regarding the annual presidential review.

Executive Session

The Board moved into Executive Session at 4:55PM to discuss personnel matters. On a motion by Ms. Piche, seconded by Mr. Mbugua the meeting approved concluding the Executive Session. No action was taking during the session

Adjournment

On a motion Ms. Piche seconded by Ms. Fischer Malesardi the board unanimously approved adjourning the meeting at 5:35 pm.