

KSUT Board Mtg

Jan. 15, 2025

Attending: Gary Skiba, Kirsten Langmade, Wade Griffith, Mike Mays, Susan Kearns, and Robert Ortiz (via zoom)

Absent: Mikki Naranjo, Eddie Box, Jr.

Called to order 5:29 pm.

Agenda approval - An addition to the agenda was made regarding changing the board meeting date to the third Wednesday of the month. Gary made a motion to approve the agenda. Kirsten seconded. Unanimously passed.

Minutes – Kirsten made a motion to approve the minutes. Gary seconded. Unanimously approved.

ED report - The announcement of the Four Corners Folk Festival suspension for 2025 was received well overall. There were some who were disappointed, including Festival staff, and a couple of people withdrew support for KSUT.

Jill Davis (Festival Director) met with Darren from the Pagosa Springs Parks and Rec Dept. to confirm the city would continue to store festival items during the hiatus. A patron attendee for many years offered to give \$108,000 to support at least a 2-day festival. This may be considered in 2026, but not this year.

Tami has continued to reach out to donors. One donor will increase their annual gift from 15K to 20K. Tami reported that those who have the capacity to support are doing so.

Tami met (via Zoom) with Robert Holmes (owner Tico Time). He wanted to discuss how last year's festival went for KSUT, as he heard there was dissatisfaction on the part of KSUT with the event's proceeds. He committed to a gift of \$2500, and he plans to purchase underwriting from KSUT to support the 2025 Festival.

Due to/Due from – Tami will meet with the Tribe regarding the repayment schedule (see the Tribal Media Request Form PDF). The packet is approved and ready for the meeting with the Tribal Council.

ERT Monies - The remaining documentation for the ERT audit has been sent and the matter should be resolved by the extended deadline.

Programming - Through negotiation with NPR – programming costs will decrease by \$22,000. They were willing to work with us because this is rural area, small market; and tribal owned. NPR programming is provided in a “bundle” that includes a collection of programs. Then, there

are add-ons that have individual costs such as Fresh Air. BBC News is another program that comes at extra cost.

Kirsten suggested that it be mentioned on air (similar to NPR programs) that local listeners help support the stations' programming throughout the year.

Development Report – Tami reported there was a very strong first quarter. With the new admin, it is anticipated that donations will increase. This occurred during the last Republican administration.

Wade requested that the minutes reflect the great job Tami has done and continues to do with her work of bringing in with major gifts. Board members chimed in with their appreciation for her work as well.

Feb programming changes are still to be determined. Gary suggested maybe run ideas by the board as we represent a sampling of listeners.

Tribal Media Center – Tami anticipates receiving a \$50,000 grant and a \$10,000 (state). Funding is delayed by some state-required vetting due to Tribal ownership (subrogation).

Tribal radio – Submitting the Tribal Radio Website and some of Clark Adomitis' stories for consideration in the Colorado Broadcaster Awards.

Open board seat – Susan asked about the idea raised regarding holding an open house for tribal members to see the station to help stimulate interest in joining the board. Tami will get with Sheila to discuss the idea. It was suggested that the topic be brought up at Bear Dance. Wade offered to attend events to promote the opening. Word of mouth seems to be one of the best ways to gain SUIT members on the board.

What about amending the bylaws to include First Descendants, which was an idea put forth by Robert. Tami said she would run the idea by Tribal Council member (and former KSUT board member) Linda Baker.

Someone asked about Tribal members who don't live locally. Robert mentioned it is estimated that about 25% live off the reservation.

Robert suggested Linda Baker be invited to be the Tribal liaison. There is a Community Pow Wow at the multipurpose facility at the end of the month at MPF. Perhaps the MC could read an announcement regarding the opening. He added that there is an announcement about the open seat in every issue of the Southern Ute Drum. Wade will reach out to a contact at Ft. Lewis for suggested candidates.

Board meeting dates – Tami proposed the board meeting dates move to the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This will take pressure off staff for the monthly reporting. Gary made a motion to approve moving the board meetings. Mike seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Kirsten made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Gary.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.