

# **KSUT Board Meeting**

**October 15, 2025**

**Attending:** Mike, Kirsten, Susan, Robert, James, Beth, Eddie, Mikki

**Guest:** Frank Langfitt, NPR National Correspondent

**Absent:** Meg

Meeting called to order 5:33.

Introductions for benefit of Frank...he is interested in the impact of funding loss to rural—especially Tribal—stations.

**Agenda** – Robert motioned to approve agenda, Mike seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Minutes** – Revisions: Mike and James last names to be corrected. Susan made a motion to approve with revisions; Mike seconded. Unanimously approved.

## **ED Report**

Tami welcomed new board members and said she is excited about the quality and experience of the current board at a pivotal point in time for KSUT.

No reports from staff managers due to the short amount of time (3 weeks) since the last board meeting.

Tami commented about the email she received regarding KSUT being chosen as a recipient for BIA one-time funding support (see ED report). She will wait until funds are received before making a public announcement.

Tami reported the fall fund drive was the “best ever” and places the organization in a good position for FY 2026. The debt to the Tribe will be paid off in December.

The Designated Fund has officially started. The goal is to raise 6 million over time to provide the interest income needed to offset the loss of CPB funding.

She and the staff are working on the FY 2026 budget. They received the final financials from the Tribe today. By the November board meeting she should have an early draft of budget.

One goal (discussed last year) is to establish a 3-month reserve and Tami said now is the time to create that fund. Because there is already a separate bank account for ERT funds, the plan is to put reserve funds into that account.

Tami is still hopeful for reimbursement (through the NGWS grant) of \$46,000 spent so far to upgrade two transmitter locations. There are no updates on whether these federal funds will be released that are still sitting in the US Treasury.

No update on NPR lawsuit against the Trump administration. There was a suit filed by NPR against CPB and a motion was filed to ask for a summary judgement on both suits. If the suit moves forward, Tami hopes to go to DC to speak to the judge.

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary occurs in 2026 (early June). Tami asked the board to submit any ideas. Susan suggested interviews with former staff or board members. Chris is looking at using an old logo (bear with a radio) for a T-shirt to commemorate the anniversary. James suggested highlighting looking forward from the perspective of the region's youth. Kirsten suggested a float in the Snowdown parade to bring attention to the anniversary.

Glycol spill - still working with the Tribe on the repairs and deductible.

Robert asked about the Towaoc tower. Tami said they are working with the executive officer of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. Tami hopes to have AT&T pay for the repairs to KSUT's damaged equipment as well as the loss of underwriting that occurred due to the tower failure.

Robert also asked about the fall fund drive. Tami reported sustaining membership amount increased significantly and has surpassed the average percentage of 70% of membership dollars. The September deposit for membership exceeded \$100,000. The success of the drive will allow them to start building the reserve fund.

Tami reported she received a \$5,000 grant from the community foundation to support Indigenous reporting. Ballentine recently contributed \$5,000 as well. There is a lot of opportunity to expand on Indigenous affairs reporting and one of her goals for the coming year is to further elevate service to Indigenous communities and expand programming.

Kirsten said she sees Tribal radio as a way to archive stories of today for the youth of tomorrow. Mikki said she likes the idea of an archive of activities for future generations.

**Board Elections** – The board discussed confirming James as Treasurer as he has agreed to serve in that role. Mike made a motion to approve the election of James as Treasurer. Robert seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Board Committees** – Tami said the only active committee has been the finance committee, which meets quarterly, usually when reviewing the quarterly budget report. The committee is also involved with budget development. Tami reached out to Jamie Mathews, and she agreed to serve on the committee. Others include Mike, James, and Mikki.

Susan will send PDFs of the 2025 board meeting minutes to Mark Duggan to post on the website. She will also send the updated Open Meetings policy.

Kirsten asked that Mark take a look at “listen now” link as it does not work.

In the past, Kirsten has sent out a group text regarding board meetings as a reminder and to also determine if we will have a quorum. The group thought that action was helpful, and Kirsten said she will continue to do that for future meetings.

Next meeting Nov 19, 5:30 pm

Beth made a motion to adjourn. James seconded. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.