

**MINUTES OF THE WLRN
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB) MEETING
Thursday, January 19, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by CAB Chair Diana Zamora at 12:02 PM.

CAB MEMBERS, WLRN STAFF AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicole Chipi, Lauren Gomez, David Hirsch, Marcela Moyano, Barry Schwartz, John LaBonia, Sheila Reinken, Kearey Wan, Cynthia Weems, Diana Zamora. Guests: Michael Anderson, Sergio Bustos, Jessica Bakemen, Joshua Ceballos, Monica Cruz, Antonio Drayton, Gwen Filosa, Carlos Frias, Caitie Munoz, Peter Maerz, James March, Charles Michaels, Caitie Munoz, Doug Petersen, Andrew Ruiz and Ellen Soto.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the November 2, 2022, meeting. Members present accepted and approved the minutes as published.

THE NEW NEWSROOM AND STAFF INTRODUCTIONS:

Sergio Bustos, VP of News, introduced himself to the board and provided his career background in journalism. Sergio arrived in South Florida in 2005, working many years at the Miami Herald. With a real passion for politics, Bustos worked with Politico, and up to recently was running the enterprise politics team for 18 Florida newspapers owned by U.S. Today and Gamut.

Sergio expressed that he comes to WLRN to help guide a very talented group of journalists into a fascinating future, which includes podcast, streaming, digital, investigative and database reporting, no matter the platform, there will be many stories to tell about South Florida. He adds his goal is to steer two dozen staff to make the vision of WLRN a reality, to be the most trusted, most valued, and the most supported public media organization in South Florida. And

The following news staff introduced themselves, their positions and their vision for their roles:

Caitie Munoz, Director of Newscasts and Live Programs
Jessica Bakeman, Director of Enterprise Journalism
Joshua Ceballos, Local Government Accountability Reporter (Investigative Team Member)
Gwen Filosa, Florida Keys Reporter

John LaBonia adds that our goal is to get our journalism into other media outlets including partnerships with NPR and the three major daily newspapers in South Florida (Palm Beach Post, Sun Sentinel, and Miami Herald). These partnerships will allow us to reach new audiences and bring more people to WLRN Public Media. This direction will translate into increased individual and major giving and foundation support, allowing us to not only build the organization as a whole, but also provide the opportunity to hire more reporters to increase regional coverage.

NEXT CAB MEETING: Thursday, March 16, 2023, at Noon

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 PM.