MENDOCINO COUNTY PUBLIC BROADCASTING
Board of Directors and Annual Membership Meeting
May 26, 2026 - 6 PM
Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center
1640 S. State St., Ukiah, California
Broadcast-only Zoom link: *https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86161780759*

Zoom Meeting ID: 861 6178 0759

MINUTES

A CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM by President Baird

AGENDA APPROVAL/AMENDMENT
Treasurer Golden adding item to conduct of business. Item I 4 adopting practice of adding certification of authorization.
Motion to approve amended agenda D Strock 2nd K Ottoboni. Passed unanimously.
Recognized incoming board members Marc Komer and Eileen Russell.
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

B PUBLIC EXPRESSION
Jim Beatty on the community advisory board. Advocating for re-vitalizing of the CAB's role. Need more feedback from the community. Referenced KZYX website. Mentioned expanding listeners and members. Referenced how to contact CAB and gain valuable inputs from listening community. Listening public needs to be heard. Diane Simmons is the chair of the CAB. Wants to expand listener members and younger members.
Geoffrey Blankford. Talked about mix of music vs. public affairs. Need to make this community station. Need to be more announcements of meetings in advance. Need more community inputs.
Jim Beatty. stressed the public needs to be heard at in person meetings.
Johanna Cummings. Stressed that this annual meeting is for the members of KZYX. Need to much better job of reaching out to the KZYX community and create engagement.
Jim Gregory. KZYX is a work in progress. Acknowledged Rich Culbertson.
Jill (last name not given) Wants to address the community advisory board involvement. How can the CAB have more relevant inputs that have positive impact on KZYX. How can the CAB ensure that recommendations are implemented.
Barry Vogel. How to employ more involvement from schools with instruction on how to put a program together, how to present on air.

C HIGHLIGHTS FROM KZYX REPORT, FY 2025-2026 – Susan Baird, Outgoing President

- Reviewed annual report.
- Internal challenges inadequate information regarding members and donors. Financial reporting systems and practices. Antiquated reporting systems.
- Aging broadcast equipment
- Board and staff have worked to modernize approach
- Received grant to support news department
- Enhanced communications newsletter
- Externally adapting to threats to KZYX from the cutting of funding.
- Cited donations in response to 174 campaign
- Upgraded main website
- Membership support to increase new and sustaining members

- Increasing partnerships with local non-profits
- Recognized volunteers
- 113 volunteer programmers
- Judy Waterman as volunteer CFO and financial advisor
- CAB Diane Simmons as chair.
- Johanna Cummings election coordinator
- Nancy Bond, Dina Polkinghorn served on Building Fund Committee. Marc Komer and Eileen Russell as well.

D REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

D.1 Finance Committee – Mary Golden, Treasurer

- Cited strong financial position of KZYX. Well positioned for future.
- Mission to promote community through increased communication, diverse voice and access to emergency services.
- Takes $60k monthly to keep the station on the air
- Donations 46% for operational revenue, membership at 21%
- 20% contingency funds result of two $174K donations
- Facing structural gap once large donations have been used
- Drafting 2026-27 budget
- Reviewed balances of operating accounts. See attached financial reports.
- Compared assets vs liabilities See attached financial reports.
- Reviewed work of finance committee. Proactive cash management
- Bringing proposal to board to open new accounts so that we can maximize interest yield.
- Clay Street mortgage finance balances. October 2026 will reset.
- Launched formal re-fi project with Redwood CU and Savings Bank
- Amended returns filed by CPA firm after audit completed.
- Negotiated discount rate with Neon One new membership database vendor.
- Recognized finance committee and Judy Waterman.

D.2 Executive Committee – Susan Baird, President

- Planned the annual in person meeting

D.3 Building Fund & Development Committee – Susan Baird, Committee Chair

- Have challenging goal for the building fund project. Need additional $500k to raise.
- Planning series of site visits to Clay Street site. Inviting potential donors.
- Planning events for City of Ukiah staff. Eileen Russell will coordinate site visits.
- Invitations for private fundraising event to cover cost of new generator. June 25, 2026. Goal is $50k
- Cited efforts of Meagan Demitz, Consultant, to assist with fund raising activities. New contract for additional engagement.
- Marc Komer will serve as Building Fund Committee chair. Susan Baird will serve as vice chair.
- Eileen Russell discussed how to increase engagement of community governments and community members.
- Looking at special Ukiah City Council member meeting to allow entire council to attend.

D.4 Building Project – Mark Spindler, Building Advisory Group Chair

The following was provided to the BAG prior to this in person meeting.

- The tower delivery & tower erection has been scheduled **Status – Tower delivery completed.**
- The landscape maintenance is scheduled (rain delayed) **Status - Completed**
- The low voltage wiring will be installed in coming weeks, materials on site (Andre & Phil from Adobe) **Status – Pending completion**
- The lighted parking lot and other site plans being developed beginning with the electrical trenching (Wipf & Tipton Electric) **Status – Trenching for electrical has been completed.**

- Building 2 will get its underground power connected **Status – Trenching and conduit structures have been completed and placed.**
- Infrastructure for our future generator will be installed **Status – Trenching has been completed.**
- Courtyard sidewalk from parking lot to building including ADA access to (2) entrances and pouring the new concrete apron and ADA parking with path of travel (Sack Concrete) **Status – Scheduling for work is in progress.**
- Spreading gravel **Status – Scheduling for work is in progress.**
- 38Kw generator permit application materials being prepared. Initiated conversations with PG&E about any possible upgrades to our service that may be needed. **Status – In progress**
- Future monthly update reports will include building project budget updates versus what project deliverables are still outstanding.
- Director Ottoboni questioned building project fund balances.

E REPORTS FROM STAFF

E.1 General Manager/Operations Director – Andre de Channes

- One anniversary for GM de Channes 18 months in GM position.
- Recognized paid staff
- We are understaffed
- Looking at connecting with schools and younger audience/listeners
- Internships with local high schools, Mendo College. Dependent on move to Ukiah.
- Reviewed large donations that were received.
- Public media ecosystem revenue challenges will be in the next 2-3 years.
- Should not be complacent on our current financial situation.
- Public media stations 25-30% approx. are facing financial challenges. Stations are being absorbed by religious programming outlets. 25% of commercial stations are controlled by religious broadcasters.
- No off-air events over the last five months.
- Talmadge lease has been extended by MCOE through October 2026.
- NPR working on new tiered subscription models. Looking at what the reach of member stations is. Looking at digital model meeting listeners where they are on digital platforms.
- New CRM Neon One
- Recognized Sarah Shankman will be moving on EOM June.
- Sarah Shankman spoke about experiences with KZYX.
- She reviewed previous fund drive results and experiences.

E.2 Membership Director – Sarah (Shanks) Shankman

- Reviewed history of recent pledge drives.
- Have total members 2000-2,500 approximately donating one time or more annually.
- 900 sustaining members

E.3 Music Director – Katharine Cole

- Reviewed efforts to digitize music library
- Curating the music archives/library
- New programmers (30). Looking to have them go live on air versus pre-recording.
- Challenge of getting live programmers
- Move to Ukiah will make it easier for programmers to be live on air.
- Looking to getting new voices on air

E.4 Public Affairs Director – W Dan

- One anniversary on job. Part time position.
- Developed new shows. Pivot. First 5 Mendocino. Mendo Historical Society Looking Back show.
- Looking at ways to make the staff jobs easier to address burnout.
- Reviewed training for new programmers to standardize programming formats.

- 2 business days now required to get shows in for programming staff to have sufficient time.
- Reviewed how programmers comfortable with how their shows are presented.
- Produced new radio guide for upcoming shows
- Noted GM de Channes efforts

E.5 Underwriting Director – Kristi Ross

- New to KZYX
- Reviewed new job duties and current and past underwriters
- Reviewing past, current and potential new underwriting partners.
- Looking at how to grow underwriting revenues
- In process of updating accurate list of underwriters on KZYX website.
- GM de Channes recognized KZYX paid staff members

F CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1 APPROVAL OF APRIL 2026 MINUTES

- Motion by JZ 2nd by multiple seconds. Passed unanimously

G CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

G.1 VOTE ON APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

- Motion to approve Treasurer MG 2nd JZ Passed unanimously

G.2 VOTE ON INVESTMENT TRANSFER PROPOSAL

- Motion to approve Treasurer Golden. 2nd JZ. Passed unanimously

G.3 VOTE ON PROPOSAL THAT BOARD AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ENGAGE IN A NEW CONTRACT WITH DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $9K

Discussion – Question by Marc Komer regarding proposed consultant scope of work.

- Motion to approve JZ 2nd MG Passed unanimously

G.4 AI meeting minutes guidelines require that a human certify the validity of the meeting minutes.

- Motion by KO. 2nd JZ Passed unanimously

H SEAT NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Eileen Russell, Dist.2; Marc Komer, Dist.3; Kristin Wiederholt, Dist.5

- President Baird recognized outgoing and new board members.
- VP Zolitor recognized David Strock's service to the KZYX BOD
- VP Zolitor recognized Stewart Dickson's service to the KZYX BOD. District 4 rep is still vacant.
- VP Zolitor recognized President Baird's service to the KZYX BOD
- President Baird gave outgoing comments
- New president Zolitor praised outgoing president Baird.

I ELECT NEW OFFICERS: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer

- Slate of officers presented by outgoing Director Wilde.

Motion by Director Wilde 2nd by Director Wiederholt. Passed unanimously

J MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Secretary Spindler spoke regarding need for monthly updates reviewing building project budget versus actuals.
- Director Wiederholt reviewed the monthly newsletter
- Director Wilde will be doing one year review of GM/Operations director.
- Director Komer question on how to introduce agenda items and other BOD information.
- Director Ottoboni requested perhaps having a fixed BOD monthly meeting date(s)
- Director Wilde requested show of hands for in person attendance.

- Director Russell will look to get more local involvement in news production.

K ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 30, 2026, 5 PM via Zoom

L ADJOURN 7:36 PM