Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2026

The Iowa Public Radio, Inc. Board of Directors met on June 24, 2026, at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, 1910 Ingersoll Avenue in Des Moines. Present for the meeting were Directors Libby Jacobs, Greg Schnirring, Alejandro Hernandez, Kaye Lozier, Susan Brennan, Katie Roth, Grant Veeder, Ardis Kelley, Helen Miller, Mary Rayburn, Andrea Welchans and David Yepsen. Directors Ken Brown, Renee Schaaf, Chris Martin, Mark Nolte, Chuck Swanson, Brian Waller and Nora Everett were absent. Present at the meeting site from Iowa Public Radio were Myrna Johnson, Lynn Jones-Folsom, Andrea Hansen, Jason Burns, Katherine Perkins, and Matt Sieren. Katherine Perkins and Jordan Bahnsen. Keaton Scovel-Willett joined the meeting virtually.

Director Libby Jacobs called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. Roll call was taken.

Libby Jacobs –present at meeting site
Greg Schnirring – present at meeting site
Alejandro Hernandez – present at meeting site
Katie Roth – present at meeting site
Ardis Kelley – virtual from Urbandale
Chris Martin – virtual from Cedar Falls
Mark Nolte – virtual from Iowa City
Chuck Swanson – virtual from Coralville
Andrea Welchans – virtual from Humboldt
Nora Everett – present at meeting site

Ken Brown – not present
Kaye Lozier – present at meeting site
Susan Brennan – virtual from Iowa City
Grant Veeder – present at meeting site
Renee Schaaf – present at meeting site
Helen Miller – virtual from Des Moines
Mary Rayburn – not present
Brian Waller – not present
David Yepsen – present at meeting site

Agenda

Chair Jacobs asked if there were any changes to the agenda. As there were no changes, Chair Jacobs requested a vote to approve the agenda. Agenda was approved.

Minutes

Chair Jacobs asked if there were any changes to the March 26, 2026, minutes. As there were no changes, Chair Jacobs requested a vote to approve the minutes. The March 26, 2026, minutes were approved.

Chairman's Report

Chair Jacobs provided a brief Search Committee update. First-round interviews have been scheduled, and the process is moving along.

Old Business

No old business to discuss.

Chief Executive Officer Report

CEO Johnson shared staffing updates. Gavin McGough has joined IPR as the NE Iowa Reporter in Cedar Falls. Eliza Billingham has accepted the Eastern Iowa Reporter position, and her employment will begin in July. Erin Fuller joined the Studio One team in March and is based in Iowa City. Katarina Sostaric will be leaving IPR on June 30, and the search process will begin soon. Josie Fischels left IPR in May and the search process is currently underway.

NextGen Radio was at IPR in June. This program provides a unique opportunity to develop their skills and work with mentors during the week, with the final presentation taking place at the end of the week. IPR will host and participate in this program every other year.

Several awards have been given to IPR staff. Charity Nebbe is the recipient of a national extension award for her relationship with ISU Extension.

Several community events have taken place in the past few months. Charity Nebbe interviewed author Maria Semple at the Des Moines Public Library with an audience of about 150. IPR also partnered with the Cedar Rapids Public Library for a live discussion of *Founding Mothers*, by Cokie Roberts, with an attendance of about 85 people. Ben Kieffer moderated the Levitt Lecture at the U of I College of Law, with David Axelrod as the featured speaker. IPR tabled at the Cedar Rapids downtown farmers' market on June 6 to build a presence in that market. The Studio One team is gearing up for the summer music festival season, with several events taking place this summer.

IPR has reduced our leased space at the University of Northern Iowa. Keaton Scovel-Willett and team have worked to decommission studio space, control rooms, the engineering workroom, the classical library, and office space. IPR will retain the Studio One studio space and music library, the attached control room, and the server room. The tower and two large satellite dishes were also removed from the roof of the Communication Arts building. Scovel-Willett has also been working to replace the KUNI transmitter with the help of funding from the Friends of KUNI.

The Master Control Relocation project is moving along, and an update will be shared at the August meeting.

Development Director Andrea Hansen provided a fundraising update as we close out FY26. Fundraising at the time of this meeting is approximately $11M, well above the FY26 goal. A one-day drive will take place on June 25, with funding to be allocated to the Master Control Relocation project.

CEO Johnson shared some insights on future priorities and projects. Veritus has shared that there is more capacity in major giving, providing a great opportunity to expand fundraising. As such, the FY27 budget includes the addition of a Major Giving Officer. Community engagement

is growing and will help to grow audience and community awareness of Iowa Public Radio in those communities. IPR has been in discussions with an organization that is working to make public radio stations the place to go for severe weather alerts. There is a grant opportunity from

a company in Colorado to potentially develop this nationwide that IPR should consider in the future. Other opportunities on the horizon include signal analysis and programming, the Master Control Relocation project as an anchor for the Ames community, and infrastructure investment as a priority in the coming years.

Financial Report – April Financials

Director Schnirring acknowledged the phenomenal fundraising that has taken place in the past year and thanked the IPR staff and community members for their outstanding work and contributions.

Lynn Jones-Folsom provided a brief overview of the April 30, 2026, financials. Revenues are well ahead of budget. FY26 expenditures are anticipated to be slightly over budget, mainly due to the unbudgeted salary increase that was provided to staff in December 2025. Early projections show that FY26 will end about $2M ahead of budget and unrestricted funds will not be needed to balance the budget this fiscal year. We have been in discussions with Morgan Stanley to determine future endowment distributions.

Jones-Folsom provided a brief overview of the May 31, 2026, financials. Revenues continue to grow and expenditures have remained steady as well.

Director Jacobs asked for a motion to approve the April 30, 2026, financials. Director Schnirring moved to approve the financials, and Director Roth seconded the motion. Motion passed.

FY27 Budget Review

CEO Johnson provided a brief overview of FY27 budget priorities. Highlights include the addition of a Major Gifts Officer, the Master Control Relocation project, salary increases for July 1, the addition of a Political Editor and an Executive Assistant to provide support to the new CEO and Board of Directors administration.

Lynn Jones-Folsom briefly reviewed the fundraising budget for FY27, which is slightly lower than FY26 actuals but reflects an attainable level for the upcoming year. A review of proposed budgeted expenditure totals included explanations for changes from FY26 to FY27.

Jones-Folsom reviewed the bottom-line budget, which includes a transfer of endowment earnings during FY27, the transfer of campaign dollars (restricted funds) to cover operating expenses and the transfer of unrestricted funds to cover projected FY27 expenses related to the Master Control Relocation project. Capital expenditure budget detail was reviewed. One significant project includes structural and equipment upgrades at the WOI-AM tower in Ames. Scovel-Willett is working with our consultants to determine whether the addition of backup capacity for the WOI-AM tower project is feasible.

Director Jacobs asked for a motion to approve the FY27 budget. Director Kelley moved to approve the FY27 budget and Director Veeder seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Governance Committee Report

Director Jacobs provided the Governance Committee report. Director Schnirring, Chair of the Finance Committee, has suggested the establishment of an Investment Committee, which will be independent of the Finance Committee. This committee will provide board members an opportunity to provide guidance and review of IPR's investments and investment policy.

Director Jacobs asked for a motion to create an Investment Committee, giving the Board Chair the authority to appoint members and a chair for the Investment Committee. Director Kelley moved to create an Investment Committee and Director Roth seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Director Jacobs provided an update on changes to board members effective in October. Director Jacobs shared that the bylaws allow for 12-18 board members, and the committee is evaluating what the right number of members should be moving forward. Board recruitment is in process and new members will be approved at the annual meeting in October.

Sounding Board Report

The last meeting of the Sounding Board included discussions about feedback on programming changes made in January. Sounding Board members were asked to assist with various community events. There was a discussion about the CEO search process and thoughts about future leadership. The Board discussed potential projects and expectations for Sounding Board members in the future.

Marketing Manager Jordan Bahnsen provided a review of the Audience Dashboard.

New Business

No new business.

Adjourn

Chair Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 11:31.