Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2026

The Iowa Public Radio, Inc. Board of Directors met on August 20, 2026, at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, 1910 Ingersoll Avenue in Des Moines. Present for the meeting were Directors Libby Jacobs, Ken Brown, Greg Schnirring, Alejandro Hernandez, Kaye Lozier, Susan Brennan, Grant Veeder, Ardis Kelley, Renee Schaaf, Chris Martin, Mark Nolte, Mary Rayburn, Chuck Swanson and Nora Everett. Directors Katie Roth, Helen Miller, Andrea Welchans and David Yepsen were absent. Present at the meeting from Iowa Public Radio were Kelly Edmister, Lynn Jones-Folsom, Jason Burns, Katherine Perkins, Matt Sieren and Jordan Bahnsen.

Vice-Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Libby Jacobs – present at meeting site (1:48)
Greg Schnirring – virtual from Sac City
Alejandro Hernandez – virtual from Des Moines
Katie Roth – not present
Ardis Kelley – virtual from Urbandale
Chris Martin – virtual from Cedar Falls
Mark Nolte – virtual from Iowa City
Chuck Swanson – virtual from Iowa City
David Yepsen – not present
Nora Everett – present at meeting site
Ken Brown – present at meeting site
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 – not present
Mary Rayburn – virtual from Chicago
Andrea Welchans –not present

Agenda

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

Minutes

Vice-Chair Brown asked if there were any changes to the June 24, 2026, minutes. As there were no changes, Vice-Chair Brown requested a vote to approve the minutes. The June 24, 2026, minutes were approved.

Chairman's Report

Vice-Chair Brown provided brief remarks acknowledging staff accomplishments during the summer.

Old Business

No old business to discuss.

Chief Executive Officer Report

Kelly Edmister referred to the department reports for the meeting and asked if there were questions. There were none.

Edmister briefly discussed the NPR fee structure. IPR selected Tier C for the upcoming NPR plan year which involves more participation with NPR projects for reduce fees. We continue to learn what the expectations are for stations that are participating in Tier C.

Edmister mentioned the FCC NCE Application Window opening in November, which applies to IPR. The Senior Team has identified two potential areas that are being vetted for tower availability. There will be legal fees and contract engineer costs to get applications submitted. This is a three-year construction permit and if we win on points, we would have three years to complete the build. If the determination is made not to proceed, it expires after three years.

Jordan Bahnsen provided details regarding audience snapshots and listener data.

Finance Report – Preliminary June 30, 2026, Financials

Lynn Jones-Folsom provided an overview of the preliminary June 30, 2026, financials. Revenues ended the year approximately $2M over the FY26 budget. FY26 expenditures ended the year approximately $135K under budget. No transfer will be required from unrestricted funds for FY26. Investment earnings for FY26 were favorable.

Meetings have been held with our auditors at UHY, and they are working to finalize their audit work for review at the October meeting.

Chair Jacobs presented a motion, proposed by Director Schnirring, to approve the June 30, 2026, financial statements, as accepted by the Finance Committee on August 6, 2026, and as presented today, subject to any routine or non-material year-end accounting entries, audit adjustments or administrative modifications necessary to finalize the audit. Director Lozier seconded. Motion passed.

Finance Committee Report

Chair Schnirring shared the Finance Committee welcomed Michael Trettin and Jennifer Campbell, our auditors from UHY, to the August Finance Committee meeting to discuss the FY26 audit. The goal is to have draft financials and a draft opinion to share at the October meeting. If the audit is not complete at that time, then it will be presented at the December meetings.

Schnirring stated that Jones-Folsom reviewed a 5-year financial plan at the August meeting and feels this will be helpful with planning as we move forward.

Governance Committee Report

Chair Brown provided the Governance Committee is working on Board member replacements and have received some excellent nominations, and shared that if there are other suggestions or nominations to let him know. Thus far, one potential new member has been identified and approved by the Governance Committee and will be presented at the Board in October. The Committee continues to have conversations with other potential members.

The Governance Committee approved a Board Self-Assessment survey that will be distributed soon.

Brian Waller has resigned from the Board effective August 15 and shared, through Ken Brown, his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the IPR Board. The number of members going forward will be finalized at the October meeting.

Chair Brown gave a highlight of the Annual Meeting activities in Iowa City on October 22, 2026. In addition to the annual meeting, there will be an open house at the Iowa City studios that evening.

Master Control Relocation Project Update

Jason Burns provided an update on the Master Control Relocation Project. Design is mostly complete, and demolition has begun and the construction project is on schedule.

Burns discussed challenges and solutions regarding significant cost increases for the servers and related equipment needed to provide the necessary technology to run the IPR network. Server and related components have incurred up to 400% price increases since December, 2025. In an effort to minimize exposure due to further pricing concerns, design of the servers and necessary equipment began about 9 months earlier than anticipated, and orders are currently being ran through quality control at Dell prior to final orders being placed within the next couple of weeks. We will continue to monitor pricing risks and will mitigate as much as possible.

Once site renovations are complete and equipment has been set up, the Ops and Engineering teams will begin testing equipment and will run parallel operations prior to the live cutover. The lease at the ISU Communications Building expires on June 30, 2028. While not currently planned, there is an early opt-out clause if we provide ISU with 6-months' notice.

Burns shared photos of the new floor plan and demolition photos.

Adjourn

Chair Jacobs adjourned to closed session at 2:51 p.m.