**SPR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 1-21-2021**

In Attendance: (via Zoom) □ Marlo Faulkner □ Daniel Fratini □ Max Mendez

Linda Mielke, Melanie Rose, John Allison, Gary Livingston, Jen Westra, Stan Schwartz

Staff: □ Cary Boyce □ Beth Severn-Johnson □ Renee Scacco □ Kathy Sackett

Notes by: Beth Severn-Johnson

Call to order: 5:33 pm

Approve old minutes: 1st \_Melanie\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2nd\_\_\_\_\_Marlo\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ approved: \_\_\_Yes\_\_

**Old Business:**

* SPR Updates:
	+ After four days of a down transmitter due to the wind storm, SPR is back on the air. Our legislative ask is under way, but we may look to buy a new generator in the nearer term. Four days, Thursday through Sunday, of down time points up how vulnerable we are to weather, fire, and other emergencies. We have made a request to a major donor, and we await an answer.
	+ Northwest News Network (N3) update: Withdrawing from N3 without substantially damaging our news coverage is not an option, since paying “ala carte” has been declined by the majority of the board members present. With this in mind, we’ll rehire to the position since we have to pay for it anyway. WSU has this underway, more soon.
	+ We have hired a new reporter at SPR—Rebecca White who comes to us from the Spokesman Review. She begins on February 1, and she’ll also train to host All Things Considered in the near term, and for Morning Edition in the longer term.
	+ Pete Glarborg is going to semi-retirement, and stepping away from the Morning Edition Mic. Chris Maccini will be stepping into this role for the time being until Rebecca is trained up.
	+ The result is two new reporters covering our area. My hope is that Doug can act as more of a captain of our news team rather than as a full-time reporter, host, news director, program director, and jack of all trades.
	+ Renee Scacco has moved from part time to full time in December as our new HR director and accounts payable point person. The transition to Eide Bailly for payroll has been relatively effortless, and we’ve saved several thousand $$/year with the change.
	+ Our transition to a bi-weekly paycheck has been relatively smooth, and we are on Eide Bailly’s new system. Everyone gets a slightly smaller paycheck, but we get 26 instead of 24 of them each year.
* Election Updates: We have a new president of the USA as of yesterday 11:45 Pacific Time when he and Kamala Harris were sworn in. It was mercifully peaceful.
* Strategy Session Date(s)? July 2021?
	+ Preparation:
	+ I’ve shared some materials and thoughts already. Do you need additional, or shall we wait to get a consultant on board? - Meeting on hold until July or so, BOD wants to meet in person not over Zoom. Also wait for COVID-19 vaccination updates.
	+ Feb. 2021 – Department heads to give BOD via Zoom, 10 minute presentation describing “what we do” “what is our vision for the future”

**New Business, Misc.:**

* Welcome, Stan Schwarz as our new board member, and Gary Livingston as Vice Chair!
* **Eide Bailly prep of Form 990** 1st: John 2nd: Dan Approved: YES
* Rural News Initiative w/ Northwest Public Broadcasting
* Humanities Washington/KUOW/NWPB/SPR Civic Engagement Program Project

**Next meeting**: **Thursday April 15, 2021**

Adjourned\_\_6:15\_\_\_\_ pm