



Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 25th, 2025
5:30-7:30 pm
Location: Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Linda Biemer, Ian Harrop, Ann Marie Adams, Jill Shea-Feury, Allen Buyck, Renata Dabrowska, Darryl Wood, Rohan Jayasena, Duane Spilde, Carl Speicher, Diana Riesman, Juan Vazquez- Leddson, Rob de la Fuente, Carol Beechy, Dave Radin, Daniel Norton

Absent: Judy Siggins, Anne Bailey, Beth Bossong, Maria Strinni

Staff: Andy Pioch, Michael Micha, Crystal Sarakas, Brieanna Moreno, Amelia Pena, Natasha Thompson, James Godleski, Carol Young, Chris DiRienzo, Tom Mangnarelli

- 1) **Welcome and Check-in**, *Linda Biemer*, 5:32pm
- 2) **Announcements**, *Linda Biemer*
 - a) There were no announcements.
- 3) **Review and Approval of December 3rd, 2024 Minutes**, *Linda Biemer*

Diana Riesman made a motion to approve the minutes. Renata seconded the motion. All were in favor. No objections or abstentions.
- 4) **Management Report**, *Natasha Thompson*
 - a) There were no comments on the Management report.
- 5) **President & CEO Report**, *Natasha Thompson*
 - a) We are in the process of looking for a Director of Development. Carol Young has been working as the Interim Director of Development on a part time basis until we find a candidate.
 - b) Natasha shared the Strategic Plan progress report. She hopes to develop a new strategic plan in FY26 and to carryover some of these items. Natasha wants to engage the staff, leadership team, the Board, the CAB, and then members, general partners and the general public in the creation of the new plan.
 - c) Natasha shared the draft Community Representation statement with the Board. The statement will be posted on the website along with the Mission, Vision, & Values, per CPB's requirements. There was some discussion about WSKG's Mission & Values.
 - (1) Carol Beechy suggested that we add "accurate and truthful news"

With the addition of the phrase "accurate & truthful news", AI motioned to accept the statement. Duane seconded. No objections. Ian Harrop abstained from the vote.

The Community Representation Statement is approved.

6) Committee Reports

a) Executive Committee, Linda Biemer

- i) The Executive Committee met January 14th. They were able to meet Christine and were impressed with her background.
- ii) Threats to Public Media.
 - (1) Linda encouraged the Board Members to contact their local representatives asking for protection of public media.
 - (2) Natasha said there haven't been many updates since the last email that she sent out. There has been some negative feedback from donors about PBS's decisions to cut their DEI program. There has also been an increased desire among many donors to support us in response. We have launched an awareness campaign to promote Protect My Public Media and encourage donations.

b) Finance/Audit Committee, Carl Speicher

- i) The Finance Committee met in January and February. They reviewed the draft Audit and provided questions to James and the Auditors. There were no deficiencies or weaknesses found in the Audit.
 - (1) Carl added that there was a change in net assets. Most of this was depreciation. Some of this loss was from Central Cast, which we have to show in our financial statements.
- ii) WSKG is focusing more on the AR aging reports and following up more closely with underwriters. We have written off about \$7K of outstanding receivables. Some of this is related to a process issue with NETA.
 - (1) Ian asked about CPB Funding cuts. James added that we have funds allocated 2 years in advance, however they could still be cut.

The Finance Committee made a recommendation to the board to approve the FY24 Audit. Diana seconded the motion. All in favor. No objections or abstentions. The FY24 Audit is approved.

THE Finance Committee made a recommendation to approve the December Financials. All were in favor. No objections or abstentions. The Financials are approved.

c) Governance Committee, Dan Norton

- i) The Governance Committee has met twice since the last board meeting. They are putting together a slate of officers and candidates for FY26. They discussed Members at Large and are recruiting new board members for FY26. They discussed CEO succession planning as well.
- ii) They shared the Board Candidate Interview Questions that were approved as well as the Board Candidate Application. Dan said this is meant to guide a conversation versus being a script of interview questions. The goal is to have context provided so that prospective board

members understand the commitment that they would be making to the full Board.

(1) Linda asked if the application would be on the website. **Dan said the committee will discuss it.**

d) Endowment Committee, Darryl Wood

- i) Darryl shared that the endowment funds have been transferred from Vanguard to SEED. The Endowment Committee is getting the reports on a regular basis and looking into any future issues.

e) Development Committee, Rob de la Fuente

- i) Rob reviewed the board giving report and thanked all the Trustees who have made their annual contribution. Some of the other reports are a bit behind.
- ii) Carol shared a presentation about some of the ongoing issues in Development. She and Maya are working on solutions including training for staff, ensuring that we're using correct mailing conventions and gift amounts, mailing to all segments, and setting thoughtful and scientific pledge drive goals. There will also be better proofing and greater accountability from our direct mail vendor.

f) Infrastructure Committee, Al Buyck

- i) Al shared that the technology is now in place for the new NAS system. The Committee discussed information security and 3rd party access. Disaster recovery & business continuity has been an ongoing conversation for the Committee. Media Asset Management is the topic for the next meeting.

g) Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee, Al Buyuk

- i) Al explained that the Ad Hoc By-laws Committee has developed a schedule to review each section of the bylaws. The goal is to have a final draft for the Board to review and approve at the June meeting.

7) **Chairperson's report, Linda Biemer**

- a) Linda had nothing else to report.

8) **Open Discussion, Linda Biemer**

- a) There was no open discussion.

9) **Public Comments, Linda Biemer**

- a) There were no public comments.

10) **Executive Session, Linda Biemer**

- a) There was no executive session

11) **Adjournment, Linda Biemer, 7:23pm**

Darryl motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rohan seconded the motion. All in favor. No objections or abstentions.