

MENDOCINO COUNTY PUBLIC BROADCASTING
Board of Directors Meeting

June 30, 2026 - 5 PM via Zoom

[Meeting ID: 861 6178 0759](#)

APPROVED MINUTES

A CALL TO ORDER 5:00 PM

Directors Present: JZ, MS, MG, DS, KO, KW, MK, ER

Directors Absent: CW

Also, in attendance GM/OD Andre de Channes

B AGENDA APPROVAL

No action taken

C PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Guests – Jim Beatty spoke regarding the CAB. MK is the BOD CAB liaison

Jill Hannum, Jamie Roberts

D REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

D.1 Finance Committee – Mary Golden, Treasurer

- May financials moved to the consent calendar
- Reviewed audit status really close to having audit completed
- Andre de Channes made presentation regarding KLLK acquisition. Finance committee supports the acquisition.
- Fundraising efforts activities reviewed. 3 major fundraising activities
- Spring membership drive brought in \$82k. Goal \$85k. Allocated for direct support of general operations
- Capital Campaign raised \$9.5k. March direct mail appeal.
- Fund raising concert raised \$33k. Still have \$16k for generator purchase
- March/April/May targets fell short of targets just under \$20k
- Finance committee report presented.
- Director Ottoboni spoke regarding will we spend time reviewing financial statements. This is a training issue.
- Secretary Spindler questioned how to engage Judy Waterman to cover new board members on financial statement reviews. Treasurer Golden clarified will provide email address for Ms. Waterman
- Director Ottoboni spoke regarding PDF for financial reports format.
- Jim Beatty questioned if it is possible for a member to see the KZYX financial statements. Treasurer Golden said yes and gave outline on when those statements are available for viewing.

As of May 29, 2026 the balances in the KZYX checking accounts were:

- SBMC operations checking account (#3934) – \$614,731.03
- SBMC concert checking account (#3543) (unrestricted) – \$28,863.45
- SBMC building fund checking account (#9654) (restricted) – \$302,877.71
- Redwood Credit Union Savings (unrestricted for time being) - \$2001.68
- RCU Operations savings account (6618-S20) (restricted) - \$0
- RCU Building Fund savings account (6618-S21) (restricted) - \$0
- Schwab Brokerage account - \$21,551.44 (unknown as of 5.31.26)

- YTD Net Operating Income - \$377,565.19

As of June 15, 2026 the balances in the KZYX accounts are:

- SBMC operations checking account (#3934) – \$619,251.01
- SBMC concert checking account (#3543) (unrestricted) – \$28,863.45
- SBMC building fund checking account (#9654) (restricted) – \$297,652.01
- RCU overflow-MMA operations account (6618) (unrestricted) – \$2001.68
- RCU Operations savings account (6618-S20) (restricted) - \$0
- RCU Building Fund savings account (6618-S21) (restricted) - \$0

D.2 Executive Committee – Jeff Zolitor, President

a. Motion to set the monthly Board of Director Meetings to the fourth Tuesday of the month.

KO made motion. 2nd MK Motion failed.

- Marc Komer agreed to be liaison for the KZYX CAB.
- Director Komer said had meeting the day before.
- Community members target is nine.
- CAB is not a standing committee of the KZYX board.
- Marc Komer is not on the CAB, but merely the liaison for the CAB and the KZYX BOD.
- President Zolitor cautioned Director Komer of his involvement with the CAB. Should not have direct input to the CAB.
- Jim Beatty spoke again regarding the CAB developing a mission statement. President Zolitor reaffirmed this should not be done with input from the KZYX BOD.
- Director Ottoboni spoke regarding the parameters around the FCC regulations vis-à-vis the CAB and regular updates.
- Director Wiederholt mentioned that having the CAB was a requirement from the CPB.
- GM de Channes is confident that funding for public broadcasting will return.
- President Zolitor spoke regarding EC motion to make standing BOD meetings the 4th Tuesday of every month.
- Discussion by Director Ottoboni and Treasurer Golden regarding time required to receive monthly financial reports. Stressed we need flexibility in scheduling monthly BOD meetings. Motion by Director Ottoboni. 2nd MK. Motion failed.
- Executive Committee approved the acquisition of KLLK AM/FM

D.3 Building Fund & Development Committee – Marc Komer, Co-Chair BFDC

- Raised \$32k during fund raiser in Redwood Valley for generator purchase.
- Forthcoming tours of Clay Street new headquarters.
- Reaching out to individuals and businesses this summer to create stronger relationships for donations.
- Director Komer looking for materials that could be used to support donation requests.
- Looking for late summer fund raising on the coast
- Director Russell said we did generate degree of interest for future donations and studio tours.

D.4 Building Project – Mark Spindler - Building Advisory Group Chair, Alexis Vincent -Project Manager

- Project manager Alexis Vincent spoke regarding project status
- Presented financial statements review of the project status actuals vs. budgeted
- Had conversations with GM de Channes regarding current status of project financials.
- Funded \$211k. \$291k in building fund checking account. Reserve of \$79k.

- Moving forward with required funding raising to achieve occupancy
- Working towards building permits for occupancy
- Project duration now 5 years
- Reviewed spreadsheet budget estimates funded vs unfunded. Urgent unfunded reviewed.
- President Zolitor questioned the priority of unfunded project milestones required to achieve building occupancy.
- What items can be pushed off past building occupancy?
- Director Wiederholt questioned what the total urgent unfunded amounts are and how this impacts future fundraising requirements.
- Director Wiederholt questioned amounts shown for studio equipment \$100k. GM de Channes said the only thing that the studio is equipped for is broadcast board. No computers, no on-air processors. Studio equipment still to be purchased not covered by NEH grant.
- GM de Channes clarified that previous fundraiser was to continue work on studio buildout.
- Director Komer questioned \$623k yet to be raised to have fully functioning studios? PM Vincent said that number does not include mortgage, taxes, operational costs.
- Director Komer questioned if it includes the generator cost? PM Vincent stated that \$50k is a good number for the generator costs.
- Director Komer not comfortable with not having a firm fundraising target number. PM Vincent offered to review project financial requirements.
- Director Russell commented on ongoing building fund committee activities.
- Numbers do not include de-commissioning costs for Philo.
- PM Vincent said the numbers do not reflect what has been completed so far.

E REPORTS FROM STAFF

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

- Off air STL transmitter in Philo was down. This is a Single Point of Failure of which there are four.
- No redundancy for signal. Philo has become a liability in terms of signal reliability.
- On air next afternoon then failed again as just kept resetting. Had to wait for broadcast engineer to be on site.
- Equipment that failed is 20+ years old. As equipment ages it is less reliable.
- Had six months of no off-air incidents.
- Director Wiederholt questioned how/if move to Ukiah will reduce/eliminate off air incidents?
- GM de Channes explained that STL signal will be coming out of Ukiah
- Possible work around to get additional tie lines to push programming to the transmitters directly.
- Mentioned that possible option would be to use Star Link. Secretary Spindler voiced strong opposition to the use of Star Link but understands there may be no option.
- Director Ottoboni shared her experience with Star Link.
- Jill Hannum commented that Star Link can be shut off arbitrarily by Elon Musk.
- Director Ottoboni stressed that we need to keep the KZYX webpage updated especially in emergencies.
- Director Komer voiced his support for Director Spindler's strong opposition to the use of Star Link.
- Director Komer also questioned what other similar radio stations do for Internet service. GM de Channes explained how the Internet at every transmitter site would work. Director Wiederholt cautioned about over promising on our signal reliability once we move to Ukiah.
- Sarah Shankman's last day was this past Friday.
- Andre has posted job description for Shank's position on KZYX website
- Proposal from company that facilitates data base transfers.

- Looking forward to setting up Summer Fund Raising Drive with \$40k target.

President Zolitor asked for motion to amend agenda to discuss in close session.
Passed unanimously

F CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1 Approval of May 2026 Minutes

Motion MK 2nd ER passed unanimously

F.2 Approval of May 2026 Financial Reports

G CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

G.1 Presentation of Draft FY 26/27 Budget for Board Approval

a. Motion to approve the Mendocino County Public Broadcasting draft budget for 2026-27

Moved MS 2nd KO. Passed unanimously

- Allocations reflect core mission of KZYX commitments to local news, broad public access, signal resilience and fiscal transparency.
- Operations side. \$746k income vs. expenses of \$690k. Net total operating income of \$56k.
- Just operations budget
- Revenue Strategy \$255k which represents 15% increase year-over-year.
- Underwriting targets \$100k
- GM de Channes has stress tested budget estimates
- Optimizing cash assets for higher returns
- Operations funding mix
- Trying to raise percentages so as not rely on any single source of revenues
- Please refer to slides presented
- Professional development for employees
- Broadcast infrastructure
- Building fund and capital campaign
- Budgeted \$50k in restricted building funds
- Summary budget moves KZYX away from a breakeven situation to a projected surplus
- Director Komer questioned why staff payroll expenses are less. Due to overbudget prior year.
- GM de Channes clarified payroll intervals
- Director Komer questioned news expenses. GM de Channes clarified that he was doing news reporting initially but now Mendo Voice is doing most of the work.
- Treasurer Golden clarified that when GM de Channes was doing the news the costs were listed under his GM salary.
- Director Komer questioned funding sources for news and also if KZYX has a professional grant writer.
- Director Komer questioned revenues from music events. GM de Channes said that the concert account has grown as events have generated revenues.
- Director Komer questioned maintenance spending. Are we doing enough maintenance? GM de Channes clarified how we are acquiring refurbished broadcast equipment from eBay. Historically KZYX has not done recurring maintenance.
- Director Komer questioned if there is a process to maintain broadcast equipment spares. GM de Channes replied that we purchase most spares from eBay. The goal is to have available working spares.
- Director Russell questioned if we have documentation that reflects inventory of broadcast equipment. GM de Channes replied that IRS Form 990 outlines equipment held under capital

assets.

- Director Russell questioned if there is a way to estimate when broadcast equipment might fail.

G.2 Consideration of AM/FM Transmitter and Frequency Acquisition – Andre de Channes

- Director Russell questioned if GM de Channes will do further research before making a final decision.
- GM de Channes stated that all due diligence has been completed
- Director Komer questioned if there is an on-site generator. GM de Channes stated that he will be looking at using the de-commissioned Philo generator.
- Director Komer questioned what equipment would be required for the site. GM de Channes said a Star Link device would be required to provide web access at the site.
- President Zolitor questioned if KLLK would have been on air during the recent earthquake. GM de Channes said yes.
- Director Komer questioned underwriting estimates. GM de Channes estimated we could see \$100k in underwriting.
- GM de Channes characterized the audience and content demographic that can be drawn to the new station format. Director Komer stated he
- Director Russell questioned anticipated increased staffing for new station.
- Director Russell questioned potential increased costs for marketing and re-branding outreach materials.
- GM de Channes spoke regarding future plans for KLLK news, simulcasting, etc., and expected roll out costs.
- Existing KZYX staff has indicated interest in supporting extra work for KLLK.
- Simulcasting would be the first step of soft rollout.

Motion to approve acquisition of KLLK by MK 2nd KO Passed unanimously

- Treasurer Golden expressed concern that we position the KLLK acquisition with consideration for existing KZYX listeners/supporters.
- Director Russell questioned if there have been any major repairs on KLLK in the last five years.
- Director Komer stated that good press release is vital when KLLK acquisition is announced.

H MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

H.1 Determine whether the board wants to explore next steps towards a strategic planning process- Eileen Russell, Director.

- Director Russell questioned the existence of KZYX strategic plan. Director Ottoboni clarified that it has been some time since the last one was done.
- Director Komer clarified that Director Spindler has provided document that was labeled as Strategic Plan. He will forward to the BOD group.
- Director Russell stated that strategic plan should also include milestones to measure accomplishments
- Treasurer Golden said the strategic plan should include a business plan element.
- President Zolitor emphasized the need for volunteers for KZYX Summer Music Festival. KZYX also needs volunteers for station operations.

I Closed Session @6:50 PM – Discussed Database Migration Support Proposal

I ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 28, 2026, 5 PM via Zoom

J ADJOURN @6:58 PM

Certification of Authorization

I hereby certify that these minutes are the official human-verified, non-AI generated record of discussions, actions and authorizations as approved by the KZYX Board of Directors.

Certified by: Mark Spindler, MCPB Inc. Board Secretary

Date of Certification: July 13, 2026