

# A G E N D A

## **LETA FULL BOARD MEETING**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014 ♦ LPB BOARD ROOM**  
**LUNCH AT 11:30 AM**

12:NOON ♦ 7733 Perkins Road ♦ Baton Rouge, LA 70810 ♦ [www.lpb.org](http://www.lpb.org)



1. Call to Order *-Chris Goudeau  
LETA Chairman*
  
2. Approval of Minutes *-Action Item*
  
3. Financial Reports *-Joanne Gaudet  
-Action Items*
  - a. LETA Finance Updates
  - b. Foundation Finance Updates
  
4. Friend's Report *-Robyn Merrick  
-Friends' Chairwoman  
-Action Item*
  - a. Financial Statement
  - b. *ART AUCTION* Report
  - c. Winter Pledge & Special Events
  
5. Chairman's Report *-Chris Goudeau, Chair  
-Action Item*
  - a. President's Evaluation Report
  
6. President's Report *-Beth Courtney*
  
7. Production Update *-Clay Fourrier*
  
8. Programming Update *-Bob Neese*
  
9. Underwriting Update *-Jeanne Smith*
  
10. Other Business/Adjournment

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**LETA FULL BOARD MEETING**

December 18, 2014

LPB Board Room ♦ 7733 Perkins Road ♦ Baton Rouge, LA

**Members Present:** GiGi Carter-Vice-Chair, Barbara DeCuir, Glenn Kinsey, Kathy Kliebert, Melissa Kyle, Julie Cherry, Wayne Berry, Deano Thornton, Lee Meredith, Scott Richard, Fr. James Carter. Dr. William Weldon & Katara Williams

**Members Absent:** Chairman Chris Goudeau, Robyn Merrick, Chair of Friends, Paul Sawyer, Barry Landry. Carolyn Hill, Gwen Guillotte & David Bondy

**Staff Members:** Beth Courtney, Bill Belsom, Joanne Gaudet, Clay Fourrier, Jeanne Smith, Bob Neese & Sissy Sharpe.

- **The LETA FULL BOARD met on Thursday, December 18, 2014 in the Board Room of LPB. A quorum of members were present. Below are discussions and action items:**

**Call to Order:** GiGi Carter Vice- Chairman served in place of Chair Goudeau, who was ill. GiGi called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. Beth welcomed new Governor appointee members along with GiGi. Each member introduced their name and seat held.

**Approval of Minutes:** GiGi called for a Motion for Approval of Minutes from the October 9, 2014 Full Board Meeting. Dr. Weldon noted that he was not present as stated in minutes. Vice-Chair GiGi asked for a motion to change minutes as noted. A Motion was made and Glenn Kinsey Seconded. The Board changes to Minutes were unanimously approved. Action: Motion Carried.

**Financial Reports:** Joanne Gaudet presented the Board with Financial Reports as stated below:

**LETA:** As of November 30, 2014, we are 42% through the fiscal year and 43% through our annual expenditure budget. Expenditures remain in line and on track with current fiscal year budget.

**Revenue:** Total revenue to date is \$3,726,800 which is 44% of our overall budgeted revenue and is comprised largely of general fund revenue from the State. We received 57% of our general fund revenue of \$3,186,104 of our projected \$5,603,801 general fund budget. Self-generated revenue is \$433,941, which is 18% of the total projected self-generated budget of \$2,466,273.

**Expenditures:** Total expenditures to date are \$3,658,236. Largest expenses to date are salaries and related benefits in the amount of \$2,714,416 which is about 41% of the projected annual personal services budget of \$6,694,478. Other major year-to-date expenses include \$652,359 for operating services (maintenance contracts, utilities, leases, etc.). There are \$250,913 in interagency transfer payments for risk management, civil service, and state mail. Total net revenue is \$68,564

**FOUNDATION:**

**Balance Sheet:** The Foundation expects CPB grant money for 1 ½ Million in a couple weeks.

**Statement of Revenue & Expenditures:** Production is at \$194,333; \$49,000 from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security; \$20,000 from AARP for the Congressional Senate Debate; \$123,000 from Sprint leases and a Gross of \$250,000 for production from our trucks and \$725,000 from schools who have paid for Discovery Streaming, with a Net of \$11,000. Net from the trucks is \$164,000.

**LETA Budget Handout:** Joanne presented a Budget Handout Sheet in each Binder showing LETA's Current Budget versus Recommendations for **Fiscal Year 2015-2016** at the request of the State Budget Office. Beth explained this is a projection incase there needs to be further budget cuts this legislative session due to low oil prices. Kathy Klebet, Secretary of DHH also cited that it doesn't help and could be bad for everyone due to the lower oil prices.. Everyone has been asked to submit reduced recommendations; and we will have to wait and see Beth explained to the new Board Members we will be holding an orientation for them to help them understand how our Foundation Board is structured. Beth ended by telling the new members we have been asked to cut from 95 personnel to 71 and just gave up \$45,000 and a position. GiGi asked for a Motion to adopt the LETA FY16 budget recommendation request. Dr. Weldon made a motion, Seconded by Katara Williams. The board unanimously approved the Finance Report ACTION: Motion Carried.

**Friend's Report:** In Robyn Merrick's absence. Beth gave an overview for the FLPB (Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting) until her arrival. Beth announced the Winter Membership Drive exceeded our goal of \$295,000 as to \$265,000. Beth contributed this to our local show highlighting John Folse's Cooking Show. Beth noted she and John Folse held a preview together "Live On-Air" and had the *highest* rate of voluntary contributions with one being for \$25,000 and the total being \$55,000. The names of the series of TV shows for John Folse is entitled "Hook, Lies and Alibis" and is also going to be distributed nationally. Also, our documentary on Natchitoches Anniversary and New Orleans Hall of Fame Musician, Allain Toussaint will also be distributed nationally with co-production in New Orleans. WLAE-TV in New Orleans did the documentary and we produced the concert. Beth noted we are currently working towards a goal of sustainable memberships in our "On-Air Live Drives".

**Chairman's Report:** Glenn Kinsey reported in Chairman Goudeau's absence regarding the Annual Evaluation of Beth Courtney as the President of LPB and her performance. An Evaluation Committee was formed to review her "Report" in addition an extensive research on the size of other station similar to LPB's and the salaries; and from this compilation made a final report to you for approval. For those of you who are new, you will also make an approval or amendment. "It was the Evaluation Committee's opinion based on all our research and everything complied and completed; we suggested a 4% raise to Beth". Also noted was a 4% raise for all employees. We considered Beth's raise in connection to the other stations, placing Beth and LPB way above 50%. GiGi also commended Beth's ability to do more with less due to numerous cuts in state funds but always continuing to provide above-the-bar is to her credit. GiGi also commended and thanked the great employees on staff.

**Motion:** by Deano Thornton to approve the Committee's Recommendation, Seconded by Dr. Weldon. GiGi ask for a vote by the Board, and it was unanimously approved.

**ACTION:** Motion Carried.

Glenn proceeded to let all the Board Members know (old and new) that in December Election of Officers are held and below are the FY 2015 Officers for the LETA Full Board.

Christian Goudeau, Chairman President

Glenn Kinsey, Past Chairman

GiGi Carter, Vice-Chair

Kathy Kleibert, Secretary

Paul Sawyer, Treasurer

The Board Unanimously Approved the Chairman's Report by the Board.

**ACTION:** Motion Carried

**President Beth Courtney's Report:**

**40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY for LPB:** Beth was happy to tell new and old Board members that January begins the celebration of LPB's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We will be planning national speakers and events and keeping you updated and informed. Our 1<sup>st</sup> event will be a Press Conference on January 20<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Secretary of State's Office to announce our partnership regarding (LDMA) Louisiana Digital Media Archives. A grant was provided to help us in this 5-year project in the making.

**AMERICAN GRADUATE GRANT:** Beth reported to the Board on receiving a grant entitled "The American Graduate Grant" from PBS on helping reduce the dropout rate to stay in school and prepare them for a career. Beth added we will be reporting to you as we go along and to please visit our website for your reading and understanding of this program.

**Underwriting Report:** Jeanne Smith presented her report to the Board: Jeanne stated the FY 2014-2015 Goal is for \$500,000. She has booked business as of December 18, 2014 for \$181,004.92 being at 36% of her goal.

**Production Report:** Clay Fourrier reported on status of productions:

Clay noted (4) of LPB Productions are going National.

**Programming Report:** Bob Neese reported on various upcoming programs.. Bob also asked to visit the website to nominate a "2015 Young Heroes" 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at [ljb.org/heroes](http://ljb.org/heroes).

**Adjournment:** With no further business Vice-Chair GiGi Carter adjourned the LETA Full Board Meeting at 1:15PM.

**Motion** was moved and Seconded.

**ACTION:** Motion Carried

***The next LETA Full Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2015.***

*Submitted by Sissy Sharpe ~ [ssharpe@ljb.org](mailto:ssharpe@ljb.org) ~ 225-767-4200*