

**LOUISIANA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD MEETING**

**December 11, 2025 ♦ 12:00 PM ♦ LPB Board Room
7733 Perkins Road ♦ Baton Rouge, LA 70810
and**

Via Electronic Means Pursuant to R.S. 42:17.2

Members Physically Present: Chris Wegmann, Sonny Cranch, Dr. Sandra McGuire, Conrad Comeaux, Dr. Laura Lindsay, Misty Wyble, Taft Kleinpeter, Courtney Phillips, Tracie Woods, and Howard White (12:08p)

Via Teleconference: Sally Davis, Jeff Thomas, Erin Donnelly, and Sharon Reine.

Members Absent: Elizabeth Crochet, Dan Hare, Lance Harris, Dr. Tina Holland, and William Bradford.

Staff Present: Clarence "C.C." Copeland, Kimberly Ducote, Angela Bessix, Matt Tessier, Christina Jensen, Johnny Atkinson, Don Ballard, Trace Purvis (Zoom) and Terri Crockett (Friends of LPB).

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Wegmann, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

Chris Wegmann ensured that all online attendees were able to see and hear the meeting clearly.

Chris Wegmann asked Sonny Cranch to conduct a roll call vote in Secretary Dan Hare's absence, with the following members confirming their attendance: Conrad Comeaux, Sonny Cranch, Sally Davis, Erin Donnelly, Taft Kleinpeter, Dr. Laura Lindsay, Dr. Sandra McGuire, Dr. Courtney Phillips, Sharon Reine, Jeff Thomas, Chris Wegmann, Tracie Woods, and Misty Wyble.

Howard White arrived at 12:08p.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chris Wegmann, Chair, inquired if any members of the public were online. There were none. Mr. Wegmann then asked if any public comments had been received online, and there were none. Chris Wegmann then asked if any member of the public attending had any public comment, and there were none.

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS: C.C formally introduced Christina Jensen and Johnny Atkinson, who joined LPB as anchors/reporters for *Louisiana: The State We're In*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Sonny Cranch, Secretary, presented the minutes of the LETA full board meeting of October 9, 2025, and asked that the minutes be approved. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Laura Lindsay and was seconded by Conrad Comeaux. A roll call vote was taken, and with all in favor, the motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Chris Wegmann, Chair, announced that the Nominating Committee of Lance Harris, Sharon Reine, William Bradford, and Dr. Sandra McGuire nominated the following board officers: Tracie Woods, Chairperson; Dan Hare, Vice Chair;

Sonny Cranch, Secretary; and Dr. Laura Lindsay, Treasurer. No additional nominations were made. A motion to elect the officers as presented was made by Conrad Comeaux and was seconded by Dr. Sandra McGuire. A roll call vote was taken, and with all in favor, the motion passed.

LETA FINANCIAL UPDATE: Sonny Cranch, Treasurer, presented the LETA financial update. A motion was made by Conrad Comeaux to approve the financial update and was seconded by Jeff Thomas. A roll call vote was taken, and with all in favor, the motion passed.

FRIENDS OF LPB REPORT: Howard White, Chair of Friends of LPB (FLPB), gave the FLPB report:

- Win the Wheels Car Raffle – current revenue is \$47,550; drawing will be January 16, 2026.
- A Very Monkey Christmas with Curious George - 300 tickets were sold, raising \$13,500.
- December Pledge Drive - current revenue is \$15,405, with 278 pledges. On December 17, there will be a special pledge drop-in of *Michalopoulos: The Art of Celebration*, produced by WLAE.
- Friends of LPB's Antiques Appraisal Event will be held February 7, 2026.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Matt Tessier, Deputy Director, reported on the following:

- At the invitation of Peggy Feehan of CODOFIL, we attended a signing ceremony to memorialize an accord of cooperation between the Lt. Governor's Office and the Province of Ontario to foster economic, cultural, and educational ties in terms of francophone relations.
- Reminder that Ethics and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training classes must be completed by December 31.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: C.C. Copeland, LPB President and CEO, reported on the following:

- C.C. asked Don Ballard, with LPB Facility Services, to give an update on LPB's solar panel performance.
- LETA's FY26-27 state budget has been submitted; we are requesting \$5,663,098 in acquisitions and \$575,000 in major repairs.
- PBS stations nationwide continue to experience layoffs.
- WETA, producer of PBS NewsHour, will cancel PBS News Weekend.
- The 2026 APTS Summit, originally scheduled in DC, is moving from in-person to a virtual meeting due to public television budget cuts.
- WLAE won an Emmy for *Blue: The Life and Art of George Rodrigue*.
- WLAE will also receive funds from the Public Media Bridge Fund, which was established to assist public media stations following the rescission of federal funding by Congress.
- C.C. discussed a meeting of general managers of PBS member stations, in which a-la-carte programming was discussed to assist stations with their due's challenges, but PBS indicated a-la-carte programming will not be an option.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chris Wegmann, Chair, gave the following report.

- Next LETA Executive and Finance Committee Meeting will be January 8, 2026.
- Next full board meeting will be February 12, 2026.
- Schedule of upcoming meetings for 2026 has been provided to members.
- Mr. Wegmann expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to serve as LETA chair.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Board members expressed their gratitude and thanked Chris Wegmann for his service as Board Chair.

Adjournment: Chris Wegmann, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 1:12 PM.

Minutes prepared by Angela Bessix and Matt Tessier