

MINUTES – LETA Executive & Finance Meeting

7733 PERKINS ROAD ☞ BATON ROUGE, LA – 12:00 p.m. – Thursday, March 14, 2013

LETA Present

Dr. Bill Weldon • Kathy Kliebert
Glenn Kinsey • Chris Goudeau

LPB Staff Present

Beth Courtney • Bill Belsom
Bob Neese • Joanne Gaudet
Barbara Williams • Clay Fourrier
Nancy Tooraen

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** LETA chairman Chris Goudeau called the meeting to order.
2. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Kathy Kliebert presented minutes from the previous meeting for approval. *Motion:* Dr. Weldon moved and Glenn Kinsey seconded that the minutes be accepted and adopted. *Action:* Motion carried.
3. **LETA/FOUNDATION FINANCE REPORTS:** Joanne Gaudet presented the financial reports. We are now 67% through the fiscal year and 63% through our annual expenditure budget. Expenditures remain in line and on track with the current fiscal year budget. Total revenue to date is \$5,994,857 which is 67% of our overall budgeted revenue, and which is comprised largely of general fund revenue from the State. We have received 92% of our general fund revenue. This is \$5,538,823 of our projected \$6,042,353 general fund budget. Self-generated revenue is \$422,903 – 20% of the total projected self-generated budget of \$2,061,451. This includes the usual (1) Lottery (2) Foundation rent, (3) truck uplinks, and others – all which are on track with budget projections. Total expenditures to date are \$5,612,335. Largest expenses to date are personal services – salaries and related benefits – in the amount of \$4,271,635 which is about 65% of the projected annual personal services budget of \$6,535,854. Other major year-to-date expenses include \$943,431 for operating services that is comprised of maintenance contracts, utilities, satellite lease, land & tower leases, phones, etc., \$336,708 in interagency transfers that consists of risk management, civil service, state mail, among other expenses. Total net of revenue over expenses is \$382,522. *Motion:* Kathy Kliebert moved and Dr. Weldon seconded that the financial reports be accepted. *Action:* Motion carried.

FLPB REPORT: The *Legends gala* is Thursday, May 9th. Current revenue is \$91,950. Major sponsors are: Louisiana Healthcare Connections, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, Acadian Companies, Badger Oil, Mr. & Mrs. Greg Barro, Chesapeake Energy, Community Trust Bank, Harper Law Firm, Harper & Winters Strategies, Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Assoc., Louisiana Lottery, Paragon Casino Resort, RoyOMartin and Squire Creek. Legends invitations will be going out in early April. *Pledge:* March pledge drive kicked off earlier this month to a great start. We had a record breaking evening with Antiques Roadshow, bringing in over \$48,000. Tune in tonight as Aaron Neville will be live in our studio, promoting his new PBS Special, *Doo Wop: My True Story*. *FLPB Financial Statement:* For the month of January, membership revenue was \$122,979.46. Through January, overall revenue was \$1,243,504.42. Expenditures for the month of January totaled \$105,160.53. *Special Events:* Antiques Roadshow – appraisal ticket is \$200 per ticket and includes membership and allows of two appraisals per ticket. It is 100 % tax deductible a *limited number of tickets remain*. Antiques Roadshow Summer Social is \$150 per ticket. The event is Friday, July 26th at the Old State Capitol from 7–10 pm.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chris Goudeau reported that LETA has two new appointments added to the board: Barry Landry who is replacing Joe Salter representing DOE and Sandy Breland, General Manager of WAFB-TV who is replacing George Sirven representing LAB.

President's Report: Beth Courtney – *McCleod Lecture Series* is Thursday, March 21 in Lake Charles. The 10th Annual McCleod Lecture Series examines how partisan politics have impacted state legislators and government at all levels. How can elected officials work better across the aisle? The panel will address the challenges of holding firmly to one's beliefs while working collaboratively with those holding opposing views. *LSU Chancellor's Council Dinner* was held March 9, 2013 where Beth, Clay and Tika attended. The purpose was to pay tribute to decades of Law Center graduates who have faithfully served our nation. It featured a video tribute to our veterans and musical entertainment by the National WWII Museum's charming vocal trio, the Victory Belles. Clay presented a short video of one of the

veterans. *Complete College America Institute: 15-to-Finish*: Beth will travel with some members from the Board of Regents to Denver on Tuesday, April 9 to take part in the institution. This is a promotional campaign that encourages students to take 15 credits per semester to graduate on time. The campaign's objective is to change the long-standing perception that taking 12 credits per semester is the norm. The meeting will also cover key time to degree policies that are important to successful on time completion efforts and the data that should be analyzed to determine if this campaign is aligned with our state's completion efforts.

Educational Services Report: Nancy Tooraen – *Course Choice*—The Louisiana Department of Education Course Choice Registration <http://louisianacoursechoice.net> opened on March 11th where parents and students can shop for courses. LPB will be offering 6 online courses through Course Choice—Environmental Science, Fine Arts Survey, French I & II, and Spanish I & II. LPB's Course Choice website is <http://www.lpb.org/coursechoice> that links to the registration site. Students in C, D & F schools are eligible for MFP funding to pay for the courses and students who are in schools where a course is not offered are also eligible for funding. Courses are also opened to private, parochial and home schools for self-pay. LPB's courses are high school courses worth 1 full credit, block scheduled in one semester for \$750. Fall semester is August 13-January 6 and the spring semester is January 13-May 20. *Ready to Learn in your neighborhood*: LPB and its partners are planning a community based literacy, math and science initiative to prepare children ages 2-8 in north Baton Rouge for school success. This program will be launched on Thursday, April 4th at 10:00 a.m. at LPB. For more information please contact Ready-to-Learn coordinator Lenora Brown at lbrown@lpb.org.

Underwriting Report – FY 2013-2014 goal is \$500,000. Booked business as of March 14th is \$290,061.10, 58% our goal.

Programming Update: Bob Neese: *Young Heroes*: We have announced the eight winners of the 2013 Louisiana Young Heroes in March. (A press release with all their names and their stories was handed out to board members.) The Young Heroes will be honored on April 17th with ceremonies at the Governor's Mansion and the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Board members will receive invitations via regular mail. *Aaron Neville* will be live in the LPB studios on Thursday March 14 to introduce his new special. On the 19th two members of the group *Celtic Thunder* will be here to introduce their new special and to talk about their November concert at the Saenger in New Orleans. On March 17th, LPB will have an encore showing of the *Live from Lincoln Center* special honoring the music of Marvin Hamlisch. The host of the show is Tony-winner Audra MacDonald who will be in the Baton Rouge on May 17th at the River Center Theatre. On Monday, we will have another showing of *Antiques Roadshow* complete with tickets for the event and the July 26th reception at the Old State Capitol. *Downton Abbey*: We will air all seven episodes starting at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 24. The two big upcoming shows are the seven-part series *Mr. Selfridge* starring Emmy-winner Jeremy Piven as the man who brought department stores to London and a new season of *Call the Midwife* starts on March 31.

Production Update: Clay Fourrier: *LA Public Square* "Tax Reform 2013": To create a more attractive business climate for the state, Governor Jindal is proposing that Louisiana eliminate its personal and corporate income taxes. The governor's plan would raise revenue through higher sales taxes, fewer exemptions and new fees on services. What would these changes mean for Louisiana's low and middle income families? How will the plan impact the competitiveness of retailers, both in-state and online? What challenges would higher state sales taxes create for local municipalities? Taping is Tuesday, March 26th. Panelists will include: Tim Barfield Jr., Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDOR), Executive Counsel, Rep. John Bel Edwards, D-Amite. Rob Guidry, Louisiana Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Kimberly Lewis Robinson, Tax attorney with *Jones Walker* and former LDOR liaison under Gov. Kathleen Blanco. Also, included are interviews from James Richardson, Ph.D. with the Revenue Estimating Conference; Mayor Hilda Curry, president, Louisiana Municipal Association; John Overton, Baton Rouge Area Chamber Small Business Advisory Council; Barry Erwin with Council for a Better Louisiana and David Gray with the Louisiana Budget Project. Beth Courtney and Robert Travis Scott, president of PAR will moderate. Visit www.lpb.org/publicsquare for more information. *Capitol Beat* starts April 8th.

Submitted by Barbara A. Williams – bawilliams@lpb.org – 225-767-4200