

LOUISIANA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

♦September 13, 2024♦ 12:00 PM ♦ LPB Board Room

Rescheduled from September 12, 2024

♦7733 Perkins Road♦ Baton Rouge, LA

Members Present: Chris Wegmann, Sonny Cranch, Dan Hare, and Dr. Laura Lindsey.

Employees Present: Clarence "C.C" Copeland, Kathy Scherer, Matt Tessier, and Angela Bessix.

Call to Order: Chris Wegmann, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:06 PM. There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes: Dan Hare, Secretary, presented the May 9, 2024, LETA Executive and Finance Committee minutes. A motion was made by Dan Hare to approve the minutes and was seconded by Sonny Cranch. With all in favor, the motion passed.

Financial Report: Clarence "C.C" Copeland, President and CEO, presented the LETA financial report on behalf of Kimberly Ducote. A motion to approve was made by Chris Wegmann and was seconded by Dan Hare. With all in favor, the motion passed.

Friends Report: Matt Tessier, Deputy Director, gave the FLPB report on behalf of Terri Crockett, Friends of LPB (FLPB) Executive Director:

- Power-On Raffle - The grand prize is a 22kW Generac Generator for the whole house donated by Optimize Generator People, current revenue is \$58,120.
- September Pledge Drive – current revenue is \$43,609.
- The 2025 Louisiana Legends Gala will be May 1, 2025. The honorees will be:
 - Judi Betts- Internationally known for her transparent watercolor paintings.
 - Dan Borne-Former President of the LA Chemical Association and Voice of the LSU Tigers.
 - John Dalton- 70th United States Secretary of the Navy.
 - Claire Babineaux Fontenot- CEO, Feeding America.
 - The Oshsner Family- Alton Ochsner, MD. Was one of the five founding members of what later became Ochsner Health.
 - Doug Williams- Grambling and NFL Great, Super Bowl Champion (XXII) and MVP.

Deputy Director's Report: Matt Tessier, Deputy Director, gave the following report:

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library – The Dollywood Foundation has built their Louisiana team. Among them is Molly Marker, state director, who comes from New Orleans, overseeing various initiatives in that region. Additionally, Dakota Henry, from Lafayette will also join the team.
- On September 4, I attended an event with The Dollywood Foundation in Alexandria organized by the Rapides Foundation.
- When we began the program, enrollment was at 19,000 children. That number has increased to 26,630.

- The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) has approved our application for a pilot program to expand *Ziggy's Arts Adventure*, allowing us to roll out Season 3 to two additional states, North Carolina and Tennessee.
- Production for Season 3 of Ziggy is currently underway.
- The Department of Education's homelessness contract has concluded and was deemed a success.
- Dr. Arceneaux, C.C, and Matt attended the WLAE Board Meeting a few weeks ago. WLAE will be premiering *Blue: The Life and Art of George Rodrigue* on December 8th.

President's Report: C.C Copeland, LPB President and CEO, reported on the following:

- The Roof project should be completed by Coleman Roofing by mid-October, weather permitting. And the installation of the solar panels is expected to be completed by the third week of November.
- We submitted the first rough cut of our film for the HBCU grant that we received through Maryland Public Television to produce a short film about the Southern University Law Center. This important piece will air on Maryland Public Television during Black History Month, reaching a nationwide audience.
- We have scheduled infrastructure work for three of our towers. This includes installing the KLPA tower light system and painting, a new tower lighting system at WLPB, and completing plumb-and-tension for KLTS.
- We are going before the House Appropriations Committee on October 11, 2024, to discuss the possibility of a budget decrease.

Chairman's Report:

- There will be another opportunity to get your board member picture taken at the October 10, full LETA board meeting.
- The next LETA Executive and Finance Committee meeting will be held on November 14, 2024.

Other Business: There was no other business.

Adjournment: Chris Wegmann adjourned the meeting at 12:55 PM.

Submitted by Angela Bessix and Matt Tessier