LETA FULL BOARD MEETING

♦June 10, 2021♦ 12:00 PM ♦

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

ZOOM Conference (COVID – 19)

**Members Present:** Valencia Burton, Ted Beasley, Conrad Comeaux, Eartha Cross, Dr. Belinda Davis, Dan Hare, Nancy Harrelson, Dr. Tina Holland, Kathy Kliebert, Laura Lindsay, Chris Wegmann, Bo Harris, Millard F. Sonny Cranch and Tracie Woods.

**Members Absent:** Julie Cherry, Richard Hartley, Rob King, and David Tatman.

**Employees Present:**  Beth Courtney, David Abbott, C.C Copeland, Terri Crockett, Kim Ducote, Linda Midgett, Marlesha Ross, and Kathy Scherer

**Call to Order:** Valencia Burton called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

**Approval of minutes:** Valencia Burton asked for minutes of 4-8-21 and 5-13-21 to be approved. Motion was made by Conrad Comeaux and seconded by Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Chris Wegmann gave the Financial Report. made a motion to approve the financial report. seconded. Motion carried.

**Friends Report:** Bo Harris gave the Friends Report that included

**President’s Report:** Beth Courtney reported that it’s the last day of the session. $250,000 is for the Supplemental we were awarded, $873,000 is for the Lafayette transmitter, $200,000 is for the180 press conferences about Louisiana’s response to COVID-19 and 47 press conferences about hurricane activity, $50,000 for the water and 1.4 million for the major repairs and the other transmitter. We also got 600,000 for the solar panels and WLAE and WYES both received $250,000. In total we were funded 3.5 million. We are thrilled. We really appreciate Jay Dardenne for all his help. Mentions upping the retainer for WYES. Mentions reaching out to Brennan Robideaux and possibly establishing a partnership.

Nancy Tooraen reported Education Department activities LPB is hosting a summer camp for 5-6 year olds June 21-25, 2021. Finishing up Ready to Learn Grant “Learning Neighborhood”. This is focused on expanding our reach. Planning is our initial part. We are thinking about changing and adding partners. We estimate about $90,000 for our expense. We have partnered with EBR Parish School System. We will be training 960 teachers, teaching them how to use all of our resources. Also we will be training the Parent Liaisons on conducting Family and Community Workshops. We are providing about 700 learning pads for the teachers and students.

Linda Midgett reported Production Department activities on the new Muppet show Ziggy’s Arts Adventure about an alien named Ziggy who comes to Earth to learn about the arts. Explains the filming process of the show. Thanked Valencia for her help. The show will air online in August, and later in September it will air on the PBS Channel. Shows a clip of Episode 2 of Ziggy. Explains how Ziggy goes through different emotions on earth. Mentions revamping Public Square. Wants to have longer packages and more input from the citizens. Would like to move the airing time quarterly for September. Also mentions Kara NewsHour spot aired nationally.

C.C Copeland gave an engineering update that included an overview of the maintance on the KLPB transmitter site. LARCAN 15kw is being replaced with a new 20kw solid state High efficiency Model. He explains how the Dry Coolers work and mentions the New Orleans WWL channel 4. WWL uses us as there fall back station for the hurricane season. Shows a clip from them filming here at the station. Also mentioned ETech and how PBS wants to possibly partner with Wal-Mart.

**Chairman’s Report:**

**Other Business:** No meeting in July 2021.

**Adjournment:** Valencia Burton adjourned meeting at 12:55 PM.

Minutes submitted by Marlesha Ross and Kathy Scherer