LETA FULL BOARD MEETING

♦February 10, 2022♦ 12:00 PM ♦

Zoom♦7733 Perkins Road♦Baton Rouge, LA

**Members Present:** Valencia Burton, Julie Cherry, Conrad Comeaux, Sonny Cranch, Dr. Belinda Davis, Dan Hare, Nancy Harrelson, Dr. Tina Holland, Laura Lindsay, Cathy Seymour, Dr. Quentina Timoll, and Chris Wegmann.

**Members Absent:** Eartha Cross, Richard Hartley, Robert King, Kathy Kliebert, David Tatman, and Tracie Woods.

**Employees Present:** C.C Copeland, Terri Crockett, Kim Ducote, Linda Midgett, Marlesha Ross, & Kathy Scherer

**Special Guest:** Beth Courtney

**Call to Order:** Conrad Comeaux, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.

**Approve minutes:** Dr. Tina Holland asked for the Full Board minutes of 12-9-21 to be approved. A motion was made by Laura Lindsay and seconded by Chris Wegmann. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Julie Cherry, Treasurer, presented the Financial Reports for LETA and FELPB. Conrad Comeaux, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the Financial Reports. A motion was made by Dan Hare and seconded by Laura Lindsay. Motion carried.

**Friends Report:** Cathy Seymour, Friends Chair, gave the Friends of LPB report that included financial highlights for the month and details about some of the items that will be in the Legends auction.Board members offered advertising recommendations for the boat raffle. Friends welcomed a new employee, Ms. Delisa Paul, as Member Service Representative.

**President’s Report:** Beth Courtney, retired President, and CEO, gave kudos to the LPB staff for their good work over the past year. C.C Copeland, Acting Executive Director, reported on the preliminary budget from the state and provided details on the status of major infrastructure repairs and maintenance. C.C also reported on the digital upgrade to our archives.

Linda Midgett, the Executive Producer, reported on production highlights:

* **Ziggy’s Arts Adventure:** CPB suggested revisions on our grant proposal for the second season of Ziggy, focusing on the educational framework. We are working on those and hope to resubmit soon.
* **Safe Haven:** With the additional funding from ExxonMobil, we are producing two more episodes to add to the Green Book series on the Hotel Lincoln in Baton Rouge, and cab companies in New Orleans. We will broadcast a new special that includes these new stories and will pledge it in March. They will also be featured on The State We’re In.
* **Louisiana Harvest:** We began production on a new season of this digital series in partnership with the LSU AgCenter. We are already distributors for their first season.
* **Why Louisiana Ain’t Mississippi… Or Anyplace Else:** We have begun production on this 4-hour special based on the presentation by Jay Dardenne. We continue to fundraise but have commitments of more than a half million. The program will air in December 2022.
* **Louisiana Spotlight:** Our rebrand of Louisiana Public Square aired on Jan. 31 focusing on the plight of Point-au-Chiene. It was well-received.

**Other Business:** Conrad Comeaux, Chair reported on the NETA Consulting search firm. The new executive director will likely be hired in June. There was a brief discussion about filling the 2nd Congressional District and The Board of Regents seats on the board. Sonny presented the idea of meeting a different staff person each meeting. Members hoped to meet in person starting next month.

**Adjournment:** Conrad Comeaux asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 PM and go into Executive Session. Valencia Burton made a motion. Nancy Harrelson seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Marlesha Ross and Kathy Scherer.