LETA FULL BOARD MEETING

♦April 9, 2015♦ 12:00 Noon ♦

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

**Members Present:** Chair., Chris Goudeau, William Weldon, Wayne Berry, Barry Landry, Lee Meredith, Gwendolyn “Gigi” Carter, Barbara DeCuir, Kathy Kliebert, Melissa Kyle, Father James Carter, and Glen Kinsey.

**Employees Present:** Clay Fourrier, Jason Viso, Nancy Tooraen, Joanne Gaudet, Beth Courtney and YaVonya Kelley.

**Call to Order:** Chris Goudeau , Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM. He called for the motion to accept the Minutes from the January 8, 2015 meeting William Weldon motioned and Glen Kinsey seconded. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chris Goudeau, called for motion to accept March 12, 2015 meeting minutes. William Weldon motioned and Glen Kinsey seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** William Weldon gave an overview of the finances of LETA and the Foundation. Copies were distributed to members. Beth gave an overview of the Friends finances and discussed upcoming events and passed around the new Legend Invitation coming up in May. She also gave an overview of other upcoming events. Young Hero’s will be celebrating 20 years on April 27, 2015 and the celebration will commence at the Renaissance Hotel. Motion to accept Treasurer Reports by Gwendolyn “Gigi” Carter and seconded by Barbara DeCuir. Motion carried.

**Chairman’s Report:** Chris Goudeau explained the handout of the Ethics Disclosure stating the deadline to submit information is on May 15, 2015. It was also noted that if you belong to other boards you only had to submit the report once.

**President’s Report:** Packets were distributed to all board members including the speech Beth addressed to the House Appropriations Committee. Beth stated that LETA has been under financial strain for a number of years due to the reduced 40.9% from FY08 to FY16, a total of $3,551,208. LETA has been asked to increase our self-generated revenue by 324%. Beth further stated that the staff has been reduced from 91 employees to current 70 employees. And of that number only 50.1% of the salaries and benefits are paid by state general fund. She further stated that she worries about facing equipment trouble in one location of the state and having a delay in returning to the air because the engineers must drive long distances to repair the outage. Two of the positions we are not filling because of retirements are transmitter engineers. There is a possibility of discontinuing LPB-3 Create which shows all the cooking shows.

* **Education-** Nancy Tooraen reported LETA will be applying for a $26M grant from the Department of Education which will select three (3) winners for the “Ready to Learn” project focusing on literacy in the Pre-school 3 year old population using media and broadcast combination. The deadline for applying is May 26, 2015.
* **Production-** Clay Fourrier gave highlights on the upcoming topics for “The State Were In”; “Capital Beat”; LA TV; stating on April 22, 2015 “Back on Track” will return watching former drop outs and current students in school. Clay also stated that in September we will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary. He also showed a video of “ArtRocks” Presentation of muralist Robert Dafford from Lafayette, Louisiana.
* **Programming-** Jason Viso gave highlights on the upcoming programs in April to include “Last Days in Vietnam” appearing on April 28, 2015, “American Ballet Theatre at 75” and “American Epic” coming this fall a (3 part series) along with more of Chief John Folse and the Louisiana Seafood Cook off.
* **Underwriting-** Jean Smith completed a report that was passed out to all members stating the FY14-FY15 Goals which is $500,000 and numerous proposals to include state agencies Louisiana DOTD $50,000 and Louisiana Dept. of Culture, Recreation & Tourism $25,000.
* **Engineering-** Beth will be signing a contract today with the Harmonics Company which will be donating $600,000 worth of equipment and partnering with LETA to make objective programs. Beth also applied on behalf of the board for a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to explore the Spectrum Options in Lafayette and Lake Charles. More information forthcoming.

Beth announced that her new Administrative Assistant, Carol Manship will start on April 13, 2015 and that Bob Neese will be retiring soon.

**Motion:** Gwendolyn “Gigi” Carter motioned to accept the President’s Report and Glen Kinsey, seconded. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** With no further business meeting dismissed at 1:08 PM.

Submitted by: YaVonya Kelley