

MEETING MINUTES

LETA Full Board Meeting

◆ Thursday, February 13, 2014 ◆ 12:Noon ◆

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



Members Present: Chairman Chris Goudeau, Fr. Carter, Wayne Berry, Barbara DeCuir, Carolyn Hill, William Weldon, Julie Cherry, Katara Williams, Kathy Kleibert, Melissa Kyle, FLPB Chairman Phillip Juban, GiGi Carter, Glenn Kinsey and Barry Landry

Members Absent: Deano Thornton, David Bondy, Paul Sawyer, Dot Brown, Sandra Breland and Felicia Harry

Staff Members: Beth Courtney, Bill Belsom, Clay Fourrier, Joanne Gaudet, Bob Neese, Lenora Brown and Sissy Sharpe

- The LETA Full Board met on Thursday, February 13, 2014 in the Board Room of Louisiana Public Broadcasting. A quorum of the membership was in attendance. Below are discussion and Action Items:

-Prior to Meeting, Julie Cherry, (AFL-CIO) who is the newest member of the LETA Board was Sworn- In by Steve Hawkland, General Counsel of the Secretary of State's Office-

Call to Order: Chairman Chris Goudeau called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. He introduced the newest member to the LETA Full Board, Julie Cherry, Secretary-Treasurer of ALF-CIO from Baton Rouge. Prior to AFL-CIO she was a school teacher and was very active in teacher's issues and mentored other teachers, while also holding a Degree in Music. Mrs. Cherry acknowledged the contributions of Carl Crowe who had served on the Board for 29 years and was well beloved by all.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the prior meeting were approved by Motion of Dr. Weldon and Seconded by Barbara DeCuir being adopted unanimously by the members. *MOTION CARRIED.*

LETA/Foundation Finance Reports: Joanne Gaudet presented the board with an update of finances as of the end of January, 2014 for LETA and the Foundation.

LETA: We are 58% through Fiscal Year and 57% through our Annual Expenditure Budget. Total Revenue to date is \$5 Million which is 59% of overall budgeted revenue; mostly general fund from the State. 72% has been drawn down out of our General Fund Revenue. Self-Generated revenue is \$659,000, 32% of total projected self-generated budget of \$2 Million. Total Expenditures to date are \$5Million, 57% of the Annual Budget. We had \$355,000 interagency transfers with a Net Revenue of \$90,000. We anticipate a shortfall in self-generated funds in the current fiscal year.

FOUNDATION: Joanne proceeded to update The Board on the Foundation Finances. The Foundation did receive the 1st payment from CPB for 70% of our grant. We received our 2nd Quarter transfer from Friends of \$369,527 and \$31,969 in planned giving from George Daniel and Leland Majors.

Friend's Update: Friends Chairman, Phillip Juban provided an update on membership activities and fund transfers to the Foundation.

Revenue: Membership Revenue at end of December totaled \$353,105.98.

Expenditures: Totaled \$73,930.98 at end of December.

2nd Quarter Transfer: \$501,496.79 with total FY14 support to date of \$720,511.47; leaving \$539,775.33 for the remaining 2 quarters.

LOUISIANA LEGENDS EVENT: Scheduled for May 8th, 2014 at the Old State Capitol. 6:30 PM Cocktails

And 8:00 PM Awards Ceremony followed by dessert reception

Pledge Drive: Reminder March is just about here and we will hold our Pledge Drive.

President's Update: Beth Courtney, President of LPB updated the board on the current budget Crisis for discussion and advice. Due to an additional cut of \$350,000 from Our Operating Budget; the State has placed us in a very serious position. Beth presented each Board Member with a FY 15 BUDGET itemizing in a self-explanatory chart of operating costs for the entire agency. This chart reflects historical cuts form FY 2008 forward. The shortfall is greatly affecting our present and future educational programs, as well as projects that are vital to our mission.

Beth has asked the Division of Administration Secretary, Kristy Nichols, to come for a special tour of our facility to get a better understanding of what we do. Beth reiterated that she is also meeting with Representative Fannin and others before the HB1 comes up. We still have time to educate the legislature and Division to help restore the \$500,000 shortfall.

Chairman's Action item: Chairman Chris Goudeau suggested to The Board to "Propose a Resolution" on the Budget Crisis, so he Moved that the Board issue a Resolution addressed to the Division of Administration requesting that there be a \$500,000 State General Fund Restoration to the LETA 2014-2015 Budget. Dr. Weldon moved. The LETA Board voted unanimously to pass the Resolution. Action for the Resolution was adopted on this day, February 13, 2014.

Education Update: Lenora Brown with Education Services updated the Board on the Ready-To-Learn Project. It is time for Cat-in-the-Hat Celebration for Friday, March 7th, 2014. It will be a week-long celebration. Eblasts have been sent out and resources and books for all the activities will be provided. Also in North Baton Rouge we have a small fund from Exxon Mobil for people to read at any school of their choice. Please email lbrown@lpb.org for any information.

Katara Williams Update: Katara Williams, LETA Board Member with Board of Regents invited and updated the Board on their 3rd Championship Conference being held at Pennington in conjunction with their Board of Regents Board Meeting. Public University Trustees will come together to talk about pressing issues with Higher Education. Beth Courtney will moderate several panel discussions. The big issue is how to strengthen pipelines between Higher Education and the Workforce. It is on Monday 17th from 8:00 AM until 2:45.

Programming: Bob Neese updated the Board on The Young Heroes. Also, the major programs this month are episodes one and two of Antiques Roadshow filmed in Baton Rouge. Monday, February 17th at 7:00 PM is the 1st airing and Monday, February 24th is the 2nd airing. The third hour premiers on March 24th. Last 3 episodes of Downton Abbey will air on the next three Sundays during our March membership Drive.

Production: Clay Fourrier showed a short video of our ALIVE! series to the Board for our March Pledge Drive entitled ALIVE! Series of our Endangered Animals in the Gulf. John Goodman is narrating the final 3 on the 24th of this month.

Adjournment: With no further business, The LETA Full Board adjourned at 12:50 PM
The next Full Board Meeting will be held on April 10, 2014

Submitted by Sissy Sharpe ~ ssharpe@lpb.org ~ 225-767-4200