

LOUISIANA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AUTHORITY FULL BOARD MEETING

June 12, 2025 ♦ 12:00 PM ♦ LPB Board Room
7733 Perkins Road ♦ Baton Rouge, LA 70810

Members Present: Sonny Cranch, Dan Hare, Christopher Wegmann, Sharon Reine, William Bradford, Tracie Woods, Tina Holland, Sandra McGuire, and Misty Wyble.

Via Teleconference: Laura Lindsey and Bo Harris

Members Absent: Lance Harris, Elizabeth Crochet, Erin Donelly, Jeffrey Thomas, Bo Harris, Conrad Comeaux, and Courtney Phillips

Employees Present: Clarence "C.C" Copeland, Kimberly Ducote, Adam Richard, Angela Bessix, and Matt Tessier.

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Wegmann, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chris Wegmann, Chairman, asked for any public comment, and there was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dan Hare presented the minutes of the LETA full board meeting from June 12, 2025, and asked that the minutes be approved. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Chris Wegmann and seconded by Sandra McGuire. With all in favor, the motion passed.

LETA FINANCIAL UPDATE: Sonny Cranch presented the minutes of the LETA full board meeting from June 12, 2025, to the Treasurer and asked that the minutes be approved. Sandra McGuire made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Dan Hare. With all in favor, the motion passed.

FRIENDS REPORT: Terri Crockett of Friends of LPB (FLPB) gave the FLPB report:

PowerOn Raffle

The PowerOn Raffle launched earlier this month, featuring a grand prize of a 24kW whole-house Generac generator with installation, generously donated by Optimize Generator People – valued at over \$14,000.

- **Campaign Dates:** June 1- October 1
- **Ticket Price:** \$20
- **Current Revenue:** \$11,480

June Pledge Drive

- Total Revenue: \$36,740
- Total Pledges: 218

Top Performing Programs:

- All Creatures Great & Small Marathon - \$3,124
- Neil Diamond Concert - \$2,124
- Walter Anderson - \$2,930

- Andrea Bocelli - \$2,320

2025 Legends Gala – Final Report

The 2025 Legends Gala marked another record-breaking year, raising a total of \$393,825- a 9% increase from last year – through sponsorship and auction revenue.

Revenue Breakdown:

Sponsorships & Ticket Sales: \$331,000

Auction Revenue: \$62,825

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Matt Tessier, Deputy Director, reported on the following:

- Matt gave an update on the appropriations act.
- WYES funding was cut by 48%
- The Educational Excellence fund is now being used to fund the teachers' retirement system.
- Senate Bill 8 by Senator Morris would attempt to give the Legislature the power to appoint unclassified positions in state government.
- HP 2, 61 by Representative Gallet deals with drones and where they can fly.
- HP, 674 will now allow public servants to accept seasonal or holiday foods and non-alcoholic drinks that can exceed the \$50 range.
- Changes to the tier 2.1 financial reporting
- Matt gave an update on the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- C.C. provided an update on the ongoing building renovations and their newly refreshed appearance.
- Governor Landry issued an executive order requiring all remote work to cease by June 30th.
- C.C. shared news regarding the loss of the Community Service Grant, totaling \$2,444,180.
- C.C. provided an update on Trump's federal cuts
- C.C. gave an update on the impact of federal budget cuts under the Trump administration.
- C.C. cautioned that if the executive order is fully enacted, it could significantly affect PBS and its public service offerings
- C.C., Chris, and Matt attended Capitol Hill Day in Washington, D.C., on February 26, 2025, for the APTS Public Media Summit.
- C.C. reviewed the current state budget and its implications.
- Carol Highsmith announced she will donate her entire photographic archive to the Library of Congress at no cost.
- C.C. provided updates on infrastructure projects, including generators, tower lighting, and building maintenance (e.g., painting).
- C.C. gave a status update on the solar panel installation project
- LPB's 50th anniversary celebration will take place this September.
- Kudos to Steve Ringo for completing the bid specifications for the FCC legal counsel contract. FCC Lawyer Bill.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Chris expressed interest in increasing board member participation at the upcoming LETA meeting. Sonny recommended providing greater flexibility for those unable to attend in person by offering a Zoom option.
- Chris Wegmann, Chairman, the next full board meeting will be on Thursday, October 9, 2025, in the LPB Boardroom, and the next Executive and Finance Committee meeting is on September 11, 2025.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Adjournment: Chris Wegmann, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by Angela Bessix and Matt Tessier