

Minutes for the regular National Finance Committee meeting November 29, 2016.

Meeting convened at 8:36 PM (ET) a quorum being present, the Chair and Secretary being present.

Attending: Fred Blair, Adriana Casenave, Joseph Davis, R. Paul Martin (Secretary), Tony Norman, Michael Novick (Chair), Cerene Roberts, Barbara Whipperman, also on the call were WBAI General Manager Berthold Reimers and Director Nancy Sorden as an observer.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Appointment of timekeeper
4. Agenda approval (10 minutes)
5. Audit Update (5 minutes)
6. Review of state of unit budgets (10 minutes)
7. Calculation of SCA/CS payments (15 minutes)
 - A. Motion on recommendation PNB reconsideration of formula to apply towards current CS payments as opposed to arrears (15 minutes)
8. New business (30 minutes)
9. Adjournment

Motion: (Adriana Casenave) “To approve agenda.” (Passed as amended without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Amendment: (R. Paul Martin) “To add ‘Audit Update’ before ‘Review of state of unit budgets’.” (Passed 5 for, 2 against, 1 abstention)

The committee discussed the amendment.

Appointment of timekeeper

Adriana Casenave volunteered to be the time keeper.

Audit Update 8:45 PM (ET)

The Chair said that he’d been told that the FY14 audit draft had been submitted. Another member said that the FY14 was still being held up by Pacifica having not paid the auditors yet.

Review of state of unit budgets 8:48 PM (ET)

The Chair said that the WPFW Treasurer had sent him an E-mail about the WPFW budget saying that it might be ready by some time in December. The WPFW General Manager is occupied with the station's transmitter and the part time Business Manager is ill, some WPFW LSB members are working on the draft FY17 budget. The Chair said that he'd asked the WBAI General Manager if he had anything to add to the previous discussion but he hasn't heard back from the General Manager. In reply to a question from the Chair the WBAI Treasurer said he'd contacted the WBAI General Manager about attending an NFC meeting but he has not gotten a reply.

The Chair said that the Pacifica Radio Archives (PRA) on-air fund raiser was very successful. Its goal was \$85,000 and it got about \$150,000 and other pledges were taken too. He said that PRA is in a better financial situation than they had been. He noted that the NFC had reviewed the KPFA draft FY17 budget and had questions, and that all of the budgets have to be adjusted related to SCA revenue and Central Services motion passed by the PNB. He said that some KPFA FY17 draft budget changes have been submitted.

The Committee discussed the situation with the budgets. There is no updated National Office draft FY17 budget proposal. The committee discussed the effect of the PNB motion regarding SCA and Central Services and how they would affect the FY17 budgets.

Calculation of SCA/CS payments 9:02 PM (ET)

The committee discussed how the SCA revenue and Central Services payments would be calculated in light of the motion passed by the PNB. The Chair said he'd again send the committee the draft FY17 National Office budget proposal.

Motion on recommendation PNB reconsideration of formula to apply towards current CS payments as opposed to arrears 9:19 PM (ET)

The committee discussed the draft National Office FY17 budget proposal. The Chair noted that the National Office needs about \$139,000 a month to operate. The details that would have to go into the SCA and Central Services calculations were discussed.

New business 9:39 PM (ET)

Motion: (Michael Novick) "The NFC recommends to the PNB to adopt a motion directing the interim Executive Director to have the General Managers of WBAI and WPFW submit balanced budget proposals for their stations at least one week prior to the next NFC meeting, and that the PNB further adopt a motion directing all local station boards to submit concrete plans and goals for LSB fundraising for their station by the first PNB meeting in January 2017."

Motion: (Adriana Casenave) "To divide." (Passed without objection)

Motion: "The NFC recommends to the PNB to adopt a motion directing the interim Executive Director to have the General Managers of WBAI and WPFW submit balanced budget proposals for their stations at least one week prior to the next NFC meeting."

Amendment: (Michael Novick) “To add the following, ‘and direct the national finance staff to produce a revised budget for the National Office incorporating new income estimates and Central Services payments based on the PNB SCA credit motion’ after ‘for their stations.’” (Passed without objection)

The WBAI General Manager came on the call and told the committee that he had just sent a revised WBAI draft FY17 budget proposal to the Chair and the WBAI Treasurer for forwarding to the committee. It was requested that the WBAI General Manager be on the executive session call, the Chair agreed.

The committee discussed the amendment.

Motion as amended: “The NFC recommends to the PNB to adopt a motion directing the interim Executive Director to have the General Managers of WBAI and WPFW submit balanced budget proposals for their stations and direct the national finance staff to produce a revised budget for the National Office incorporating new income estimates and Central Services payments based on the PNB SCA credit motion at least one week prior to the next NFC meeting.”

Amendment: (Michael Novick) “To change ‘at least one week prior to the next NFC meeting,’ to, ‘by December 13, 2016.’” (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Motion as amended: “The NFC recommends to the PNB to adopt a motion directing the interim Executive Director to have the General Managers of WBAI and WPFW submit balanced budget proposals for their stations and direct the national finance staff to produce a revised budget for the National Office incorporating new income estimates and Central Services payments based on the PNB SCA credit motion by December 13, 2016.” (Passed without objection)

Motion: “The NFC recommends that the PNB further adopt a motion directing all local station boards to submit concrete plans and goals for LSB fundraising for their station by the first PNB meeting in January 2017.” (Postponed to the next meeting)

Motion: (Adriana Casenave) “To postpone the motion to the next meeting.” (Passed without objection)

Adjourned 10:00 PM (ET)

Submitted by R. Paul Martin, Secretary.