

Minutes for the regular National Finance Committee meeting September 6, 2022.

Meeting convened at 8:34 PM (ET) a quorum being present, the Chair and Secretary being present.

Attending: Nick Arena, Elizabeth von Gunten, Julie Hewitt, Kim Kaufman, Julia Kennard (CFO), R. Paul Martin (Secretary), James McFadden, Sean Kelly McPherson, James Sagurton (Chair) also attending was Pacifica Executive Director Sephanie Wells.

Agenda:

1. Convene meeting 8:30 PM (ET)
2. Roll Call
3. Adopt Agenda
4. Chair's Announcements (2 minutes)
5. Minutes (3 minutes)
6. Executive Director's Report (5 minutes)
7. CFO Report (10 minutes)
8. Set Dates for Budget reviews
9. Set next meeting dates (15 minutes)
10. Central Services Formula
11. NDA and Electronic Transmission Consent
12. Adjourn to Executive Session

Motion: (James Sagurton) "To adopt the agenda." (Passed without objection as amended)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Amendment: (James Sagurton) "To make #6 'Executive Director's report' for five minutes; make #7 'CFO report' for 10 minutes " (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the amendment.

Chair's Announcements 8:43 PM (ET)

"Access to Great Plains has been reestablished.

Tonight we will have a brief open session and then go to a closed session to discuss budgetary items that involve personnel issues. We may come out of closed session to vote on any public matters that arise."

Minutes 8:43 PM (ET)

Motion: (R. Paul Martin) “To approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022, meeting.” (Passed without objection)

Executive Director report 8:44

The Executive Director told the committee that the PNB at its recent meeting passed two motions following the PNB’s request to implement employee expense reductions and review all of the divisions and that some divisions and stations were to be implemented fairly quickly based upon PNB recommendations and past motions and those were started in July 2022. She said that the PNB was looking at other stations as well and they are looking for ways to reduce expenses and those will be voted on at future meetings. She said that they continue to look at the daily cash flow, and the CFO and Markisha are sending those to her on a daily basis, making sure that bills which are vitally necessary to be paid can be paid. She said they were putting money aside for payroll and health insurance.

In answer to a question the CFO said that the September electric bills for KPFFK had been paid. She said that Pacifica was struggling as far as cash on hand in multiple areas. She said that Pacifica had to choose to set aside money for the \$30,000 interest payment that was due on September 30, and they were doing things to come up with rest of that. She said that two stations were unable to fund their September health insurance premium payments, but that it sounded like things were a little better for payroll. She said that they didn’t have cash for the interest yet, but they would prioritize getting that.

CFO report 8:49 PM (ET)

The CFO told the committee that *Great Plains* access has been regained but they haven’t gotten past that. She said that they’d spent hours on the day of this meeting on that, and she couldn’t write financials at all. She said that they were calling back the people who’d helped them get in, but they couldn’t do anything with *Great Plains* at that point. She said that it looked like Pacifica Radio Archives (PRA) will be able to fund payroll, she said that she’d not heard of an updated cash balance from them yet. She said that WPFW was struggling to meet payroll, but she thought that they would make payroll. She said that WPFW would not be able to finish paying their August expenses, and would not be able to make their September health insurance premiums. She said that KPFFK was of concern with regard to funding their payroll and that unless they had a really good week they wouldn’t be able to fully fund their payroll.

In answer to a question the CFO said that no one had had system administrator access to the *Great Plains* software for a year and that NETA never did have that access. She said that now that NETA is leaving this issue is at the forefront. She said that they were able to get in today but nothing more. The Chair noted that system administrator access was needed in order to add units and was necessary to break out the Pacifica Affiliates Network’s (PAN) books from the National Office and this created an immediate need for that access.

Set Dates for Budget reviews 8:55 PM (ET)

The committee discussed the probable dates when stations could have their draft FY23 budget proposals ready for presentation to the NFC. There were no hard deadlines among the stations for finishing their draft budget preparations. It was noted that figuring out staffing issues and a Central Services formula was necessary for some stations to get a draft FY23 budget together. In a discussion of KPFT's building build-out the Executive Director noted that there had not been a clear budget for that build-out since it began. There was a discussion of a capital campaign for KPFT and things like FEMA grants for security.

Set next meeting dates 9:24 PM (ET)

The Chair noted that the committee was already meeting every Tuesday in September in anticipation of NETA leaving.

Central Services Formula 9:25 PM (ET)

The CFO said that she would find the existing formula and try to update it with FY21 numbers. The Chair said that he hoped that for FY23 that we actually implemented any new Central Services formula.

NDA and Electronic Transmission Consent 9:25 PM (ET)

The Chair said that he doesn't have them from everyone and asked committee members to please send them in.

Adjourned to Executive Session 9:26 PM (ET)

Submitted by R. Paul Martin, Secretary.