

WBAI Treasurer's Report  
February 11, 2026

The National Finance Committee (NFC) met on January 20, 2026. The local Finance Committee met on January 21, 2026. Both of these meetings were held by teleconference.

The January 20, 2026, NFC meeting had been listed on KPFTX.ORG as an open meeting on December 11, 2025, when it had originally been posted. When I arrived at the Zoom meeting the NFC Chair shut down a conversation he'd been having with Otis Maclay who runs KPFTX.ORG. During the meeting we were told that the meeting was being held in executive session, which surprised me. It turned out that the meeting notice on KPFTX.ORG had been changed from an open meeting to an executive session meeting one minute before the officially noticed commencement time of the meeting.

As a result I am limited in what I can say about this meeting. I think that I can, however, post the draft agenda that had been sent to the NFC the day before this meeting. The Secretary got the year wrong.

National Finance Committee Public Agenda 2025 (sic)-1-20

1. Call to Order – 8:30 pm ET
2. Roll Call – (5 min)
3. Approval of Agenda (5 min)
4. Approval of Minutes 12-9-25 (5 min)
5. WBAI budget – (20 min)
6. ED Report (15 min)
7. Motion on Event Approval – Susan Young (10 min)
8. New Business
9. Adjourn

KPFTX.ORG lists the “Reason for Executive Session: discussion of personnel,” but if there was anything that truly was executive session material discussed during this meeting it was outweighed by the bulk of what's on that agenda.

**Screen shots of the NFC meeting notices on KPFTX.ORG are appended to this report.**

From my notes I have the following that was supposed to be put in the report out from the executive session meeting, **Motion:** (Susan Young) “The NFC approved forwarding the WBAI FY26 budget to the PNB with a recommendation to adopt it.” As of the posting of this Treasurer’s Report there is no report out on KPFTX.ORG from the January 20, 2026, NFC meeting.

There was a local Finance Committee meeting on January 21, 2026. The interim General Manager did not attend that meeting. He sent me the following E-mail a week before the meeting:

Good Evening,

I write to update you all on the results of our 2025 Winter Pledge Drive and our ongoing progress in improving our facilities and programming.

**PLEDGE DRIVE**

While we ended the drive as promised at the end of the year, we have continued to receive tens of thousands of dollars above our goal which we are adding to the total because the revenue was solicited during the drive.

Just today, we were notified that the American Federation of Teachers has pledged \$30,000 as a

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sustaining donation. That brings the total of the drive to over \$207,000.

On Monday, we got close to \$10,000 in the mail which included checks written at the end of 2025 including \$6,000 from one donor who sent \$1,500 for Mimi Rosenberg's Building Bridges, \$1,500 for Randy Credico, \$1,500 for Linda Sarsour Wednesday WGO and \$1,500 for the Indypendent Hour with John Tarleton.

Here's a more detailed financial update from Chris LiPulsa.

#### Bank Balances

Bank of America: **\$66,893.71**

PayPal: **\$11,158.21**

Our balance eclipsed over \$100,000 in early January. We were able to make a tower payment based on our fund drive success, our higher new health insurance payment for six union employees (up from four) and our payroll.

#### Fund Drive

Our end of year fund drive raised **\$207,652** and counting up from last year's total \$142,269 on a \$125,000 goal.

The fund drive totals break down as follows:

*Listeners and Foundations: \$127,903 (33% increase from last year)*

*Unions: \$79,749*

#### BAI Buddies

After the fund drive, we now have a total of **1,323** Buddies, bringing in **\$25,428** per month. This represents a **4%** increase in total buddies, and a **3%** increase in monthly revenue. Projected over a year, BAI Buddies should bring in **\$305,136** in revenue.

There are several solicitations outstanding and the union donations are recurring on a six month cycle. This category of revenue **DID NOT EXIST** before I assumed this position and continues to grow.

The program IS the premium and we are NOT incurring the costs nor liabilities associated with past drives that were entirely dependent on premium merchandise.

#### EDITORIAL

We have continued to offer LIVE news reporting nationally like the Mayor Mamdani Inauguration as well as several hours of LIVE breaking news coverage of the Trump administration bombing of Venezuela and the abduction of President Maduro as well as this week's State of the State address by Gov. Hochul.

We have extended Frontline Voices to five days a week at noon.

Interim Program Director Keziah Glow, who shifted to part time to help fund Rebecca Myles

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News Director position, continues to go above and beyond. Keziah's full time position as the general manager of WHCR, Harlem's community radio station out of City College, continues to produce synergies for WBAI.

We Decide: America at the Crossroads with Jenna Flanagan, our national program we produce with the Pacifica affiliates, continues to gain traction and deepen our relationships with our sister stations and the affiliates.

Over the next few weeks we will be building out our News Department and intern program.

## **PHYSICAL PLANT**

Our field engineer Jake Glanz and Graceon Challenger have made substantial progress on building out Studio B, which will provide a backup master control and recording studio.

Thanks for all of your support during the pledge drive. We expect to ramp up again for a pledge drive mid-year.

Best,  
Bob Hennelly  
Interim General Manager

The members of the local Finance Committee discussed this E-mail report and also the odd things that were being done with regard to cancelled NFC meetings, and the sudden, unexplained changes in the dates of the January NFC meetings.

Committee members suggested that WBAI needed to do more outreach, and that when the café on the ground floor at 388 Atlantic Ave. is finished the station should have events there.

The NFC meeting noticed for February 10, 2026, was cancelled.

So the WBAI draft FY26 budget was passed in the NFC, and by now it may have been passed by the PNB. It projects that WBAI will end FY26 with a surplus of \$232,120. At the end of January the Executive Director sent the NFC the Income Statement for all of FY25. It looks like WBAI finished FY25 in the black. I will try to get that spreadsheet released to the public soon.

The bizarre handling of the mundane task of setting the January NFC meeting dates as per the motion the committee had passed does not seem to have extended to February. Will there be other bizarre things done soon? I have heard that the next NFC meeting set for February 24, will actually be held in public session. I hope that it is.

The Pacifica Foundation's finances may actually be improving, although there are any number of possible pitfalls ahead. I'm hoping that things can stabilize. I am not optimistic yet, but maybe my pessimism about the continued survival of WBAI and Pacifica is getting tempered a bit. We'll have to see what happens next. We all have to hope that certain people in Pacifica don't behave badly.

The next NFC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 24, 2026, at 8:30 PM (ET). The next local Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 7:00 PM (ET). These meetings will be held by teleconference.

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R. Paul Martin  
WBAI LSB Treasurer

## APPENDIX

The Original Posting on KPFTX.ORG on December 11, 2025  
Showing the January 20, Meeting as Being in Open Session

January 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 KPFT - Development and Outreach Committee WBAI - Committee of Inclusion Committee WPFW Outreach Committee Finance Committee 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:30 PM	7	8 Pacifica National Board 8:30 PM	9	10 WBAI Town Hall Assembly 6:00 PM
11 KPFK Local Station Board 1:30 PM	12 WBAI Management Evaluation Committee 7:00 PM	13 KPFT Governance Committee 8:00 PM	14 WBAI Local Station Board KPFT Local Station Board 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	15	16	17 WBAI Town Hall Assembly KPFA Local Station Board 6:00 PM 2:00 PM
18	19 Community Advisory Board-WPFW 7:00 PM	20 Finance Committee 8:30 PM	21 WPFW Local Station Board WBAI Finance Committee 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	22	23	24
25	26 WBAI Programming Committee WPFW Programming Committee WBAI Management Evaluation Committee 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	27	28	29	30	31

The Altered Posting on KPFTX.ORG on January 20, 2026  
The 7:29 PM on this notice is Central Time, which was 8:29 PM Eastern Time

Tuesday, January 20, 2026	8:30 PM ET
Finance Committee	Teleconference - Executive Session - Not Streamed
Reason for Executive Session: discussion of personnel	
	<a href="#">Committee Members</a>
Akio Tanaka	akiot04@yahoo.com
Posted: 12/11/2025 - 9:51 PM	Updated: 01/20/2026 - 7:29 PM

[Back to the Calendar](#)