

Minutes for the regular National Finance Committee meeting January 23, 2024.

Meeting convened at 8:38 PM (ET) a quorum being present, the Chair and Secretary being present.

Attending: Teresa Allen, Lynden Foley, Kamau Harris, Julie Hewitt, Christina Huggins, Kim Kaufman, R. Paul Martin (Secretary), James McFadden, James Sagurton (Chair), Elizabeth von Gunten also attending were Pacifica Executive Director Stephanie D. Wells and WBAI General Manager Berthold Reimers.

Agenda:

1. Convene Meeting
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adopt Agenda
 4. Chair's announcements (2 minutes)
 5. Review of the Draft FY24 WBAI Budget (WBAI General Manager Berthold Reimers presenting (60 minutes)
 6. Set next meeting date (2 minutes)
 7. Review the End of Year Consolidated Monthly Statements for the 12 months ending September 30, 2023 (20 minutes)
 8. Report from the Executive Director with Q & A (15 minutes)
 9. Minutes (5 minutes)
 10. Updates from the National Office, KPFA and WPFW on when the NFC may expect to receive their budgets (5 minutes)
 11. Adjourn no later than 10:15 PM (ET)
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Motion: (James Sagurton) "To adopt the agenda." (Passed without objection)

Chair's announcements 8:41 PM (ET)

"Tonight we will review the revised Draft FY24 WBAI Budget. Please check the NFC list to find it.

"Also, tonight we will review the End of Year Consolidated Monthly Income Statement for the 12 months ending September 30, 2023.

"Time permitting, we will also hear a regular report from Pacifica Executive Director, Stephanie Wells tonight.

"Please look at any documents posted by National Finance Committee Secretary R. Paul Martin on the NFC list."

Review of the Draft FY24 WBAI Budget 8:42 PM (ET)

The Chair told the committee that the Executive Director, the WBAI General Manager and he had worked on this revision of the WBAI draft FY24 budget. He said that they'd made a lot of adjustments in the categories that things are in, and they'd made the numbers agree so that there is one set of numbers.

The WBAI General Manager said that the National Office's numbers were only different from his numbers derived from *QuickBooks* by about \$32,000. He said that they'd explained the differences to the Executive Director and had put explanations alongside the budget lines. He thanked the Executive Director for helping to put this draft FY24 budget together. The WBAI General Manager went over the draft FY24 budget in its new format, telling what had been moved and changed. He noted that WBAI has shut down all overtime for board ops which he said should result in a savings of \$15,000 to \$18,000 a year, but that they'd left the original figure in the draft FY24 budget because it's not proven and there could be emergencies. He said that he hoped he could shave off \$18,000 from there. He continued to go over the revenue and expense projections and told the committee where some expense categories had been shifted. He said that the projected Net Income for FY24 without paying Central Services fees was \$90,730 and with Central Services fees the deficit was projected to be \$170,982. He then asked the Executive Director to comment on the WBAI draft FY24 budget proposal since she had spent a considerable amount of time working on it.

The Executive Director said that she'd noted a typo on line 41 but that she thought that the key was that as we move forward not just with WBAI but with all of the stations that we spread out what some of these costs are and make line items match what our actual revenue and expenses are.

The Chair said that WBAI was hoping to get a substantial bequest which cannot be budgeted.

Committee members made suggestions, asked specific questions and discussed the WBAI draft FY24 budget.

Motion: (James Sagurton) "To extend the time for this item by 10 minutes. (Passed without objection) 10:02 PM (ET)

Motion: (R. Paul Martin) "The NFC has reviewed the WBAI FY24 budget. It is a deficit budget. We send the budget to the PNB for their review." (Passed 8 for, 1 against, 1 abstention)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Point of Order: (Lynden Foley) This is not germane.

The Chair ruled in favor of the Point of Order.

Amendment: (Kim Kaufman) "To add 'Listener Support is overestimated but this is otherwise a best estimate of revenue and expenses.'" (Fails 2 for, 6 against, 2 abstentions)

The committee discussed the amendment.

Motion: (James Sagurton) “To extend the time for this item by 10 minutes for the item and the meeting.” (Passed without objection) 10:16 PM (ET)

The Committee continued the discussed of the motion and the amendment.

Motion: (Kim Kaufman) “To extend the time for this item by 10 minutes.” (Passed without objection) 10:25 PM (ET)

The Chair suggested that the committee consider adding a meeting to consider the KPFA draft FY24 budget.

The KPFA Treasurer objected to reviewing a version of the KPFA draft FY24 budget that the KPFA Business Manager had not put together and which the KPFA LSB had not approved.

The Chair ruled that there was already precedent for the NFC to consider a draft budget that had been revised.

The Executive Director said that revisions were made based on a different Central Services formula.

Motion: (James Sagurton) “To extend the time for this item and the meeting to 11:00 PM (ET).” (Passed 9 for, 0 against, 1 abstention) 10:44 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) “To add an item for, ‘Setting the next meeting date’ before ‘Review the End of Year Consolidated Monthly Statements for the 12 months ending September 30, 2023.’ (2 minutes)” (Passed 6 for, 1 against, 3 abstentions) 10:50 PM (ET)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Setting the next meeting date 10:51 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) “To meet on January 30, 2024, at 8:30 PM (ET).” (Passed 6 for, 2 against, 2 abstentions) 10:53 PM (ET)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Review the End of Year Consolidated Monthly Statements for the 12 months ending September 30, 2023 10:55 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) “To postpone this item to the next meeting.” (Passed without objection)

Report from the Executive Director with Q & A 10:55 PM (ET)

The Executive Director told the committee that Pacifica was moving forward with the closing escrow on the sale of the Los Angeles building. She said that they’re still working on getting liens removed from that building. She said that some paperwork had been filled out that day with

regard to the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and she had signed all the necessary paperwork that day to remove that lien. She said that she'd had a discussion with the PNB Development Task force the night before regarding reaching out to local council members to get discretionary funding for the stations. She said that they'd gotten information on council members from Los Angeles and New York and that she would get applications for that funding out within the next 30 days.

In answer to a question the Executive Director said that, because there will be a new PNB, in order to open an account to receive stock options with Bank of America some of the required signatures will have to be redone.

In answer to a question the Executive Director said that members of the NFC would see the disbursement of the funds received from the sale of the Los Angeles building. She said the money would go into an escrow account and there would be monthly statements on how that money was being spent. She said that a draft budget for how to use those funds has been presented to the PNB for the last few months but things were changing, the moving costs may be less, and that once that draft is finalized it can be shared. She agreed that the final amount will not be known until the sale is finalized.

In answer to a question the Executive Director said that nothing had changed much with regard to payables. She said that Pacifica hadn't been able to pay down a lot of those. She said that there was a total of \$1,241,401 payable now. She said that the outstanding FJC loan principal was \$2,548,821 and that for the EIDL the principal was \$2,079,430. She said that if there were a payoff of the FJC loan it would cost \$4,160,904 but that we're working with them on just paying past due interest. She said that without the loans Pacific's payables were \$1,241,401.

In answer to a question the Executive Director said that with regard to *Allegiance* Pacifica is still on their "do not serve list" till we pay them. She said that we owe them roughly \$92,000 and she has been negotiating that down to about \$58,000 and that she's hoping to pay that off with the proceeds from the sale of the Los Angeles building. She said that once that happens she would be able to get into *Allegiance* because right now she does not have access to it. She said that once she does get access she plans to work with a person at KPFT who is good at *Allegiance*, but in any event she plans to get most of *Allegiance* under the National Office so she can clean it up, getting some things in place so that she can get input contact reports.

Call for the orders of the day: (R. Paul Martin) 11:06 PM (ET)

Adjourned 11:06 PM (ET)

Submitted by R. Paul Martin, Secretary.