

WBAI Treasurer's Report
October 14, 2026

The WBAI local Finance Committee met on September 16, 2026. The National Finance Committee (NFC) met on October 13, 2026. These meetings were held by teleconference.

The General Manager did not come to the September 16, 2026, local Finance Committee meeting. This marks the 13th local Finance Committee meeting in a row that the General Manager has not attended.

I gave an oral Treasurer's Report at this meeting. I'd also sent the committee shareable reports from the Executive Director dated August 6, and September 3. There was a discussion of getting a breakdown of just where the revenue for the station currently is coming from, how much from the Unions, how much from Major Donors and how much from listeners. I said that it would be good if we could get some financial information in a spreadsheet format so we could see the numbers and how they add up.

There was a discussion of other stations using "thank you gifts" to aid their pitching. The committee discussed why WBAI had not been allowed to do this for the past couple of years while other stations have been doing it. I noted that the idea of using premiums, or "thank you gifts," has again been brought up. A committee member noted that the station is now using tote bags as "thank you gifts." The member complained that the infrastructure to do a lot of the fulfillment of "thank you gifts" has been dismantled by Management. The committee was told that old premiums are scattered all over the station because we've lost so much space.

A member brought up the question of what happens if the money from the Unions should dry up, since it is now a major portion of WBAI's revenue. I certainly had no answer for that question.

The October 13, 2026, NFC meeting was certainly a unique one for me. It marked the first time I've ever been thrown out of a Pacifica meeting.

The National Business Manager reported that Pacifica has gotten a new accounting system. She said that as of October 1, Pacifica is using *Intuit Enterprise* for its accounting. She said that Pacifica will continue using the *Great Plains* software that we've been using for so many years, but that will only be to get the audits done. After the audits are completed, and we are no longer delinquent in that area, the *Intuit Enterprise* software, will be all that will be used in Pacifica. She said that, as a result of having the *Intuit Enterprise* software, starting in December the National Office would be issuing monthly financial reports. She said that the new software will make our lives easier.

The National Business Manager was asked how it was determined that *Intuit Enterprise* would be the new system for Pacifica and she said that four software packages had been considered and in the end it came down to price. She said that the other systems had a setup fee of almost \$100,000 plus an annual licensing fee of \$40,000 or \$50,000. She said that the *Intuit Enterprise* system did not have an up-front fee and there was only a monthly fee which amounts to about \$22,000. In answer to a question the National Business Manager said that she was confident that in case we were dissatisfied with this system and wanted to transfer to a different system that it could be done easily.

James Sagurton brought up the fact that this change had not been voted on by the PNB

and that increasingly the PNB is not voting on these kind of changes.

I asked if the accounting software was being regularly backed up. The National Business Manager said that she knew that the new system is but she could not say if the *Great Plains* had been backed up and no one has ever been able to give her an answer to that question. I then asked if the backups were tested, but the Chair then told me that I was asking an irrelevant question. When I began to point out its relevancy by citing something that had happened some years ago the Chair said that I didn't have to be part of the meeting and he removed me from the meeting.

Consequently I can't say what happened for the rest of this NFC meeting. I tried to get onto the stream but I only got a notice that the server at "kpftx.orghttps" can't be found or it timed out, depending on which stream link I tried. I am informed that at some point the meeting was taken to executive session.

So there are still questions about the details of the finances of WBAI and Pacifica. Maybe an in-crowd will get real financial information in a timely way next year. Maybe they'll share that information, maybe they won't. Right now the rest of us will just have to guess.

In my opinion I was treated unfairly at last night's NFC meeting. Perhaps some people are already feeling the exuberance of being a part of the in-crowd and are acting on it. Will that sort of behavior be what we see routinely in Pacifica in the future?

The on-air fund raiser that started on July 20, was presented in the Executive Director's October 1, report as having by that date raised \$212,000 of the \$200,000 goal. In the "Consolidated Monthly Income Statement For the Twelve Months Ending Tuesday, September 30, 2025" WBAI's Total Operating Expenses for that Fiscal Year came to \$974,193 which means the station's monthly expenses should be about \$81,000. So that \$212,000 should take care of about 2.6 months of station expenses. That's about how long it took to raise the \$212,000. At the local Finance Committee meeting the question of how much revenue comes from each source, Major Donors, Unions and listener donations, was raised. It would be good if we could know those details. If we are operating so close to the bone, and we're not pitching every single month, we need to get more information so we can get a handle on what any shortfall will probably be before it happens. And then we need to figure out how to raise the needed revenue. I also wonder what the draft FY27 budget will look like? When will we see it? Lots of questions, and we need answers.

I remain pessimistic about the future of WBAI and Pacifica.

I am attaching the "ED Report for PNB 10 01 26 Meeting SHAREABLE PDF.pdf" that the NFC was sent earlier this month.

The next NFC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 10, 2026, at 8:30 PM (ET). The next WBAI local Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 7:00 PM (ET). These meetings will be held by teleconference.

R. Paul Martin
WBAI LSB Treasurer

APPENDIX

EX PARTE APPLICATION DENIED IN CARTER, DAVILA, HARRIS, MILOS, TINGLING-CLEMMONS, SAIBARA-NARITOMI, STEINBERG, AND ZELTZER v. PACIFICA FOUNDATION, INC.

On Thursday, October 1, 2026, the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles reviewed declarations and heard oral arguments regarding an ex parte application filed in *Donna Carter, Cheryl Davila, Kamau Harris, Elizabeth Milos, Michele Tingling-Clemmons, Nancy Saibara-Naritomi, Alex Steinberg, and Steve Zeltzer v. Pacifica Foundation, Inc.*, Case No. 26STCP03093.

The applicants sought a temporary restraining order that would have halted the Pacifica Foundation's national election and prohibited the release of election results.

Following oral arguments, the Court **denied the ex parte application** and did not grant the requested temporary restraining order. There is therefore **no court order preventing the Pacifica Foundation from releasing the election results or proceeding with the final steps of the national election process.**

COURT OF APPEAL AFFIRMS DECISION IN FAVOR OF PACIFICA FOUNDATION IN PACIFICA FOUNDATION, INC. v. STEINBERG

The California Court of Appeal has **affirmed the trial court's denial of Alex Steinberg's motion to intervene** in the litigation involving Pacifica Foundation and an association formed by Foundation members concerning the results of a referendum election and proposed amendments to the Foundation's bylaws and governance structure.

Oral arguments were heard on **Tuesday, September 1, 2026**, before the **California Second District Court of Appeal (2DCA)** in *Pacifica Foundation v. Alex Steinberg*, Case No. B348882 - Trial Court Case No. 21BBCV00642.

The underlying litigation involved a dispute over whether the referendum required approval by two independent categories of members. Following summary adjudication in Pacifica Foundation's favor on its claim for declaratory relief, the Foundation and the association entered into a settlement agreement under which Pacifica agreed to recognize that the referendum had passed and to amend its bylaws accordingly. The parties subsequently obtained a stipulated judgment and the **case was dismissed.**

Mr. Steinberg later sought to intervene, arguing that the settlement was inconsistent with Pacifica's existing bylaws and the Court's earlier ruling. The **trial court denied the motion** because the case had already been dismissed and there was no longer a pending action in which intervention could occur.

The Court of Appeal **affirmed the trial court's decision**, concluding that intervention was not available after the action had been dismissed. The Court also awarded costs on appeal to Pacifica Foundation.

PACIFICA NATIONAL ELECTIONS

The 2026 Pacifica Foundation national elections have **concluded**, with ElectionBuddy now completing its final certification process. ElectionBuddy is conducting its final review and verification using its established checks-and-balances procedures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the election results.

The certified election results are expected to be **announced next week** following completion of ElectionBuddy's final review.

The following are the final ballot participation and quorum figures:

Station / PNB	Listener Ballots	Eligible Voters	Quorum	Staff/Volunteer Ballots	Eligible Voters	Quorum
PNB	2,838	17,879	15.87%	191	467	40.90%
KPFA	1,195	7,816	15.29%	34	96	35.42%
KPFB	482	2,939	16.40%	50	86	58.14%
KPFT	344	2,162	15.91%	37	121	30.58%
WBAI	257	1,408	18.25%	38	59	64.41%
WPFW	560	3,554	15.76%	32	105	30.48%

The election process represents a significant organizational undertaking involving eligible listeners, staff, and volunteers across all five Pacifica stations, as well as elections for the Pacifica National Board. The Foundation will provide the certified results to the appropriate governance bodies and membership once ElectionBuddy has completed its final certification.

AUDIT, TAX & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

The Foundation's audit process remains underway. The Executive Director and National Business Manager continue to work with the auditors to address remaining items and move the **FY2022/FY2023 and FY2024/FY2025 audits** toward completion. While the audits have not yet been completed, significant progress has been made in gathering and providing the financial information and documentation required by the auditors.

The Foundation's **FY2025 Form 990 was completed and filed prior to the August 15, 2026 deadline** and is available on the Pacifica Foundation website. The website also includes the **IRS affirmation letter confirming Pacifica Foundation's active 501(c)(3) nonprofit status**.

The California Attorney General's Office has agreed to update its online registry to reflect Pacifica Foundation's status as **Active**. The Foundation has provided the completed Form 990 filings requested by the Attorney General's Office, and we are awaiting the corresponding update to the state's online registry and written confirmation of the Foundation's active status.

The Foundation has **completed the information and documentation necessary to achieve Platinum-level recognition through Candid (formerly GuideStar)**, the highest level of Candid's

nonprofit transparency recognition. The updated information provides donors, grantmakers, partners, and the public with a more comprehensive and current picture of Pacifica Foundation's finances, governance, programs, operations, and impact.

Together, these efforts are part of the Foundation's ongoing work to strengthen financial accountability, regulatory compliance, organizational transparency, and public confidence in Pacifica Foundation.

EFY26 Fund Drive Report

Parts of this report were prepared for the National Finance Committee and presented at the September 8, 2026 NFC meeting. It was also included in a revised September Executive Director's Report submitted to the PNB and is included here for reference.

Executive Summary

During FY26, Pacifica's five stations conducted a combined series of on-air fund drives designed to generate both immediate cash revenue and sustaining donor commitments. Performance varied by station, with several stations meeting or exceeding their goals on individual drives, while others experienced shortfalls against established targets.

A key trend emerging from the FY26 (YTD) results is the importance of setting realistic fund drive goals. In particular, WPFW's results demonstrate that lower, achievable goals can produce stronger performance, while higher goals can result in significant shortfalls despite substantial fundraising activity.

The following report provides a station-by-station summary of FY26 (YTD) fund drive activity, including drive dates, goals, pledges/actual receipts, and notable fundraising developments.



KPFA - FY26 Fund Drive Performance

KPFA conducted **four fund drives during FY26**, including its one-day Birthday Drive, for a total of **46 days of on-air fundraising**.

Fund Drive	Dates	Days	Goal	Pledged	% of Goal	Paid	% of Pledged
Winter Drive	Feb 17 - Mar 6	18	\$450,000	\$408,676	90%	\$364,048	89%
Birthday Drive	Apr 15	1	\$30,000	\$24,031	80%	\$23,384	97%
Spring Drive	May 5-22	18	\$450,000	\$350,830	77%	\$298,242	85%
Summer Drive	July 21-29	9	\$150,000	\$144,707	96%	\$122,798	84%
Total		46	\$1,080,000	\$928,244	86%	\$808,472	87%

Summary

KPFA established a combined FY26 fund drive goal of **\$1.08 million** and generated **\$928,244 in pledges**, representing approximately **86% of goal**. Of those pledges, **\$808,472 had been paid**, representing approximately **87% of pledged revenue**.

The Summer Drive showed the strongest performance against goal, reaching **96% of its \$150,000 target**. The Spring Drive produced the largest shortfall, reaching 77% of its \$450,000 goal.

Post-Drive Fundraising

KPFA also conducted post-drive campaigns designed to close the remaining gap without interrupting regular programming. These campaigns used short, approximately 30-second appeals directing listeners to the station's online donation page rather than utilizing a traditional fund drive format.

Post-drive results:

Campaign	Dates	Pledged	Paid
Post-Winter Drive	Mar 7-15	\$18,433	\$15,573
Post-Spring Drive	May 23-31	\$19,539	\$16,535
Post-Summer Drive	July 30-Aug 9	\$13,173	\$10,751
Total	29 days	\$51,145	\$42,859

These post-drive campaigns generated an additional **\$51,145 in pledges** and **\$42,859 in paid revenue** that is not included in the primary fund drive totals above.



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KPFA - FY26 Fund Drive Performance

KPFA conducted **three fund drives during FY26**, totaling **68 days of on-air fundraising**.

Fund Drive	Dates	Days	Goal	Pledged	% of Goal	Paid	% of Pledged
Winter Drive	Feb 10-Mar 6	25	\$200,000	\$170,303	85%	\$156,451	92%
Spring Drive	May 5-29	25	\$200,000	\$162,839	81%	\$155,071	95%
Summer Drive	July 21-Aug 7	18	\$180,000	\$131,663	73%	\$118,293	90%
Total		68	\$580,000	\$464,805	80%	\$429,815	92%

Summary

KPFA's FY26 fund drives generated **\$464,805 in pledges** against a combined goal of **\$580,000**, achieving approximately **80% of goal**.

As of September 8, 2026, the station had received **\$429,815 in payments**, representing approximately **92% of pledged revenue**.

The Winter Drive produced the strongest performance against goal at **85%**, while the Summer Drive reached **73% of its \$180,000 goal**.

The high conversion from pledges to payments—92% overall—is a positive indicator of the station's ability to convert donor commitments into actual cash receipts.



KPFT - FY26 Fund Drive Performance

KPFT conducted fund drives during **October, February, and May**, totaling approximately **60 days of on-air fundraising**.

Metric		FY26 Result
Total Fund Drive Days	60	
Total Raised		\$450,000
Sustaining Pledges		\$300,000

Summary

KPFT generated approximately **\$450,000** during its **three FY26 fund drives**, including approximately **\$300,000 in sustaining pledges**.

The station's next fund drive is scheduled for **October 15 - November 4, 2026** with a **\$195,000 goal**.

The strong sustaining pledge component provides an important recurring revenue base for the station and should continue to be monitored as part of the station's overall revenue strategy.



WBAI – FY26 Fund Drive Performance

WBAI conducted three significant fundraising campaigns spanning the end of calendar year 2025 and FY26.

Fund Drive	Dates	Goal	Raised
2025 Year-End Drive	Dec 1, 2025 - Jan 7, 2026	\$200,000	\$212,000
2026 Spring Drive	Apr 1 - May 1, 2026	\$120,000	\$134,730
2026 Summer Drive	July 20 - present	\$200,000	\$200,000+*

**Final amount raised will be provided to ED next week once reconciled.*

Fund Drive Results

WBAI exceeded its fundraising goal during both the **2025 Year-End Drive** and the **2026 Spring Drive**. The **Year-End Drive** generated **\$212,000** against a **\$200,000 goal**, exceeding the target by \$12,000. The **Spring Drive** generated **\$134,730** against a **\$120,000 goal**, exceeding the target by \$14,730.

WBAI has now **met its \$200,000 goal for the Summer Drive**. The final fundraising total will be reported once all pledges and contributions from the campaign have been fully reconciled.

A particularly significant contribution during the Summer Drive was a **\$40,000 donation from a new major donor**, providing an important addition to WBAI's donor base and representing a substantial individual contribution to the campaign.

Labor and Institutional Support

WBAI also continues to strengthen its relationships with organized labor. The station is grateful to the unions that have renewed their sustaining support, including the **Transport Workers Union of America (TWU)** and **32BJ SEIU**.

During the Summer Drive, WBAI also added the **Professional Staff Congress-CUNY (PSC-CUNY)**, which represents approximately 30,000 faculty and professional staff at the City University of New York. WBAI's labor support now includes a broad network of national, regional, and local unions representing millions of workers.

Among the organizations supporting WBAI are the **American Federation of Teachers (AFT)**, **New York City Central Labor Council**, **AFL-CIO**, **American Postal Workers Union (APWU)**, **United Auto Workers (UAW)**, **FDNY Vulcan Society**, **1199SEIU**, **United Federation of Teachers (UFT)**, **32BJ SEIU**, **Transport Workers Union of America**, **International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE)**, **Association of Flight Attendants-CWA**, **Communications Workers of America (CWA)**, **New York State Nurses Association**, **Doctors Council SEIU**, **Uniformed Firefighters Association**, **Uniformed Fire Officers Association**, and numerous other local and regional labor organizations.

This growing labor support reflects WBAI's longstanding relationship with working people, labor organizations, and communities throughout New York and the broader metropolitan area. It also provides the station with an important base of sustaining support as WBAI continues to build its membership and strengthen its financial position.

WBAI Buddies

The committee may also wish to review the **WBAI Buddies** initiative and its fundraising impact. Additional information regarding this program can be found in previous Executive Director reports.

Overall Fundraising Performance

Across these three major campaigns, WBAI has demonstrated continued fundraising capacity, meeting or exceeding its stated goals in each completed campaign and exceeding its **\$200,000 Summer Drive goal**. The addition of a new \$40,000 major donor and the continued expansion of WBAI's relationships with organized labor are encouraging developments as the station works to broaden and diversify its base of financial support.



WPFW - FY26 Fund Drive Performance

WPFW conducted **five fund drives**, totaling **71 days of on-air fundraising** and establishing combined goals of **\$945,000**. The station raised **\$869,541**, achieving **92% of its overall goal**.

Fund Drive	Dates	Days	Goal	Raised	% of Goal
October 2025	Oct 12 - Nov 1	21	\$250,000	\$213,332	85%
December 2025	Dec 14 - 20	7	\$95,000	\$106,409	112%
February 2026	Feb 14 - 27	14	\$175,000	\$187,842	107%

Fund Drive	Dates	Days	Goal	Raised	% of Goal
May 2026	May 3 - 17	15	\$250,000	\$161,205	64%
August 2026	Aug 2 - 15	14	\$175,000	\$200,753	115%
Total		71	\$945,000	\$869,541	92%

Fundraising Pattern and Goal Setting

WPFW's FY26 results provide an important data point for future fund drive planning.

Both of the station's **\$250,000 goals fell short**, while every drive with a goal of **\$175,000 or less exceeded its target**.

This pattern has informed the station's upcoming goal-setting strategy. Rather than establishing aggressive targets that are unlikely to be reached, WPFW has adjusted its goals to levels more closely aligned with demonstrated donor performance.

The remaining 2026 drives are:

- **October 11–24, 2026:** 14 days — **\$150,000 goal**
- **December 13–19, 2026:** 7 days — **\$105,000 goal**

Both of these drives fall within **FY27**.

Challenge Grants and Online Giving

The May and August results include **challenge grant funds and online giving in addition to on-air pledges**. This methodology is consistent with the August fundraising figure previously reported to the Pacifica National Board.

Executive Director's Overall Observations

Several trends are worth noting across the stations:

1. **Goal setting matters.** WPFW's results demonstrate that realistic, achievable goals can materially improve the percentage of goal achieved and should be considered when setting future station targets.
2. **Sustaining donations provide important recurring revenue.** KPFT, for example, reports approximately **\$300,000 in sustaining pledges**, providing a more predictable revenue stream between fund drives.
3. **Pledge-to-payment conversion is generally strong.** Where reported, KPFA and KPFA are converting a substantial majority of pledges into payments. Continued monitoring will support more accurate cash-flow forecasting.
4. **Post-drive fundraising can add meaningful revenue.** KPFA generated an additional **\$51,145 in pledges and \$42,859 in paid revenue** through post-drive campaigns without interrupting regular programming.
5. **Major gifts can significantly impact results.** WBAI's **\$40,000 individual contribution** during its Summer Drive demonstrates the value of cultivating major donors alongside traditional listener-supported fundraising.
6. **Fundraising performance should be viewed holistically.** In evaluating station performance and setting financial targets, we should consider not only fund drive results, but also sustaining revenue, post-drive giving, challenge grants, online donations, and major gifts.