

MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION
Regular Meeting/Teleconference of the Board of Directors

Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
Mississippi Public Broadcasting Board Room

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TEAMS Videoconference

MINUTES

Call to Order Chairman Mackey

The regularly scheduled meeting of the MPB Board was called to order at 10:00AM.

Roll call/Establish quorum Marvin Jeter

Members Present: Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chair/MCCB; Dawn Barham, Member;
Member; Whitney Lipscomb, Member

Members via TEAMS: Dr. Ormella Cummings, IHL Rep; Ric Sawyer

Members Absent: Dr. Judy Nelson, MDE Rep; Rep; Russ Latino, Vice Chair

MPB Staff Present: Royal Aills, MPB ED; Anna Neel, MPB COO; Alicia Harris,
MPB CFO; Dr. Marvin Jeter, COS; Bobby Wicker, HR Director; Keidra
Hooks, Early Childhood Specialist; Jaz Kolkovich, Digitization Specialist;
Andrew Bicknell, Chief Technical Services Officer

Also Present: Sarah Mann, Board Counsel, Office of the Attorney General;
Angela Ferraez, MPB Foundation Executive Director

Introduction of Visitors & New Members Chairman Mackey

Chairman Mackey recognized visiting MPB staff members, Keidra Hooks, Jaz Kolkovich, and Andrew Bicknell, as well as visiting auditor, Shawna Post (via TEAMS)

Approval of Agenda Chairman Mackey

With a motion by O. Cummings/second by R. Sawyer, the agenda was adopted unanimously without changes.

Approval of Minutes Tab 1 Chairman Mackey

1A January 10, 2024 Regularly Scheduled Meeting

1B January 10, 2024 Board Retreat

1C February 6, 2024 Special Board Meeting

Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Meeting Minutes

With a motion by D. Barham/second by O. Cummings, all Meeting Minutes being considered were approved unanimously without changes.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Mackey

Chairman Mackey shared highlights from his visit with E.D. Aills to Washington, D.C. to attend the APTS Public Media Summit and their interaction with congressional staff members.

Chairman Mackey also shared that a request had been made to move the previously approved MPB Regularly Scheduled Meeting and MPB/MPB Foundation Joint Board Meeting to the September meeting rather than holding it until the November meeting.

With a motion by W. Lipscomb/second by D. Barham, the Joint Meeting was moved to the previously approved September date by unanimous consent.

Old Business

Chairman Mackey

Education Subcommittee

Consideration & Vote to Establish/Appoint Education Subcommittee

With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by D. Barham, the board entertained discussion of forming an education subcommittee. After resolving to proceed, Ric Sawyer and Dawn Barham offered to become Education Subcommittee members with R. Sawyer as Chair, and the appointment was approved unanimously.

New Business

FY23 MPB Auditor's Report

Tab 2

Shawna Post and Keith Evans
Rea, Shaw, Giffin & Stuart, LLB

Auditor Shawna Post was recognized to share a summary of the FY23 Auditor's Report and to entertain any questions.

Consideration & Vote to Accept Auditor's Report

With a motion by W. Lipscomb/second by D. Barham, the FY23 Auditor's Report was accepted unanimously into record.

- Executive Director Report

Tab 3

Royal Aills

The ED presented his report that included updates regarding:

- *FY25 Budget Request Summary Update*
- *Reorganization of All Departments*
- *APTS-Public Media Summit 2024*
- *Community Project Funds Requests*
- *Education Kids' Club Newsletter Update – Keidra Hooks*
- *Digitization Project Update – Jaz Kolkovich*
- *Engineering-Towers Update – Anrew Bicknell*

The report of the Executive Director was received and placed on file.

Division Reports

- Finance Tab 4 Alicia Harris

4A Monthly Financial Report February

CFO Alicia Harris presented the Monthly Financial Report.

4B Approval of Expenses over \$50,000

Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Anticipated Expenses

With a motion by W. Lipscomb/seconded by D. Barham, the Projected Expenses over \$50,000 were approved by unanimous consent.

- Human Resources Tab 5 Bobby Wicker

HR Director Bobby Wicker presented an update on Human Resources.

- Foundation Report Angela Ferraez

MPB Foundation Board Executive Director Angela Ferraez reported:

- *Underwriting Progress*
- *Pledge Drives*
- *Home Show*
- *CPB-Denver*
- *Juke Joint Festival April 11-13*
- *MPB Family Fun Day-Columbus April 20*
- *Antique Showcase-Natchez May 3-4*
- *Digital & AI Programming being considered*
- *MPB Foundation Finances*

Consideration of Executive Session

Chairman Mackey

With a motion by W. Lipscomb/seconded by D. Barham the board unanimously agreed to enter into closed session at 11:55AM. to determine whether executive session was necessary. In closed session, the board determined to enter executive session for discussion of pending litigation in four EEOC matters.

With a motion by R. Sawyer/seconded by W. Lipscomb the board unanimously agreed to enter into executive session.

The board took no action in executive session.

With a motion by W. Lipscomb/seconded by D. Barham the board unanimously agreed to exit into open session.

Adjournment

Chairman Mackey

With a motion by W. Lipscomb/seconded by D. Barham, a recommendation to adjourn passed unanimously at 11:57AM.

SIGNED, this the 14th day of May, 2024.

Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chairman
Board of Directors

Royal Aills
Executive Director

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