KBBI Board of Directors
8/28/2023, 5:30pm
KBBI Boardroom and Zoom
AGENDA

We provide news, information, and entertainment to foster community engagement.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Introduction of Visitors
4. Minutes of 7/26/2023 Meeting
5. General Manager's Report and Objectives Review
6. Community Advisory Board Report
7. Committee Reports (or reports of activity in these areas)
    a. Governance Committee
    b. Internal Affairs Committee
    c. Public Outreach Committee
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Action Items
    a. Committee Schedule
11. Comments from visitors, staff, CAB members, board members

Next Meeting: 09/20/23, 5:30pm, KBBI Boardroom, and Zoom

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes *(following revised Agenda as proposed & adopted at start of this meeting)*

August 28, 2023 5:30 p.m.

3913 Kachemak Way, Homer, AK 99603 (Videoconference via Zoom due to covid-19)

BOD Present: Kyle Schneider, Jacques Lonpre, Robert Purcell, Wayne Aderhold (on zoom/phone in): Jack Cushing Absent: John Anderson, Mel Strydom

Staff: Josh Krohn

CAB: Kathy Carssow

Visitors: Wes Shacht, Rita Turner, Rachel Brennan *(arrived during #4)*

Quorum?: Yes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: @5:31p
2. Approval of Agenda: (revised version) moved, Kyle S; 2nd, Jacques L; passed w no objection
3. Introduction of Public Attendees: Wes Shacht, Rita Turner, Rachel Brennan
4. Public Comment (5 Minute Limit):
    a. Rita Turner: good to hear story on AK News Nightly tonight; if anyone received a Facebook "request" from her, it's not from her; has been in contact w Josh K & has a new appreciation since last mtg, especially for the load he carries; noted "happy B-day" letter to editor she submitted to Homer News; acknowledged getting a letter from one KBBI BOD member saying she was making the situation worse, which she did not agree with & pointed out getting query from an APRN member saying "what is going on down there?"; agreed that she did not have complete details on the situation she had addressed; considers it possible the termination was totally appropriate; acknowledged claim that GM health was impacted by employee behavior as well as others health; hopes BOD will consider a more "polite" policy in the future; noted Bro Asaiah & "WKFL" principles; noted serious financial peril from possible wrongful termination with respect to following personnel policies; brought up Jeff Lockwood's "termination" & his personal issues from time in Homer including possible PTSD; impacted by being drawn back into issues & her own medical issues – has elected not to join any Boards now; offered to help the station in any way she can (press releases etc, fundraisers including next year "45th" for KBBI); always available to help. (Robert P) noted in response that he & Josh had had a conversation with Hope at her request; and that there was only 1 termination, not 2 (which Rita acknowledged)

b. Rachel Brennan: Just wondering about the verbiage in the handbook & whether the possibility of having a conference for the purpose of closure could be firmed up (check to see if this isn't already in the policies) (Robert P) noted that this is proper and that responsibility for initiating such actions lies with the employee per existing policy; thought the "90 minute" issue created a barrier for Hope as she felt it would for her;

5. Presentations: (Robert P) explained why this was added & how it might work: example a "workshop"... and that this needs to be scheduled in advance with President and that a time limit would be established for such a "presentation". And noted that this change along with putting a place for "public comment" at the front part are intended to respect the public's time in the likelihood they don't want to stay for the entire meeting.
6. Approval of the Minutes (July 26, 2023 BOD mtg): moved, Wayne A; 2nd, Robert P; (Wayne went through a few minor issues to complete); Approved unanimously.
7. Reports
    a. General Manager's Report and Objectives Review :
        i. A) (biggest item) Transmitter having power issues & no obvious causes (? failing PA unit)- CoastAK engr to schedule a site visit, also unbalanced audio issue; (Wayne) brought up wet condition of site & possible damage by apparent 4-wheeler traffic around the fence; Josh brought up 'dog park' aspect of driveway & site; b) Reporter Jamie Diep started August 2nd & very happy with their work to date; they will start covering Assembly & City Council mtgs, plus weekends (starting November); c) Interviewed a Reporter candidate & waiting to schedule 2nd interview until after Shawn McDermott is interviewed for Host/Reporter position for winter. d) Preparing for FCC inspection in April which will be a Commissioner this time; Josh will voluntarily resume daily logging of transmitter readings; plans to install analog phones in both studios for transmitter logging – Staff & Vols will need training; e) Looking for challenge grants for Fall Fund Drive (October 6-7); Loren will be reaching out to BOD for on-air pitching or to record plugs; Coffee Table on October 4th will be "State-of-Station" program; f) Brew-2-Brew, planning for October 29th (very soon), but many details to be worked out; g) working with Kathleen G. to get a new "gardening" program going (per prod from Nicole A.); hoping to start production in January; h) working with BOD and CAB on membership list to identify potential recruits for both Boards; anyone not through this yet, contact Josh as the list can't be passed out due to personal info contained; target finish next 2 weeks i) in studios, both CD players causing problems (after 2nd replacement); manual operation only; motivation for copying CDs to Zetta & the end is in sight for CD players; j) New Writing class at KBC has been cancelled for lack of students; trying with Jill for Spring semester, possibly without the UA designation; still

hoping for interns through this route; k) have a September 15th Storytelling event with AK World Arts Festival as a fundraiser; pushing ticket sales (60 of 400 sold so far); in unlikely event of sellout, will consider live broadcast; therefore no Bunnell Arts by Air concert in September; l) working with Ben May/AK Solar on a way forward with transmitter solar project; hired Lara Rogers for grant writing for the project to find the remaining $35k; eligibility for tax credit is hard to determine (50 pgs of stuff); they sent an invoice for half of the total cost of the project (not 50% of 70%); it appears we may need to pay for entire project first; (Jacques) strongly objects to 'spending money we don't have' regardless of other considerations; need to be 'in the black' before proceeding;

ii. Strategic Plan: (2-1) Enhance KBBI signal coverage & quality; working with CoastAK engineers on grant application (~$1M) for "Next Generation Warning System" to upgrade Studio-Transmitter link to include a data path, to network the transmitter site to the studio; also on plan to add translators (FM) to cover unserved areas (KBBI & KDLL) of KPB; this would include: Tern Lk (cover Cooper Landing, S end of Turnagain Pass & Moose Pass; also considering Anchor Pt, Ninilchik and Clam Gulch; also looking at Tyonek, Nanwalek & Port Graham; have reached out to KIBH (Seward) for interest in collaborating; Brenda Alberg/KPB OEM is very interested in seeing this happen, including "interoperability" of the system from all endpoints in case of an emergency; Jenny N is applying for Tern Lk & that would come out of KDLL budget; Josh needs to discuss with Jenny N on interest in covering the other areas; KPB has some FEMA money that might be used for some of this; trying to eliminate "ground-based" signal transmission; meeting NextGen WS people tomorrow at 11:30a, then CoastAK engineers after that at 1:30p to discuss findings; (Rachel B & Kyle S) asked about Anchor Pt needs; Josh indicated a translator (50w) would work; also Ninilchik needs (tower); (5-1) working with Brenda Ahlberg (KPB-OEM) to complete the contract; it's in KPB Legal's hands; KPB has FEMA infrastructure grant funds that may possibly be used for acquiring tower locations for covering underserved areas of KPB.

b. Community Advisory Board Report: (Kathy C): have not met but meeting tomorrow night, focused on expanding the CAB, especially outside Homer for diversity; she'll be proposing focus on member list; lost Jill Gunnerson;
c. Governance Committee: (Josh) met August 1st; work is reviewing member list for potential BOD members (over next 2 weeks);
d. Internal Affairs Committee: did not meet; no report

e. Public Outreach Committee: (Josh) discussion centered on plan for Brew2Brew; looking at a Winter Concert (Jan 27th?); looking for acts, vendors & sponsors; at SPARC?
f. Other Reports (Worksession, Work Group, Etc.): none

8. Old Business: none
9. New Business: (Robert P) wants to adopt the new agenda format; he chose "5 min" limit based on City; discussion (based on Rachel B) whether it's appropriate to allow public questions during the meeting? (Robert P) suggests it's up to a BOD member to call on public for discussion; (Wayne A) believes it should be at meeting chair's discretion; moved to adopt, Jacques; 2nd & unanimous requested, Kyle S.; adopted without objection.
10. Action Items Identified: BOD potential candidate list development
11. Schedules: Governance & IA Comms- 2nd Tuesday (= 9/12 @ 4p for next); Public Outreach- should consult w Chair for date (5p); next BOD meeting: 9/20 @ 5:30p; CAB: tomorrow at 5:15p;
12. Closing Comments
    a. Public Attendees: (Rita T) thanks for inviting public involvement; (Rachel B) missed beginning so wondered about what was said about Hope M. Robert repeated that he contacted Hope & advised her of possibilities for discussion; she opted for conversation with Josh K, with Robert P present; and a teleconference was held; wondered how much ACS charges for tower space rental.
    b. Manager and Staff: (Josh K) thanks for bearing with and being flexible during his recent "crazy" schedule; thanks for Staff for diligent coverage of duties – all have been doing admirably;
    c. CAB Members: (Kathy C) no comments
    d. Board Members: (Jack C) will make appt with Josh to go through membership list, doesn't think he's contagious anymore (Wayne A) will miss the September meeting due to Ireland trip; regarding Hope and being irked mainly about any analogy to the "early days" at KBBI and now are completely out of line: BOD and GM have a fully functional relationship; also irked at some of the statewide APRN comments as they appear to be an echo chamber & certainly can have no idea of the facts surrounding the situation; (Jacques L) his work schedule this summer has been crazy but should get better; appreciates the lessons learned from the recent issues as things can get out of hand; (Kyle S) echoing what others have said; touted Pier 1 program "Staging Reality" & encouraged attendance by all; also for folks in Seward & others that long time history teacher, Lee Poleski passed away – he founded historical society, ran the museum & used to do a summer solstice "cemetary walk"; (Robert P) said he was glad Jacques chose not to resign; Jacques noted he had strong feelings about

finances; (Robert P) appreciated all who participated & noted we ran a bit past his target of 1 hour;

13. Adjourned @ 6:37 p

/w.a./