KSUT Board Meeting

June 18, 2025

Attending: Kirsten, Susan, and Robert. Via Zoom: Mike and Robb B.

Absent: Wade (excused), Mikki, Eddie

Called to order at 5:43 pm.

Kirsten asked that we amend the agenda to move the budget discussion to the top of the agenda. Susan made a motion to revise the agenda. Robert seconded. Unanimously approved.

Minutes for April 19 meeting: Robert motioned to approve the minutes. Mike seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Approval of the May emergency board meeting minutes: Susan made a motion to approve, Mike seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Mid-Year Budget Revision – Tami discussed highlights: yellow highlight indicates a change. The bottom-line increase of revenue reflects the addition of ERT funds and Tribal Media Center (TMC) grants. Expenses increased to $1,621,517 and overall net revenue is $296,397. This does not include the $181,000 donation and the donation from Colorado Heath Foundation.

Robb - The below-the-line numbers show those funds, which they keep separate from the operating budget (although it will be considered income). The current end-of-year projection is negative $98,098. By the end of the year, we need to raise the funds to cover the shortfall to ensure there are no cashflow issues. Tami added that today, the station received an anonymous gift of $10,000 and another $15,000 has come in that is not reflected in the mid-year reporting (monies came in after reporting period of Oct-Mar).

Tami noted that some YTD figures are in the red (Beverage sales as an example) because no events were held in the first 6 months. She expects the Party in the Park to sell out. Ticket prices were increased to $35.

There was no change to the pledges and membership income amount even though it has been strong. Those numbers were left as originally budgeted to be conservative.

Digital ad revenue was bumped due to the introduction of the phone app (almost 500 users). Jessica jumped on selling ads on app and has shown good success there. The Business Support estimate was lowered. While underwriting is going well, again, the plan is to be conservative with respect to projected revenue. Sponsorship revenue is about doubled – some of this is due to TMC monies that have come in that are considered sponsorship vs. grant dollars. Additionally, at the beginning of the fiscal year, they had not locked in the partnership with the

city of Durango for the July 4 event. Additional revenue/expense was added that will come from the production of the Tico Time program.

Expenses – payroll increased as they kept Jill on a month longer. Commission was increased slightly. Meals and Entertainment is up, however grants covered some of that expense. The Outside Services increase is tied to grants as well. Postage and printing were increased because they moved the fall fund drive back to September. The Advertising and Promotions line item was cut in half.

There are a few items where the amounts were not estimated accurately. Tami and Robb are looking at new accounting software to help them dial-in the budget better.

Kirsten asked if the cost for the software that allows storage of programming for 2 weeks had increased. Robb said it had. While they have no way to quantify the value, feedback from listeners is positive on this feature. They expect to gain better analytics with the app.

Interest income increase – when the ERT money is received, there will be interest on the delayed refund. Additionally, they were able to lower the loan interest expense due to paying down the balance (on the Alpine loan).

Tami said she does not see a path for resurrecting the festival that was cancelled for this year. In the future they will combine festivals and special events in the budget as it was in the past.

Robert asked if it was possible to project income for the fall fund drive? The expenses were accounted for, but not the projected income. Tami will amend that in the third-quarter budget reporting. Moving the fund drive into FY25 will affect FY26, since there will only be two fundraisers.

Kirsten commented that once the Tribe is paid off, that will improve cash flow.

By the July meeting we should know whether the CPB funding is lost.

Regarding the $98,000 shortfall, Tami said we'll have a better idea after the 3rd quarter as to how the year will end. We are moving in a good direction, people are engaged. If we lose the CPB support, we will need to raise additional funds to offset the loss of CPB funding.

Mike made a motion to approve the mid-year budget; Robert seconded. Unanimous approval.

ED report – Regarding NPR suit: council filed a motion for summary judgement (asking the judge to make a statement on the overall merits of the case). By mid-to-late July we'll know the result of the motion for summary judgement. Mike has been involved in the updates on this complaint. Tami made a presentation to League of Women voters who gave a standing ovation in support of the involvement as a co-plaintiff in the suit against the Trump administration.

An Amicus Brief being filed by a nat'l press freedom organization includes expressed interest from more than 90 public and commercial radio organizations. 8 or 10 states are also signing on. Tami said there is a lot of support around this complaint.

No updates on the ERT funds. Think LLP keeps trying to get info from IRS without success (due to layoffs, maybe??).

Rescission package –it passed in the House and is now going before the Senate Appropriations Committee (June 25). The Committee chair is Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowsky is on that committee as well. It is positive that it's going to committee. Vote expected after July 4th holiday recess.

NGWS grant – still in limbo. Alpine is still ready to be our upfront lender should this clear up and we move forward.

Dev Report – Tami noted that Business support is broken out into additional subcategories.

Tami asked for Board help at the July 4th event and Party in the Park. She said it would also be good to have a board presence at the Native Lens Symposium – June 28 and 29.

Towaoc tower down. They believe it snapped off due to wind (tower was overloaded). AT&T still hasn't fixed it. They plan to ask AT&T to pay for damaged equipment and lost underwriting. Tribal radio signal in Towaoc down for two months so far, as a result.

Open Board seats. Kirsten mentioned that Gary S has resigned and now we seek a community *and* a Tribal member. Kirsten suggested reaching out to Tim Kroes. Susan suggested we may want to seek someone with financial background since Mike's role as treasurer terms out this fall. Tami to send verbiage to Robert to include in The Drum. They will announce on air, social media, maybe put it on the tribe's HR site listing.

Susan will find the document that shows Board Terms and send it to the board. **NEXT board meeting please add to the agenda** that we review everyone's terms, status, and any applicants and determine if we want to extend the application period.

By-Laws amendment – email sent out to board by Tami. Susan made a motion to approve amended by-laws; seconded by Robert. Unanimously approved.

Next meeting July 16.

Motion to adjourn made by Robert; Mike seconded. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned 7:06 pm.