

Minutes for the regular National Finance Committee meeting February 28, 2023.

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

Attending: Sharon Adams, Elizabeth von Gunten, Kamau Harris, Julie Hewitt, R. Paul Martin (Secretary), James McFadden, James Sagurton (Chair), Susan Young also attending were WBAI General Manager Berthold Reimers and WBAI Program Director Linda Perry.

Agenda:

1. Convene meeting
 2. Roll call
 3. Adopt agenda
 4. Minutes (5 minutes)
 5. Discuss timeline for LSBs to pass budgets and get them to the NFC for review (until guests arrive)
 6. Review of the WBAI FY23 Budget with General Manager Berthold Reimers (30 minutes)
 7. Review FY22 Consolidated Financials with questions, if any (5 minutes)
 8. To hear a report from the Executive Director (15 minutes)
 9. Adjourn to closed session
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Motion: (James Sagurton) “To adopt the agenda.” (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Amendment: (Sharon Adams) “To add item #5 to, ‘Discuss timeline for LSBs to pass budgets and get them to the NFC for review,’ until guests arrive.” (Passed without objection)

The committee discussed the amendment.

Amendment: (James Sagurton) “To add before adjournment, ‘To hear a report from the Executive Director,’ for 15 minutes.” (Passed without objection)

Minutes 8:51 PM (ET)

Motion: (R. Paul Martin) “To approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022, NFC meeting.” (Passed without objection)

Discuss timeline for LSBs to pass budgets and get them to the NFC for review 2052

The committee discussed timelines for the FY24 budgets. The Secretary said that he would again send the committee the past timelines that he had.

Review of the WBAI FY23 Budget with General Manager Berthold Reimers 9:24 PM (ET)

The WBAI General Manager said that we were considering the same WBAI draft FY23 budget that the committee had considered at a previous meeting. He had sent a revised version which he said had the potential cuts in it to the Chair and Secretary and to the Executive Director during this meeting. The Chair said that the committee would consider parts of that revised draft FY24 budget in executive session.

A member asked about the request that had been made for the actuals for FY22 to be included in the draft budget and be put next to the relevant budget line. The WBAI General Manager said that no progress had been made on that and that it was a lot of work. He said that he'd only gotten the actuals a week or so earlier and that he would need to go over it all with the National Business Manager on a daily basis to match the numbers and the categories and he'd need the Executive Director to also go over the specific items. He said that if he could work with the National Business Manager for an hour a day on this they could get it done in a week.

The committee continued discussing the WBAI draft FY23 budget proposal. The WBAI General Manager told the NFC that he had done a lot of digging into the budget and that he had some proposals that would save about \$150,000 in the FY23 budget, but we would need to go into executive session to discuss them. He said that his disposition would be to fight to not get those things done but he would have them as a measure to be implemented if the NFC demands it. The NFC Chair said that some cuts would have to be discussed with the Union at WBAI. The WBAI General Manager and the WBAI Program Director told the committee about various revenue-generating efforts that were ongoing or planned at WBAI. Underwriting was discussed.

Adjourn to closed session 10:11 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) "To adjourn to the executive session." (Passed without objection)

Adjourned 10:11 PM (ET)

Submitted by R. Paul Martin, Secretary.