

Pacifica National Board Minutes - Open Session

Teleconference Meeting

Thursday, September 19, 2024, 8:30 pm ET

DIRECTORS:

P=Present L=Late E=Excused

ID

Irene Adams, WPFW, Listener	(P)	IA	ZK	Zack Kaldveer, KPFA, Listener	(P)
Teresa J. Allen, KPFT, Listener	(P)	TA	MM	Marianne Martinez, KPFT, Listener	(P)
Kaja Brown, KRDP, Affiliate	(P)	KB	DP	Darlene Pagano, KPFA, Staff	(P)
Donna Carter, KPFA, Listener	(P)	DC	RP	Ron Pinchback, WPFW, Staff	(E)
Paul DeRienzo, WBAI, Listener	(P)	PDR	MR	Myla Reson, KPFA, Staff	(P)
Jim Dingeman, WBAI, Listener	(P)	JD	SR	Shawn Rhodes, WBAI, Staff	(P)
Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, WPFW, Listener	(L)	VDB	CR	Cerene Roberts, WBAI, Listener	(P)
Fred Dodsworth, KPFA, Listener	(P)	FD	MS	Minerva Sanders, WPFW, Listener	(P)
Jan Goodman, KPFA, Listener	(P)	JG	HW	Harvey Wasserman, KPFA, Listener	(P)
Heather Gray, WRFG, Affiliate	(L)	HG	EW	Egberto Willies, KPFT, Staff	
Evelia Jones, KPFA, Listener	(P)	EJ	Chair	Susan Young, KPFT, Listener	(P)

Others:

Stephanie Wells, Executive Director (P)

Arthur Schwartz, Pacifica Counsel (not in open session)

Julie Hewitt, Secretary (P)

Aki Tanaka, Recording Secretary

1. Preliminary Items:

A. Call to Order by Chair (Young) at 8:44 pm

B. Roll Call by Secretary (Hewitt): quorum achieved

C. Report-out from the executive session of September 5th meeting (Young)

The PNB met in closed session to hear confidential personnel and contractual matters.

D. Excused Absences {As noted in Roll call above; passed w/o objection}

E. Identify Timekeepers

Topics- Irene Adams

People- Fred Dodsworth

2. Agenda approval for the open portion of the agenda – 5 min.

Agenda read by Chair and approved without objection

3. Approve open session minutes – 3 sets starting with March 21

Chair-Motion to postpone minutes until next meeting: Approved without objection

4. ED report and Q & A:

Written report sent to board is very similar to last report with minor updates

Building sale moving along just “splendidly according to brokers”

990’s being completed and extension for filing approved

Climate controlled space acquired for PRA storage, indexing of inventory ongoing

No notable change in fund drive performance following FCC training

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5. Committee Reports (see APPENDIX):

- a. Audit Committee – 3 min. Meeting on 18th rescheduled to October 2 at 8pm
- b. Coordinating Committee – 1 min. Met jointly with Strategic Planning Committee
- c. Finance Committee (see APPENDIX) – 10 min.
 - Two meetings this month (17 & 24) to stay on schedule for budgets
 - Central Service formulas and directives for last decade being compiled
 - ED presented KPFFK 2025 budget (CS=15% total revenue)

Motion from Finance Committee

Consideration of the KPFFK draft budget for FY 2025.

Passed by the NFC, 9 to 0 roll call vote (9/17/2024) and recommended to the PNB.

ED presented the 2025 KPFFK budget narrative.

CR- Has the FCC lawyer been consulted on the market for sub carrier frequencies?

Chair- That is off topic, this is the finance committee report on the KPFFK budget, these questions should be posed during the ED report

{Roberts 43:20} **Confining Remarks to the Merits of the Pending Question.**

In debate, a member's remarks must be germane to the question before the assembly—that is, his statements must have bearing on whether the immediately pending motion should be adopted

Resolved that the PNB approves the KPFFK budget for FY25.

Approved without objection

- d. Governance Committee (see APPENDIX) – 20 min.
 - Governance Committee Chair- We reviewed many of the outstanding motions and will have recommendations for the PNB
 - Time (54:06)-

CR-Point of Order: “You as Chair have no business taking things that are on the agenda and assigning them to a committee that then meets in closed session to discuss the motions that were brought to the PNB in open session, that’s my first point of order.”

Chair- POO is not well taken because...

CR- I appeal the ruling of the chair

{Roberts 39.3} *Any main or other motion that is frivolous or absurd or that contains no rational proposition is dilatory and cannot be introduced. As further examples, it is dilatory to obstruct business by appealing from a ruling of the chair on a question about which there cannot possibly be two reasonable opinions.*

(member appealed ruling without allowing chair to explain the ruling)

Chair- Restate your POO for the minutes

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CR- Member brought motions to this board that were placed on the open agenda and that the chair has no business unilaterally setting up, sending it to a committee that then creates a secret body to discuss these motions, come up with alternatives to the motions, without any conversation with the PNB

Chair- That's not a point of order, that's a complaint {Roberts 26, 43:21, 61.11}

CR- Talks over chair

FD- I call the member out of order

PDR- POO you're making decisions based on political bias

Chair-I'm calling the members Out of Order {Roberts 42:18} {43:28} {61:11} {61:12}

(Roberts 39:4) It is the duty of the presiding officer to prevent members from misusing the legitimate forms of motions, or abusing the privilege of renewing certain motions, merely to obstruct business. Whenever the chair becomes convinced that one or more members are repeatedly using parliamentary forms for dilatory purposes, he should either not recognize these members or he should rule that such motions are not in order

PDR- you're opening up for like legal action

{Roberts 43:21} {43:28} {61:19}

TA- I request a vote on the appeal, and I will make a statement in support of the chair.

Chair- CR will make a statement then TA after which we will vote

CR- Restated previous argument with the additional comment "and in fact, someone on that committee threatened my life"

Chair- If that is the case please, please, please bring a complaint to the board

{Roberts 43:20} **Confining Remarks to the Merits of the Pending Question.**

In debate a member's remarks must be germane to the question before the assembly—that is, his statements must have bearing on whether the immediately pending motion should be adopted

CR- I believe you were probably at that meeting

Chair- I was not

CR-When your guy from Houston offered (inaudible- circular firing squad?)

Chair- If you have a complaint about someone threatening you please, bring it to the PNB

{Roberts 43:21} **Refraining from Attacking a Member's Motives.**

When a question is pending, a member can condemn the nature or likely consequences of the proposed measure in strong terms, but he must avoid personalities, and under no circumstances can he attack or question the motives of another member. The measure, not the member, is the subject of debate...

TA- The numerous resolutions considered governance issues and were sent to the governance which then referred it to a sub-committee to be perfected as a more efficient use of time rather than being perfected at a 22 member board meeting. Some resolutions did not appear ready for board action and likely needed further development. Others appeared to be

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ministerial in nature and possibly addressable without placing any additional burden on the PNB time and resources.

Chair- By bringing the matters up through the committee, they come before the PNB under committee reports which comes on the agenda earlier in the meeting and are more likely to be acted upon.

{Roberts 49:14} **Committees of a Board.**

Where an organization is local—for example, a society for sustaining a foster home for children—the executive board usually divides itself into committees having charge of different branches of the work during the interval between the monthly or quarterly meetings of the board. At the board meetings these committees report on the fulfillment of their assigned responsibilities. In such cases the committees are genuinely subordinate to the board and must ordinarily report back to it for authority to act (in contrast to an executive committee, which usually has power to act as the board, and in contrast to standing committees of the society, which are not subordinate to the board unless made so by a provision in the bylaws). Any board can appoint committees of the kind just described without authorization in the bylaws.

CR- demands answers to questions and continues arguing

Chair- Member is out of order

{Roberts 61:11} **Calling a member to order.** *If the offense is more serious than in the case above—as when a member repeatedly questions the motives of other members whom he mentions by name, or persists in speaking on completely irrelevant matters in debate—the chair normally should first warn the member; but with or without such a warning, the chair or any other member can “call the member to order.” If the chair does this, he says, “The member is out of order and will be seated.”*

Another member making the call rises and, without waiting to be recognized, says, “Mr. President, I call the member to order,” then resumes his seat. If the chair finds this point of order (23) well taken, he declares the offender out of order and directs him to be seated, just as above.

Challenge by Cerene Roberts to the Chair ruling that Cerene Robert’s use of a Point of Order was out of order. **Cerene Roberts use of privileged motion was Out of Order Y-13, N-6**

Governance committee report (continued)-

A 3 member Subcommittee, with members from WBAI, WPFW, and KPFT, was established after polling committee for volunteers, to review ways to address issues and improve board meeting efficiency. No action is being taken by this subcommittee but its recommendations and subject clarifications, if any, will be provided for the PNB.

By-laws subcommittee chaired by a WBAI director reviewed 2004, 2005, 2006 with preliminary informal findings that several changes were initiated but never effected on unspecified matters. Additionally a review of the By-laws with the intention to stream line them for CPB purposes was discussed, with the effort refocused on identifying exactly what the CPB is seeking to improve and how they communicated that. Volunteers to help with that effort are still being sought.

Uniform meeting management capabilities- An attempt to get a uniform record of attendance, and results from every Pacifica meeting will be forthcoming.

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8. Motion to move into closed session at 10:02 pm ET without objection

Vote Tallies

Y=Yes N=No A=Abstention P=Present

Challenge to Chair that **Cerene Roberts** use of privileged motion was **Out of Order**

Vote to support the chairs ruling: **Yes-16 No-6**

Y	Irene Adams, WPFW, Listener	Zack Kaldveer, KPFA, Listener	Y
Y	Teresa J. Allen, KPFT, Listener	Marianne Martinez, KPFT, Listener	Y
Y	Kaja Brown, KRDP, Affiliate	Darlene Pagano, KPFA, Staff	Y
N	Donna Carter, KPFA, Listener	Ron Pinchback, WPFW, Staff	
N	Paul DeRienzo, WBAI, Listener	Myla Reson, KPFK, Staff	Y
N	Jim Dingeman, WBAI, Listener	Shawn Rhodes, WBAI, Staff	N
N	Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, WPFW, Listener	Cerene Roberts, WBAI, Listener	N
Y	Fred Dodsworth, KPFA, Listener	Minerva Sanders, WPFW, Listener	Y
Y	Jan Goodman, KPFA, Listener	Harvey Wasserman, KPFA, Listener	Y
Y	Heather Gray, WRFK, Affiliate	Egberto Willies, KPFT, Staff	
Y	Evelia Jones, KPFA, Listener	Susan Young, KPFT, Listener Chair	

Items remaining on agenda at close of open meeting

- d. Governance Committee (partial)
- e. Personnel Committee – 5 min.
- f. Strategic Planning Committee – 5 min.

6. Old Business (see APPENDIX) – 15 min.

- a. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Programming Committee
- b. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Strategic Planning Committee
- c. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Technology Task Force
- d. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Executive Sessions (but see item #5)
- e. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Accurate Records (but see item #5)
- f. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Independent investigation of state of the Archives [TBD]
- g. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Audit Committee (but see item #5)
- h. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Directors' Access (but see item #5)
- i. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Meeting Rosters (but see item #5)
- j. Motion from Paul DiRienzo on Gaza

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- k. Motion from Cerene Roberts to “stand-up” the Elections Committee and convert it to a standing committee (but see item #5)
- l. Motion from Cerene Roberts regarding Subcarrier Income (but see item #5)
- m. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Creating a Media Oriented Project 2025 TF
- n. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Interim Station Management [TBD]

7. New Business – 5 min.

~~8. Motion to move into closed session at a time no later than 10:00 pm ET.~~

APPENDIX

===== **FOR OPEN SESSION** =====

***5d. Motions from Governance Committee**

5d1: Substitute Motion for 6d

Each of the 4 Directors of each station are instructed to verify that the LSB minutes are current for 2023 and 2024 on KPFTx, including report-outs from LSB executive sessions (CPB 47 U.S.C. 396(K)(5)), and request that LSBs post within 10 days moving forward. The Directors should report back to the PNB by Sept. 19, 2024

5d2: Substitute Motion for 6e

Request that the PNB Secretary make sure that the PNB complies with the Communications Act requirements and that 4 Directors of each station make sure that the website transparency pages of their stations are current. Secretary and Directors will report on their progress to the PNB by Sept 19, 2024.

5d3: No substitute motion for 6g, which is moot.

5d4: Substitute Motion for 6h

The Chair and Secretary of each LSB and the officers of LSB committees are instructed to post tele-conferencing and/or video-conference coordinates of all meetings, not held in Executive Session, at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.

The officers of the PNB committees are instructed to make tele-conference or video-conference coordinates of committee mtgs available to interested Directors.

5d5: Recommend approving motion on 6i as is

5d6: Governance Subcommittee report on 6k:

This Subcommittee favors the idea of an Elections Committee, and is working to get it established. In the meantime, we recommend allowing the public to comment on how the elections process could be improved and we ask that the Elections Supervisor give a status report

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to the PNB on Sept 5. We specifically want to know what steps the NES is taking to avoid quorum problems.

5d7: Substitute Motion for 6l

Move that the ED supply the PNB with 10 yrs of subcarrier income data, itemized per station, and the PNB appoint a Taskforce to explore potential of subcarrier income & other technology that can earn Pacifica new income streams.

6a. Motion on Programming Committee

WHEREAS the Pacifica Foundation is a radio network which owns five radio stations in five major media markets in the United States and has around 200 affiliates that receive our content for broadcasting,

AND WHEREAS a large amount of our present revenue is derived from audiences responding to our programming,

BE IT RESOLVED that the National Programming Committee which has existed in varying forms under the pre 2000 PNB governance structure and has been operational since the new bylaws were adopted be started up again immediately.

6b. Motion on Strategic Planning Committee

WHEREAS the Pacifica National Board has maintained a Strategic Planning Committee since 2017 and it has pushed forward a variety of initiatives. One has included arguing and obtaining first an experimental program for underwriting and then last year a permanent process for the network to avail itself of badly needed revenue.

AND WHEREAS the SPC is the only committee of the National Board that has actually helped bring in extra revenue in the past two years by legitimizing underwriting as a system wide practice for the network.

BE IT RESOLVED the Strategic Planning Committee be stood up immediately to operate in the interests of the Pacifica network and help it survive.

6c. Motion on Technology Task Force

WHEREAS the Technology Task Force has held over its time detailed looks at all aspects of the new technologies that Pacifica needs to adopt. It has also sponsored seminars on radio history and policy as well as holding and organizing training and workshops on CPB regulations and underwriting regulations. In addition, it has organized and sponsored critical looks at podcasting and other new forms of communication as well as looking at the impact of social media on our operations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Technology Task Force be stood up immediately to serve the interests of the Foundation and its tens of thousands of listeners.

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6d. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Executive Sessions (but see item #5)

Whereas, Pacifica is committed to transparency and member-governance, reports-out of executive session shall be as forthcoming as possible using Corporation for Public Broadcasting guidelines*. Said reports may describe what was done as well as what was intended and can include closed session motions and vote details, and further

Whereas, Pacifica desires to restore eligibility for funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting which requires that Reports-Out of executive session be published on the station's website within a "reasonable" time, and

Whereas, the CPB currently defines "reasonable" as within 10 days* of said meeting, and

Whereas, in addition to pacifica.org where the last posted report-out is dated December 2023 (https://pacifica.org/notices_home.php#exec), the foundation uses kpftx.org for its governance calendar, as a source of governance meeting livestreams, and as a repository of open meeting recordings and minutes, be it hereby resolved,

That reports-out of executive session of all governance bodies shall be published within 10 days of their meeting (with this period changing as the law does) on pacifica.org and shall be added to the individual meeting listings on kpftx.org,

That reports-out of executive sessions of the 2024 LSBs and the 2023 and 2024 PNB shall be posted on both websites by May 15, 2024, and

That the PNB secretary shall communicate this motion to each LSB's officers within 3 business days of passage.

6e. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Accurate Records (but see item #5)

Whereas, information about the foundation's offices, records, operations, and governance bodies must be accurately presented,

The Executive Director is requested to ensure regular review of the stations' Transparency Pages listed in the below email dated March 25, 2024 which is incorporated into this motion by reference, and further

To ensure that all listings of the national office address, including for infringement claims, on the websites of the foundation's 8 units, shall be brought current within a week of passage, and

A similar effort shall be undertaken for governmental records/sites and other places where broadcasters and/or non-profits would expect to be listed.

6f. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Independent investigation of state of the Archives
TBD

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6g. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Audit Committee (but see item #5)

Moved that the Audit Committee shall meet within the next 15 days to deal with a document destruction and retention policy, previous management letters, pro bono auditor and policies and procedures manual.

6h. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Directors' Access (but see item #5)

Whereas, Directors are responsible for the affairs of the foundation and are obliged* to be informed, their increased familiarity with its units can improve the quality of their contributions, therefore

The Board requires that all Directors, PNB officers, LSB members, LSB officers, and network staff facilitate, and not interfere with, Directors' full access to all foundation information including meetings

The Executive Director is charged with having IT staff implement, by May 15, 2024, a system for easy delivery of tele-conference and/or video-conferencing coordinates of all meetings to all interested directors.

* "Directors are also obliged to be informed about the nonprofit organization's program and operations."

6i. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Meeting Rosters (but see item #5)

Whereas, it is not uncommon to find minutes that lack a list of a group's members requiring listening to the audio archive to ascertain who was conducting business, be it hereby

Resolved that all governance agenda and minutes shall include a section stating the names of all group's members.

6j. Motion from Paul DiRienzo on Gaza

The Pacifica National Board demands an immediate cessation to Israel's genocidal attacks on the people of Palestine. We support the students in the U.S. and around the world who are protesting this genocide, and we condemn the violent attacks by Zionist mobs on the peaceful student encampment at UCLA.

6k. Motion from Cerene Roberts to "stand-up" the Elections Committee and convert it to a standing committee (but see item #5)

Whereas, elections are a regular and ongoing part of Pacifica governance, and

Whereas, the 2024 delegate election process began in early May with the announcement of the hire of a National Election Supervisor (NES), and

Whereas, knowledge, experience, and local observations can strengthen the fairness and transparency of the election process, be it hereby resolved

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That for the 2024 PNB term, an Elections Committee, populated by 1 director per station (elected by the PNB using Instant Runoff Voting) and 2 station delegates (elected by each Local Station Board / Delegate Assembly using Standard Transferable Voting) is hereby stood up, and further

The committee shall make itself available to assist the NES and shall keep current on all phases of delegate elections. It shall be convened by June 19, 2024 through a director appointed by the PNB Chair or Acting Chair following rapid consultation with those elected.

6l. Motion from Cerene Roberts regarding Subcarrier Income (but see item #5)

Whereas the use of WBAI sidebands / subcarrier frequencies generates income, and

Whereas in the Fiscal Year 2021 Audited Financial statements (https://pacifica.org/finance/audit_2021.pdf, Report page 4 / PDF page 6) total subcarrier income is shown as \$124,300

Whereas the rent goes into the Pacifica National Office (PNO) and is treated as PNO income (Report page 36 / PDF page 33) and the station(s) is/are not credited for those monies, be it hereby resolved,

That retroactive to June 1, 2024, five percent of rents shall be retained for repair, maintenance, and upgrades, and the balance shall be credited to the station(s) Central Services account(s), and

By July 17, 2024, the Executive Director shall provide the PNB and general managers with a written report on the status of all stations' subcarriers and HD channels including existing and pending contracts and income statements. No related contract is to be executed before this report has been discussed by the board.

6m. Motion from Jim Dingeman on Creating a Media Oriented Project 2025 TF

Whereas, the possibility of a Trump re-election creates the grim fact that Project 2025, the voluminous reactionary bible for the Trump agenda, may be implemented. In that document on page 245 there is an explicit reference to the Pacifica Foundation.

Whereas, this is the segment of PROJECT 2025 that mentions Pacifica. The portion dealing with the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and the network starts on page 245.

https://static.project2025.org/2025_MandateForLeadership_FULL.pdf and

Whereas, this passage from PROJECT 2025 explicitly states it aims at crippling Pacifica and all broadcast entities that receive public aid.

Whereas, the passage in its entirety with the elements referring to Pacifica are highlighted in red:

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

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Mike Gonzalez

Every Republican President since Richard Nixon has tried to strip the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) of taxpayer funding. That is significant not just because it means that for half a century, Republican Presidents have failed to accomplish what they set out to do, but also because Nixon was the first President in office when National Public Radio (NPR) and the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), which the CPB funds, went on air.

In other words, all Republican Presidents have recognized that public funding of domestic broadcasts is a mistake. As a 35-year-old lawyer in the Nixon White House, one Antonin Scalia warned that conservatives were being “confronted with a long-range problem of significant social consequences—that is, the development of a government-funded broadcast system similar to the BBC.”⁴⁷

All of which means that the next conservative President must finally get this done and do it despite opposition from congressional members of his own party if necessary. To stop public funding is good policy and good politics. The reason is simple: President Lyndon Johnson may have pledged in 1967 that public broadcasting would become “a vital public resource to enrich our homes, educate our families and to provide assistance to our classrooms,”⁴⁸ but public broadcasting immediately became a liberal forum for public affairs and journalism.

Not only is the federal government trillions of dollars in debt and unable to afford the more than half a billion dollars squandered on leftist opinion each year, but the government should not be compelling the conservative half of the country to pay for the suppression of its own views. As Thomas Jefferson put it, “To compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagations of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors, is sinful and tyrannical.”⁴⁹

A DEMONSTRATED PATTERN OF BIAS

Conservatives will thus reward a President who eliminates this tyrannical situation. PBS and NPR do not even bother to run programming that would attract conservatives. As Pew Research demonstrated in 2014, 25 percent of PBS’s audience is “mostly liberal,” and 35 percent is “consistently liberal.” That is 60 percent liberal compared to 15 percent conservative (11 percent “mostly conservative” and 4 percent “consistently conservative”).⁵⁰

NPR’s audience is even to the Left of that, with 67 percent liberal (41 percent “consistently liberal” and 26 percent “mostly liberal”), compared with 12 percent conservative (3 percent and 9 percent “consistently conservative” and “mostly conservative,” respectively).⁵¹ That may be an acceptable business model for MSNBC or CNN, but not for a taxpayer-subsidized broadcaster.

Media Agencies: Corporation for Public Broadcasting

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DEFUNDING THROUGH THE BUDGETARY PROCESS

Cutting off the CPB is logistically easy. The solution lies in the budgetary process. In 2022, the CPB submitted to the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittees of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees its budget justification for fiscal year (FY) 2023. In it, the CPB requested that Congress give it a \$565 million advance appropriation—a \$40 million increase compared to its FY 2022 funding.⁵² Unlike most other agencies, the CPB receives advance appropriations that provide them with funding two years ahead of time, which insulates the agency from Congress's power of the purse and oversight. This special budgetary treatment is unjustified and should be ended.

The 47th President can just tell the Congress—through the budget he proposes and through personal contact—that he will not sign an appropriations spending bill that contains a penny for the CPB. The President may have to use the bully pulpit, as NPR and PBS have teams of lobbyists who have convinced enough Members of Congress to save their bacon every time their taxpayer subsidies have been at risk since the Nixon era.

Defunding CPB would by no means cause NPR or PBS—or other public broadcasters that benefit from CPB funding, including the even-further-to-the Left Pacifica Radio and American Public Media—to file for bankruptcy. The membership model that the CPB uses, along with the funding from corporations and foundations that it also receives, would allow these broadcasters to continue to thrive. As George Will wrote, “If ‘Sesame Street’ programming were put up for auction, the danger would be of getting trampled by the stampede of potential bidders.”⁵³

Indeed, “Sesame Street” is on HBO now, which shows its potential as a money earner.

PUBLIC INTEREST VS. PRIVILEGE

Stripping public funding would, of course, mean that NPR, PBS, Pacifica Radio, and the other leftist broadcasters would be shorn of the presumption that they act in the public interest and receive the privileges that often accompany so acting. They should no longer, for example, be qualified as noncommercial education stations (NCE stations), which they clearly no longer are. NPR, Pacifica, and the other radio ventures have zero claim on an educational function (the original purpose for which they were created by President Johnson), and the percentage of on-air programming that PBS devotes to educational endeavors such as “Sesame Street” (programs that are themselves biased to the Left) is small.

Being an NCE comes with benefits. The Federal Communications Commission, for example, reserves the 20 stations at the lower end of the radio frequency (between 88 and 108 MHz on the FM band) for NCEs. The FCC says that “only noncommercial educational radio stations are licensed in the 88–92 MHz ‘reserved’ band,” while both commercial and noncommercial educational stations may operate in the “non-reserved” band.⁵⁴ This confers advantages, as

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lower-frequency stations can be heard farther away and are easier to find as they lie on the left end of the radio dial (figuratively as well as ideologically).

The FCC also exempts NCE stations from licensing fees. It says that “Noncommercial educational (NCE) FM station licensees and full service NCE television broadcast station licensees are exempt from paying regulatory fees, provided that these stations operate solely on an NCE basis.”⁵⁵

NPR and PBS stations are in reality no longer noncommercial, as they run ads in everything but name for their sponsors. They are also noneducational. The next President should instruct the FCC to exclude the stations affiliated with PBS and NPR from the NCE denomination and the privileges that come with it."

Be it resolved that the Pacifica Foundation will establish a task force (TF) to specifically deal with this issue and come up with policy recommendations and implement action items in every signal area with our potential allies who currently are affiliates of Pacifica, NPR or PBS stations.

Be it resolved, this PROJECT 2025 TF will be composed of members of the PNB, members of our five station LSBs, staff, affiliates and local listener members.

Be it resolved, this PROJECT 2025 TF will be action oriented and not an endless Pacifica-style verbal coffee clutch.

Be it resolved, the PROJECT 2025 TF will create and implement political action/lobbying efforts that will aim at creating a broad united front to oppose these reactionary media policies with other media organizations and the people of the United States and

Be it resolved, the PROJECT 2025 TF will be established immediately and will be flexible and agile in its operations as it evolves. All the metro-market areas each station and our affiliates operate in are different and will require flexibility and dexterity to create a massive impact politically to defend public and community media in America.

6n. Motion from Cerene Roberts on Interim Station Management
TBD

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Addendum

Roberts Rules cited September 2024

§26. OBJECTION TO THE CONSIDERATION OF A QUESTION

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26:1 *The purpose of an Objection to the Consideration of a Question is to enable the assembly to avoid a particular original main motion*

§39. DILATORY AND IMPROPER MOTIONS

Dilatory Motions

39:1 *A motion is dilatory if it seeks to obstruct or thwart the will of the assembly as clearly indicated by the existing parliamentary situation.*

39:2 *Parliamentary forms are designed to assist in the transaction of business.*

Even without adopting a rule on the subject,

every deliberative assembly has the right to protect itself from the dilatory use of these forms.

39:3 *Any main or other motion that is frivolous or absurd or that contains no rational proposition is dilatory and cannot be introduced. As further examples, it is dilatory to obstruct business by appealing from a ruling of the chair on a question about which there cannot possibly be two reasonable opinions, by demanding a division (29) on a vote even when there has been a full vote and the result is clear, by moving to lay on the table the matter for which a special meeting has been called, by constantly raising points of order and appealing from the chair's decision on them, or by moving to adjourn again and again when nothing has happened to justify renewal of such a motion. By use of such tactics, a minority of two or three members could bring business to a standstill.*

39:4 *It is the duty of the presiding officer to prevent members from misusing the legitimate forms of motions, or abusing the privilege of renewing certain motions, merely to obstruct business. Whenever the chair becomes convinced that one or more members are repeatedly using parliamentary forms for dilatory purposes, he should either not recognize these members or he should rule that such motions are not in order—but he should never adopt such a course merely to speed up business, and he should never permit his personal feelings to affect his judgment in such cases. If the chair only suspects that a motion is not made in good faith, he should give the maker of the motion the benefit of the doubt. The chair should always be courteous and fair, but at the same time he should be firm in protecting the assembly from imposition.*

Interruption of a Member Assigned the Floor

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ASSIGNMENT OF THE FLOOR;

DEBATE

§42. RULES GOVERNING ASSIGNMENT OF THE FLOOR

42:18 When a member has been assigned the floor and has begun to speak—unless he begins to discuss a subject when no motion is pending or speaks longer in debate than the rules of the assembly allow—he cannot be interrupted by another member or by the chair except for one of the following purposes, and then only when the urgency of the situation justifies it:

- a) a Call for the Orders of the Day (18) when they are not being conformed to,*
- b) the raising of a question of privilege (19),*
- c) a Point of Order or the calling of the member who has the floor to order (23, 61)—or the chair’s calling this member’s attention to the fact that he is failing to observe the rules of speaking (61:10–11),*
- d) a call for a separate vote on one or more of a set of independent resolutions on different subjects, or a divisible set of amendments, that have been offered by a single motion (10:25, 12:14, 27:10–11),*
- e) a request or inquiry (32, 33) that requires an immediate response; or, in certain special circumstances, these additional purposes:*
- f) an Appeal (24),*
- g) an Objection to the Consideration of a Question (26), or*
- h) a Division of the Assembly*

§43. RULES GOVERNING DEBATE

43:20 Confining Remarks to the Merits of the Pending Question.

In debate a member’s remarks must be germane to the question before the assembly—that is, his statements must have bearing on whether the immediately pending motion should be adopted (see also Principles Governing the Debatability of Motions,

43:21 Refraining from Attacking a Member’s Motives. *When a question is pending, a member can condemn the nature or likely consequences of the proposed measure in strong terms, but he must avoid personalities, and under no circumstances can he attack or question the motives of another member. The measure, not the member, is the subject of debate. If a member disagrees with a statement by another in regard to an event that both witnessed, he cannot state in debate that the other’s statement “is false.” But he might say, “I believe there is strong evidence that the member is mistaken.” The moment the chair hears such words as “fraud,” “liar,” or “lie” used about*

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a member in debate, he must act immediately and decisively to correct the matter and prevent its repetition

43:28 Refraining from Disturbing the Assembly. *During debate, during remarks by the presiding officer to the assembly, and during voting, no member should be permitted to disturb the assembly by whispering, walking across the floor, or in any other way. The key words here are disturb the assembly. This rule does not mean, therefore, that members can never whisper, or walk from one place to another in the hall during the deliberations of the assembly. At large meetings it would be impossible to enforce such a rule. However, the presiding officer should watch that such activity does not disturb the meeting or hamper the transaction of business.*

49:14 Committees of a Board. *Where an organization is local—for example, a society for sustaining a foster home for children—the executive board usually divides itself into committees having charge of different branches of the work during the interval between the monthly or quarterly meetings of the board. At the board meetings these committees report on the fulfillment of their assigned responsibilities. In such cases the committees are genuinely subordinate to the board and must ordinarily report back to it for authority to act (in contrast to an executive committee, which usually has power to act as the board, and in contrast to standing committees of the society, which are not subordinate to the board unless made so by a provision in the bylaws). Any board can appoint committees of the kind just described without authorization in the bylaws.*

61:11 Calling a member to order. *If the offense is more serious than in the case above—as when a member repeatedly questions the motives of other members whom he mentions by name, or persists in speaking on completely irrelevant matters in debate—the chair normally should first warn the member; but with or without such a warning, the chair or any other member can “call the member to order.” If the chair does this, he says, “The member is out of order and will be seated.” Another member making the call rises and, without waiting to be recognized, says, “Mr. President, I call the member to order,” then resumes his seat. If the chair finds this point of order (23) well taken, he declares the offender out of order and directs him to be seated, just as above.*

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61:12 “Naming” an offender. *In cases of obstinate or grave breach of order by a member, the chair can, after repeated warnings, “name” the offender, which amounts to preferring charges and should be resorted to only in extreme circumstances. Before taking such action, when it begins to appear that it may become necessary, the chair directs the secretary to take down objectionable or disorderly words used by the member. This direction by the chair, and the words taken down pursuant to it, are entered in the minutes only if the chair finds it necessary to name the offender*

61:19 Protection from Annoyance by Nonmembers in a Meeting; Removal of an Offender from the Hall. *Any nonmembers allowed in the hall during a meeting, as guests of the organization, have no rights with reference to the proceedings (61:6–8). An assembly has the right to protect itself from annoyance by nonmembers, and its full authority in this regard—as distinguished from cases involving disorderly members—can be exercised by the chair acting alone. The chair has the power to require nonmembers to leave the hall, or to order their removal, at any time during the meeting; and the nonmembers have no right of appeal from such an order of the presiding officer. However, such an order may be appealed by a member. That appeal is undebatable (see 24:3(5)(a)). At a mass meeting (53), any person who attempts to disrupt the proceedings in a manner obviously hostile to the announced purpose of the meeting can be treated as a nonmember under the provisions of this paragraph.*

Minutes drafted by Steve Kucala, Volunteer

Minutes approved by PNB on 1/16/2025

Minutes posted by Julie Hewitt, PNB Secretary