

Minutes WBAI LSB in public session 4-8-26

Members Present: Carolyn Birden, John Brinkley, Elliot Crown, Joan De Lorenzo, Paul De Rienzo, Jim Dingeman, Simon Fitzgerald, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Sally Gellert (PNB Director), Gloria Guillo (Vice-Chair), Bob Hennelly (Interim General Manager and Ex-officio LSB Member), Queen Mother Imakhu, Bounubti Kamenthou, Jeremy Kuzmarov, Alejandrina Murphy, Katherine O'Sullivan (Chair), Cerene Roberts (PNB Director), James Sagurton (PNB Director), Max Schmid, M. Kay Williams (Secretary)

Members Absent: Milton Allimadi, Gail Bey, Jim Freund, Sharonne Salaam

Also Present: R. Paul Martin (Treasurer), Neale Vos (CAB Chair)

Also Absent: Keziah Glow, Interim Program Director

Final Agenda

1. Convene meeting- Ask for recording of the meeting to be started. Identify Time Keeper. Note how chat is to be used, plus other preliminary remarks by Chair including to note that as noted and discussed the last two months, the Pacifica National Board has taken action forbidding LSB/PNB member Alex Steinberg participation in this meeting and others.
2. Adopt Agenda. (20 minutes)
3. Roll Call. (5 minutes)
4. Excuse Absences. (5 minutes)
5. Approve outstanding minutes: March 11, 2026 Meeting. (5 minutes) Sent 4-1-26.
6. Report from Community Advisory Board (2 Minutes) – Neale Vos
7. Reports of interim General Manager and interim Program Director. (20 minutes reports & 15 minutes discussion- Questions limited to one minute) Bob Hennelly and Keziah Glow
8. Report from Pacifica National Board Directors. (20 minutes reports & 15 minutes discussion- Questions limited to one minute) — Sally Gellert, Cerene Roberts, James Sagurton, Alex Steinberg
9. Treasurer's Report. (5 Minutes report & 8 minutes discussion) — R. Paul Martin
10. Discussion: Appropriate thoughts for observing minutes of silence during LSB meetings and chance to express opinions about what people might choose to keep in mind. (5 minutes.)
11. One minute of silence. (One minute)
12. Motion to divide the Public Comment - Motion that all future open meetings of the WBAI LSB will include two 15-minute Public Comment sessions at 7:45 pm and 8:45 pm instead of the current single Public Comment 30-minute period as the last agenda item at 9:16pm – (12 minutes) - Cerene Roberts
13. Report from the Committee of Inclusion. (5 minutes) – Carolyn Birden, John Brinkley, Joan De Lorenzo, Cerene Roberts.
14. Report From Town Hall Committee. (5 minutes) — Jim Dingeman
15. Report from the LOFT Committee Including Resolution About LSB On Air Pitching. (7 minutes) - John Brinkley
16. Management Search and Review Committee, Discussion. (5 minutes) – Jim Dingeman

17. Discussion and Possible Resolution: Dealing appropriately with attacks on Public and/or Listener Supported media. (7 minutes) – Jim Dingeman
18. Discussion: Launching additional streaming of (HD) WBAI channels (5 minutes) — Jim Dingeman
19. Using Current WBAI Studio Camera Capacity to Start YouTubing WBAI Content (5 minutes) — Jim Dingeman
20. New Business.
21. Public Comment. (30 minutes, 2 minutes maximum per speaker before next in queue to speak. Must begin no later than 9:16 PM ET.)
22. Adjourn no later than 9:46 PM ET (Note this, and start time for public comments is one minute later to reflect the meeting's one minute of silence.)

7:06 pm ET – The Chair convened the meeting, herself, the secretary and a quorum being present. She made her introductory Chair's remarks, including that the PNB has banned our PNB Director Alex Steinberg's participation in all Pacifica activities.

7:08 pm ET - Motion (Jim Dingeman) To adopt the agenda as sent and screen shared. Seconded (Sally Gellert and James Sagurton). Passed without objections.

7:10 pm ET The Chair called for roll call, results as above.

7:13 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To excuse all absences. Seconded (James Sagurton)
The Chair asked if there were any objections, and there was one from Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, but, hearing no other objections, the Chair stated the objection would be noted in the minutes and all absences would be excused.

7:14 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To accept minutes from 3-11-26. Seconded (M. Kay Williams) The Chair asked if there were any objections.

Eleanor Elizabeth Forman stated that roll call vote results were supposed to be entered in the minutes by name, according to Robert's Rules.

The Board discussed the issue brought up.

Sally Gellert said she agreed with Eleanor but thought it should be the practice going forward, not retroactively. Eleanor did not accept that change.

Point of Order: The Chair called on R. Paul Martin re Robert's Rules. He stated the persons presenting this motion need to cite the exact section and paragraph of RONR 12. Also retroactive changes of previously approved minutes require a 2/3rds vote and must be very specific.

The Chair also asked the secretary her opinions and possibilities. The Secretary stated she has this information going back to the first month she became secretary in Jan 2023, but a good part of that data

was in her storage unit and she could not access that right now. She asked if anyone knew the practice of the PNB, could they speak about that.

The Board discussed the two possibilities [which had never been expressed as motions exactly].

7:27 pm ET Motion (John Brinkley) To separate the two motions: to do it retroactively or to start it going forward. [Does not require a second].

Point of Order (James Sagurton) Clarified that a motion to separate automatically separates.

The Board discussed the two motions.

7:30 pm ET Motion (Sally Gellert) To extend the discussion 5 minutes. Seconded (Eleanor Elizabeth Forman) Passed without objections.

The Board continued to discuss the two motions.

7:32 pm ET Motion (M. Kay Williams) To call the question. Seconded (John Brinkley)

Two Roll Call votes were held:

1. For the secretary to add to all minutes a record by name of all roll call votes going back to when she became secretary in January 2023 and going forward. The motion failed by 11 nos, 2 yeses, and 3 abstentions. [This one required a 2/3rds vote and specific meeting minutes to be changed.]

Yes Votes: Joan de Lorenzo, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman

No Votes: Carolyn Birden, John Brinkley, Elliot Crowne, Jim Dingeman, Sally Gellert, Gloria Guillo, Queen Mother Imakhu, Jeremy Kuzmarov, James Sagurton, Max Schmid, M. Kay Williams

Abstentions: Paul de Rienzo, Bounubti Kamenthou, Alejandrina Murphy

Present, Not Present, or Not Voting: Milton Allimadi, Gail Bey, Simon Fitzgerald, Jim Freund, Katherine O'Sullivan, Cerene Roberts, Sharonne Salaam

2. For the secretary to add to all minutes going forward a record by name of all roll call votes. This motion passed by 15 yeses, 3 nos, and no abstentions.

Yes Votes: John Brinkley, Elliot Crowne, Joan de Lorenzo, Paul de Rienzo, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Sally Gellert, Gloria Guillo, Queen Mother Imakhu, Bounubti Kamenthou, Jeremy Kuzmarov, Alejandrina Murphy, Cerene Roberts, James Sagurton, Max Schmid, M. Kay Williams

No Votes: Carolyn Birden, Jim Dingeman, Simon Fitzgerald

Abstentions: none

Not present or not voting: Milton Allimadi, Gail Bey, Jim Freund, Katherine O'Sullivan, Sharonne Salaam

[NOTE: Eleanor Elizabeth Forman stated that the RONR 12 citation was in Section 48. She did not offer, nor was required to offer, a paragraph. It actually is in RONR 12 Section 45:52 "In roll-call voting, a record of how each member voted, as well as the result of the vote, is entered in full in the journal or minutes. If

those responding to the roll call do not total a sufficient number to constitute a quorum, the chair must direct the secretary to enter the names of enough members who are present but not voting to reflect the attendance of a quorum during the vote.”]

The Chair then returned to the motion to accept the minutes from the 3-11-26 meeting (see above.)

Eleanor Elizabeth Forman asked if the secretary would include the results of any roll call votes at that meeting, and the secretary informed her there were no roll call votes taken at that meeting.

Cerene Roberts abstained.

As there were no objections, the minutes were accepted.

7:46 pm ET The Chair called for the report of the Community Advisory Board – presented by Neale Vos

A member suggested that Neale Vos send the list of suggestions to the Secretary, and the Secretary pass it to the Board. Both parties agreed. (It is also appended to these minutes.)

7:51 pm ET The Chair called for the report of the General Manager, Bob Hennelly, who was present.

Highlights:

1. \$53K in BOA account
2. Fundraiser in progress: \$120K goal, made \$28K in first week.
3. PSA's: NYC Health and Hospitals Corp. announcing they see all comers, regardless of immigration or insurance status; Sarah Nelson from Flight Attendants Association.
4. Paid Health Insurance, negotiating new SAG AFTRA contracts.
5. Trying to reduce the tower costs.
6. Cannot reduce the number of engineers. Less than 4 would be an EEO violation. Even with 4 people, they are editing the next show even while broadcasting another. Plus hard to fit in vacations.
7. Noted obituary on Bob Law in NYT, planning WBAI special
8. There is now a robust headline news service, bringing sights and sounds of war and war protests around the world to the whole network.
9. Bob Hennelly was welcomed as the no longer interim General Manager.

The Board discussed the report.

8:24 pm ET The Chair called for the PNB Director reports: Sally Gellert, Cerene Roberts, and James Sagurton, and noted that Director Alex Steinberg was forbidden from participating in any Pacifica activities, and could not present a report.

Highlights:

1. An auditor has been approved. Awaiting audits.
2. Re: Public Comment at other stations. KPFA and KPFA have started advertising that they will only take comments from organizations, not individuals.

3. Two PNB Directors who resigned were replaced with people who are not members of their Local Station Boards.
4. The IRS 501-C-3 status letter has now been posted to the Pacifica.org website.
5. Personnel Committee is working to determine among staff who are paid and who are now being defined as “volunteers.” [According to staff announce email from GM, volunteer producers have to log 30 hrs. by the start of the election June 1 in order to preserve their voting rights.]

The Board discussed the reports.

8:56 pm ET The Chair called for the Treasurer’s report (appended to these minutes) Presented by R. Paul Martin.

The Board discussed the report.

9:13 pm ET Motion (Sally Gellert) To extend the discussion 5 minutes. Seconded (Jim Dingeman) Passed without objection; however, the Chair noted it would only be until the start of Public Comment.

The Board continued to discuss the report.

9:16 pm ET The Chair called for Public Comment and made her usual Chair’s remarks regarding the conduct of Public Comment.

The Board heard Public Comment.

9:47 pm ET The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by M. Kay Williams, Secretary

CAB Report from Neale Vos

Hello everyone, the following are the WBAI Community Advisory Board's recommendations to WBAI Management.

1. Have a report to and from the listener every four months and announce report one week in advance.
2. Have a three-hour opera show.
3. Get Gary Null back on air.
4. Promised pledge money should not be counted until the money arrives.
5. To raise money, hand out CD's of WBAI shows.
6. Do a WBAI history of fund raising.
7. Have a show for South Asians.
8. Get producers to encourage their listeners to advertise WBAI using a leaflet which is on the WBAI web site.
9. Restore the LSB radio show.

10. Cover world wide injustice, besides Palestine.
11. Make an announced effort to double WBAI's membership.
12. The station needs to have a more global and diverse approach to programming content.
13. Producers need to give more coverage to the prison and homeless issues.
14. Listeners need to know how to get their own show on air.
15. Have a show on human rights.
16. Have producers give a week-long profile on their show.

That concludes my report

WBAI Treasurer's Report April 8, 2026

The WBAI local Finance Committee met on March 18, 2026. The National Finance Committee (NFC) met on March 24, 2026. These meetings were held by teleconference.

The NFC "makeup meeting" that had been noticed on KPFTX.ORG for March 17, was cancelled by the NFC Chair via E-mail about 25 minutes before the meeting's scheduled start. Apparently, there had been a mix-up with the person who runs KPFTX.ORG assuming that a meeting would be held to make up for the March 10, NFC meeting which had run into technical problems.

At the local Finance Committee meeting on March 18, 2026, the interim General Manager, whom I have heard is now the General Manager, wrote to me just before the meeting start time and said he likely wouldn't be able to make the meeting. So, we didn't hear a report from him. We had some technical issues with the audio on this Zoom call, but we persevered. In the absence of any new financial information the committee discussed the possibility that some people in Pacifica just do not want financial information about Pacifica and its stations released. Committee members discussed the paucity of financial information and whether some in Pacifica just didn't want local Finance Committees. I noted that Pacifica's tax forms could all be looked at on the Pacifica Web site. The committee discussed transparency and other local Finance Committees in Pacifica.

At the March 24, 2026, NFC meeting the NFC Chair went over the situation with the technical problems at the March 10, 2026, meeting and the erroneous notice of a meeting on March 17. When the meeting started I suggested that the NFC agree to release the "Consolidated Monthly Income For the Twelve Months Ending Tuesday, September 30, 2025" to the public. There was no objection and I posted that Income Statement for all of FY25 to the LSB mailing list the next day.

It was established that the approved minutes of the January 20, 2026, NFC meeting would be public even though the meeting itself had been changed to an executive session meeting just before that meeting had begun. There followed a discussion of releasing the audio of that January 20, meeting to the public. The Chair agreed that releasing the audio would be on the agenda for the next NFC meeting.

The NFC passed the following Motion: (James Sagurton) “That the NFC shall meet every fourth Tuesday of the month unless requested otherwise.” So, the NFC will go from nominally meeting twice a month to meeting once a month. The NFC voted to meet once a month instead of twice a month at the March 13, 2018, meeting and that year the committee fell behind on its work. In subsequent years the NFC met twice a month, but some people think once a month will work this time.

The Executive Director went over the results of the Winter on-air fund raisers from the stations as of March 5, 2026. She said that WBAI’s goal had been \$125,000 and the station had raised \$142,269 in 604 donations, 108 of which were new subscribers. She said that the station had also made phone calls to donors who hadn’t donated in a year or more and had gotten 131 returning donors and 73 new BAI Buddies. The Executive Director noted that the WBAI General Manager and the Director of the Pacifica Affiliates Network had set up a daily Pacifica Network News broadcast which has multiple Pacifica stations and others contributing. She said that it was extremely encouraging to see stations working together. There was a discussion of reinstating “in-kind” donations in Pacifica. We used to do those in the ‘80s, but the initiative was dropped.

We’re still not getting a lot of financial information of a sort that we used to get. At least we were able to get the consolidated Income Statement for FY25 released. I’m hoping that local and national Management will see the value of letting those involved in Pacifica governance see what the financial situation is like. I don’t know that the NFC meeting only once a month is going to make things better. It didn’t make things better when it was tried in 2018.

In my opinion it is time to insist that Pacifica start to acknowledge the valuable things that the WBAI General Manager is doing for the entire foundation, and considering that as a part of the station’s Central Services fees. What financial news we’ve gotten sounds all right, not great, but not terrible, but how this will work out in the long run is an open question. I see no reason at this time to remain other than pessimistic.

The next NFC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 28, 2026, at 8:30 PM (ET). The next local Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 7:00 PM (ET). These meetings will be held by teleconference.

R. Paul Martin WBAI LSB Treasurer

Report from Director in exile Alex Steinberg. April 8, 2026

The Appeals process to revoke the illegitimate hijacking of our bylaws by the New Day aligned PNB majority is still moving forward. A brief arguing why the case to overturn the illegal settlement agreement should be heard in the Trial Court is being prepared for the Appeals Court to consider and will be submitted by our attorney by May 10.

The PNB majority continues to shut down all areas of communication between the PNB and Pacifica's members and listeners. Most recently there was an attempt to limit meetings of the National Finance Committee to once every 3 months. They have also tried to shut down all local finance committees.

The irrational attacks and scapegoating of WBAI continue from the usual suspects, the band of KPFA New Day-aligned "Protectors" group who have been at it for more than two decades.

As for as the financial position of Pacifica the PNB finally released the most recent Profit and Loss statement, only 6 months old. According to the P&L WBAI finished fiscal 2025 with a modest income surplus of \$50,000 compared to a deficit of \$475,000 the previous year. The income stream is not broken down so we don't know how much is attributable to more listeners donating and how much is attributable to donations from unions for instance.

Many serious issues relating to Pacifica's viability as a non-profit continue.

1. Pacifica's status as a non-profit charitable organization continues to be suspended on the California Attorney General's list of Charitable organizations.
2. Pacifica has still not hired an auditor. We have audits going back to 2022 that are way past due.
3. Pacifica's non-profit status is still listed as "automatically revoked" because Pacifica was late in filing a tax form.

Were I to give a Report Card for the fiscal management of Pacifica on the part of the PNB and Pacifica management I would have to say it is at best a C minus but there is a lot we don't know so it could be much worse.

In the meantime the New Day-aligned PNB majority seems to think everything is fine, congratulates themselves for doing a great job and takes no responsibility for their mismanagement of Pacifica and betrayal of democratic governance.

Alex Steinberg,

Director in Exile from WBAI