
**RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY
WSBE/Rhode Island PBS**

DATE: September 22, 2005
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
PLACE: WSBE/Rhode Island PBS
50 Park Lane
Providence, RI 02907

PRESENT

Mr. Sheldon S. Sollosy (Chairman)
Mr. Roger Boudreau
Hon. Judge Frank Caprio
Mr. Gary Grove
Mr. Michael Isaacs
Mr. James Leach

ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. David Piccerelli (Acting President & CEO, WSBE)

Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority convened on Thursday, September 22, 2005

With a quorum of members present, the meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M. by Chairman Sollosy.

President's Report

The President's report was given by Mr. Piccerelli as follows.

Development

Tracey Cugno, WSBE's new Development Director getting up to speed and making a difference. Establishing efficiencies with Development Department specifically with the creation of a new position and shuffling of duties.

- Katherine Robinson taking on new position of Special Events Coordinator. Two new events in works; 1) quarterly book series – partnering with “Books on the Square” this will be a series of authors speaking to a paid audience; 2) first ever RIPBS Golf Tournament to be held July 24, 2006 at Metacomet Country Club.
- Membership – holding fewer pledge nights as a trade off for cutting some expenses specifically acquisition mail market performed by DMW. Will be sending out more

letters from in-house versus the outsourcing to DMW. Will not be using the answering service for pledge unless absolutely necessary.

- New Initiative – looking to form more partnerships with other non-profits i.e. PPAC. Cross-examining the auction buyer's list with the membership list and will be mailing out to those individuals who are not members.
- Auction – Art Auction Wednesday, November 2nd through Friday, November 4th from 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM and Saturday, November 5th from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Art Auction Preview Party to be held at Rhode Island Convention Center on Friday, October 21, 2005 from 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM.
- Spooky Zoo – Partnership with Roger Williams Park Zoo to set up booth on October 16th, 23rd & 30th during the Parks Spooky Zoo. Clifford the Big Red Dog costume character to be present all three Sundays.

DTV & Transmitter

The DTV conversion and construction is progressing forward. Expect to be fully operational by mid-November. Having problems the old analog transmitter. Gone off the air a couple of times but have successfully fixed the problems.

Educational Services

Ready-to-Learn program as sponsored by the U.S. Department of education, administered through PBS has been eliminated as we have participated in the past. We are now on our own and have secured funding for the program from Neighborhood Health Plan. The program is expected to cost \$25,000 versus the \$55,000 we spent through PBS.

Financial Report

The Financial report was given by Mr. Piccerelli as follows.

Cash flow remains tight but manageable. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting semi-annual disbursement is expected by mid-October/early November and this will ease the cash burden. Mr. Piccerelli indicated that there are some issues that should be brought up in Executive Session pertaining to union contracts and employee compensation.

Mr. Piccerelli reported that he has not completed the budget request for the operations of WSBE for the 2007 fiscal year and he is asking the Board to approve a bottom line request in General Revenue Funds. He requested a vote to submit a budget to the State of Rhode Island for operations of the WSBE for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007. Said request is not to exceed \$1,390,669 in General Revenue funds.

With a motion by Hon. Judge Caprio, a second by Mr. Boudreau and unanimous approval, the following resolution was passed:

The Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority authorizes the submission of a budget request to the State of Rhode Island Budget Office, for the operation of WSBE for the fiscal year end June 30, 2007 in an amount not to exceed \$1,390,669 in General Revenue Funds.

Executive Session:

With a motion by Mr. Isaacs, a second by Mr. Grove and unanimous approval, achieved by a vote of the Members polled individually, an Executive Session convened with respect to personnel matters as permitted by subsection (1) and collective bargaining issues as permitted by subsection (2) of Rhode Island General Laws, Section 42-46-5(a) Open Meetings.

With a motion by Mr. Boudreau, a second by Mr. Leach and unanimous approval, the meeting moved back into open session.

With a motion by Hon. Judge Caprio, a second by Mr. Boudreau and unanimous approval, the following resolution was passed:

The Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority ratifies the agreement between the Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1228 bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2008.

With a motion by Mr. Grove, a second by Hon. Judge Caprio and unanimous approval, the following resolution was passed:

The Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority grants cost of living adjustment to non-union personnel salaries (with exception) as follows:

- **Beginning June 27, 2004 – 1.5%**
- **Beginning June 25, 2005 – 2.5%**
- **Beginning June 26, 2005 – 4.0%**
- **Beginning July 1, 2006 – 3.0%**
- **Beginning July 1, 2007 – 3.0%**

In addition, the Authority authorizes the “co-share” payments by non-union personnel for their health and wellness benefits as prescribed by the State of Rhode Island Office of Personnel.

Next meeting scheduled for 10:00 AM, Thursday, October 20, 2005 at 50 Park Lane, Providence, RI.

With a motion by Mr. Grove, a second by Mr. Leach and unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of my notes taken at the time of said meeting.



David W. Piccerelli, Acting President & CEO

October 20, 2005

Date