

MINUTES

LETA Executive & Finance Committee Board Meeting

LETA BOARD ROOM ☞ 7733 PERKINS ROAD ☞ BATON ROUGE, LA – 12:00 p.m. – Thursday 09/08/2011

LETA Board Present

Glenn Kinsey • T. O. Perry • Joe Salter
Dr. Bill Weldon • George Sirven • Paul Sawyer
Sally Clausen • Barbara DeCuir • Gigi Carter
Chris Goudeau

LPB Staff Present

Beth Courtney • Clay Fourrier
Joanne Gaudet • Barbara Williams
Celeste Viator – Hannis T. Bourgeois

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Glenn Kinsey called the meeting to order.
2. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Gigi Carter presented the minutes from the previous meeting for approval. *Motion:* Dr. Weldon moved and George Sirven seconded the approval of minutes. *Action:* Motion carried.
3. **FINANCIAL REPORTS: Audit Report:** Celeste Viator of Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP presented the LETA audit report for FY11. Ms. Viator reported that the audit report issued was an unqualified opinion and there were no audit findings and no management letter. *Motion:* Chris Goudeau moved and Joe Salter seconded the approval of the financial report. *Action:* Motion carried. **LETA / FELPB Report:** Paul Sawyer and Joanne Gaudet presented the report as follows: We are through 17% of the fiscal year as of August 31, 2011 and have drawn down \$1,806,405 in general fund (25% of our general fund budget). We have collected \$115,122 in self generated revenue (6% of self generated budget) which includes \$67,535 from Lottery, \$10,277 from ITFS leases, and \$8,659 from uplinks. Expenditures total \$1,775,787 (19% of budgeted expenditures) – includes onetime payment of \$291,975 to Risk Mgmt, \$1,241,927 in salaries & related and \$219,154 in operating services (Satellite lease, utilities, equipment maintenance). Total self generated revenue projection for FY12 as of 8/31/11: \$991,466 which includes remaining Due To LETA funds of \$324,683 but does not include any projected revenue for the production truck. Current estimate of self generated shortage: \$1,044,985. *Motion:* Chris Goudeau moved and Joe Salter seconded the approval of the financial report. *Action:* Motion carried

FLPB REPORT: T. O. Perry – *August Pledge* was another successful pledge drive with over \$250,420 and 1792 pledges. *The evening with C. C. Lockwood* was the highest grossing program, bringing in over \$19,000! *35th Anniversary Raffle;* Raffle brochures were mailed to the boards. Although board members are not eligible to win, they were encouraged to tell friends and co-workers about the raffle. So far, Friends have raised \$20,000 with seven weeks to go. *Friends Annual Meeting* is Tuesday, September 13th. Cocktail Reception is 6:30 p.m. and Awards Ceremony at 7 p.m. *Art & Travel Auction: Artist Networking Night* is tonight from 6 – 8 p.m. This is a new component for the auction which gives us an opportunity to thank the artists and give them the chance to network with other artists from around the state. *Art Rocks* is on September 30th 7 – 9 pm at the LA State Museum. Bidding begins that evening. The art will remain on exhibit through October 15th. The car will be at the event and raffle tickets will be available for purchase at \$35. A drawing will be held from all tickets purchased that evening for 2 tickets to the LSU vs. Florida game on 10/8/11. Kim Zabbia secured two tickets on the west side in the Tiger Terrace along with a parking pass. Live auction date has changed to Thursday, October 27th from 7 – 10 p.m. *FLPB July Financial Statement:* Revenue was approximately \$72,653.65 through July. Overall revenue was \$84,149.90, slightly over where we were at this point last year. Expenditures for the month of July totaled \$56,126.46, approximately \$16,000 less than last year.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Glenn Kinsey presented a resolution to the board, authorizing and empowering Beth Courtney to enter into and sign contracts and other official documents necessary to carry out routine agency operations on behalf of LETA for approval. *Motion:* Paul Sawyer moved and George Sirven seconded that the questionnaires be accepted and approved. *Action:* Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Beth will be attending the OSBE conference in Dallas on September 14 & 15. LPB Educational Services department held a web field trip on *Think Again: Restoring and Protecting the Gulf Coast:* This was a live field trip to explore the value of the coast, challenges and efforts to restore the eroding coastline. It was followed by an opportunity for students to pose questions to experts. After the trip, students were encouraged to review the suggestions for how they can help and then submit their action plan to LPB. Some will be highlighted on the website. There were 15, 687 students from 370 locations in 6 states. The experts were: Jerome Zeringue, Executive Director, Executive Division,

Governor's Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, Michael Massimi, Invasive Species Coordinator, Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program (BTNEP) and Karen McKee, Research Ecologist, National Wetlands Research Center, US Geological Survey.

Programming Update: *Prohibition*, the new series from Ken Burns, airs October 2 – 4 at 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. each night. On Sunday, September 11th, PBS commemorates the tenth anniversary of 9/11 with *American Remembers 9/11* at 7:00 p.m. and *Great Performances: The New York Philharmonic 10th Anniversary Concert* for 9/11 at 8:00 p.m. *Tavis Smiley: Too Important to Fail*, airs on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. This program examines the increasing dropout rate among black teenage males. LPB will hold its own town meeting on dropouts on Wednesday, October 26.

Production Update: Clay presented a new trailer for the upcoming *Turning the Tide* program on coastal restoration. The show will premiere in November. This month on *Louisiana Public Square*: "Extreme Premiums: Louisiana Insurance Rates". Louisiana homeowners face the highest insurance rates in the country. Yet, rates in other hurricane-prone states are dropping. Louisiana drivers pay the second highest auto insurance premiums in the nation, but the state ranks 17th for traffic fatalities. Why are our rates so high? Explore "Extreme Premiums: Louisiana Insurance Rates" on Louisiana Public Square, Wednesday, September 28th at 7 p.m. October *Louisiana Public Square* will be held in Shreveport on Thursday, October 20th, coordinating with Red River Radio for a program on *School Dropouts in Louisiana*.

Submitted by: Barbara A Williams
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