LETA FULL BOARD MEETING

♦June 8, 2017♦ 12:00 Noon ♦

LPB Board Room♦ 7733 Perkins Road ♦Baton Rouge, LA

**Members Present:** Chair., Gwendolyn Carter, William Weldon, Wayne Berry, Barbara DeCuir, Father James Carter, Glen Kinsey, Jada Lewis, Julie Cherry, Nikki Godfrey, Eartha Cross, Gwen Guillotte, and Valencia Burton.

**Employees Present:** Clay Fourrier, Joanne Gaudet, Jeanne Smith, Christina Melton, Beth Courtney and YaVonya Kelley.

**Call to Order:** Gwendolyn “Gigi” Carter, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** She called for the motion to accept the Minutes from the April 13, 2017 meeting. Wayne Berry motioned and Valencia Burton seconded. Motion carried.

**Chairman’s Report:** Chairman Carter presided over the Presentation of Resolutions and Awards to leaving board members, Dr. William Weldon and Barbara DeCuir. Chairman along with CEO Beth Courtney and board members thanked them for their great service to LPB. Chairman also welcomed the two (2) new board members: Doreen O. Brasseaux and Nancy S. Harrelson who were given the “Oath to Office” by Steve Hawkland. Chairman also informed the board of two (2) committees that will be formed: Education and Technology. Glen Kinsey is the chairman of the Technology committee and others are being sought for the Education Committee. Chairman Carter also led a committee to replace the siting treasurer Dr. Weldon and Jada Lewis was chosen by and accepted the Treasurer Positon. Motioned by Nikki Godfrey and seconded by Gwen Guillotte. Motion carried. Chairman Carter also announced that Beth has for the first time used her authority to nominate to the Foundation Board Dr. Weldon and Barbara DeCuir to serve on the Friends Foundation Board.

**Financial Report:** Joanne Gaudet and Terri Crocket gave an overview of the finances of LETA and the Foundation. Copies were distributed to members. Terri gave an overview of the Friends finances and discussed upcoming events. Motion to accept by Julie Cherry and Father James Carter seconded. Motion carried.

**President’s Report:** Beth gave a summary of her travel to the PBS Annual Meeting stating Programs are looking very good and informed the Board that next year’s PBS meeting will be held in New Orleans. Comments on the upcoming Summer Camp for ages 4 and 5 year olds focusing on literacy and Science will began Monday, June 12, 2017 and last for three (3) weeks. She committed on the “Big Buddy” tour that took place today with children touring the building, stating Tours for the children are on the rise. She also commented on the Bill Moyers Event which was held at the Old State Capital and was very successful. Beth further stated that there will be no meetings in July and the next meeting will be held in August, 2017.

**Christina Melton** gave a summary of the presentation: *Responding in an Emergency* that she gave during the PBS Annual Conference stating over 200 play time pads were given out to pre-k students in parishes affected by the Louisiana Flood. These worked without internet and they were well received by students and teachers.

Christina also shared with the board the LPB upcoming documentary on the “Vietnam War” that has over 18 hours of documentary stating the parts that she and Beth viewed were very moving and heartwarming.

**Underwriting-** Jean Smith stated This year the overwhelming comments about PBS Kids programming were for Peg + Cat and Nature Cat…two of our newer and STEM oriented shows. She further stated Dr. Arceneaux was successful in securing the funds for the 50th Anniversary of CODOFIL documentary that will air in early 2018. We should secure these dollars before the turn of the fiscal year, which brings our underwriting total for booked business to $411,560.41 or 82% of goal. Thanks to Dr. Arceneaux and his efforts.

**Production-** Clay Fourrier gave highlights on the upcoming topics for “The State Were In”; to include: Reporter’s Roundtable of the blame for the state’s falling revenue. The production department will be involved with the recording of ORAL HISTORY by veterans, CODOFIL 50th Anniversary Documentary; and the Oil and gas-impact to our budget; Comite River proposed progress; In-home/Nursing home discussion and wrapping up the 2017 Louisiana Legislature session. Louisiana Public Square will do an encore presentation on the Black & the Blue. He also announced New Employee Andre’ Moreau as Anchor/Managing Editor at LPB.

**Adjournment:**  Julie Cherry motion for dismissal and Valencia Burton seconded motion carried. With no further business discussed dismissal at 1:05 PM.

Submitted by: YaVonya Kelley