

MINUTES
TELEPHONIC PUBLIC SESSION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Call to Order

Chair Ramer called to order the public session of the Board of Directors at 4:11 pm Eastern Time on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. The following directors participated virtually:

Bruce M. Ramer, Chair;
 Laura G. Ross, Vice Chair;
 Ruby Calvert;
 Miriam Hellreich;
 Robert Mandell; and
 Tom Rothman.

Liz Sembler was absent.

The following officers and staff were also in attendance:

Patricia Harrison, President and Chief Executive Officer;
 Michael Levy, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer;
 Teresa Safon, Senior Vice President, Chief of Staff and Corporate Secretary;
 West Smithers, Senior Vice President and General Counsel;
 Bill Tayman, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer;
 Anne Brachman, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs;
 Stacey Decker, Senior Vice President, Innovation and System Strategies;
 Kathy Merritt, Senior Vice President, Radio, Journalism and CSG Services;
 Deb Sanchez, Senior Vice President, Educational Media and Learning Experience;
 Kathryn Washington, Senior Vice President, Television Content;
 Stephen Wilkins, Senior Vice President, Human Resources and DEI;
 Stephen Wolfe, Chief Technology Officer, Senior Vice President, Information Technology;
 Kimberly Howell, Inspector General;
 Kate Arno, Vice President, CSG and Station Initiatives;
 Deborah Carr, Vice President, Operations and Strategy;
 Brendan Daly, Vice President, Communications;
 Michael Fragale, Vice President and General Manager, Education Strategy and Content;
 Beth Jacobs, Vice President, Digital Strategy and Innovation;
 Joy Lin, Vice President, Journalism;
 Nick Stromann, Vice President and Controller;
 Beth Walsh, Vice President, System Strategies;
 Jacquie Gales Webb, Vice President, Radio; and
 Sarah Kildall, Board Affairs, Manager.

Adoption of Agenda and Determination of Closed Status

Chair Ramer called for a motion to adopt the meeting agenda and close the meeting for agenda items 5 through 7. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the agenda was adopted unanimously as presented.

Invitation to Disclose Conflicts of Interest

In accordance with the CPB Code of Ethics for Directors, Chair Ramer invited directors to disclose possible conflicts of interest regarding the meeting agenda. There were none.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Ramer called for a motion to approve the minutes of the public session of the December 1-2, 2021, meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as presented.

Chair and Directors' Remarks

Chair Ramer congratulated Ms. Ross on her reappointment and welcomed returning board member Ms. Sembler and new board member Mr. Rothman.

Resolution Accepting Audited Financials

Chair Ramer called for a motion to approve the resolution to accept the FY 2021 audited financial statements, which has been reviewed and accepted by the Audit and Finance Committee meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the resolution was approved unanimously.

Resolution re Updates to the Audit and Finance Committee Charter

Chair Ramer called for a motion to adopt the Audit and Finance Committee Charter as revised. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the charter was adopted unanimously.

President's Report

Ms. Harrison reported that CPB requested \$565 million for CPB's base appropriation, \$20 million for interconnection and shared infrastructure, \$30 million for Ready To Learn and \$20 million for Homeland Security equipment funding to stations for the FY 2022 appropriations cycle. CPB remains thankful for bipartisan support in Congress for public media.

Ms. Harrison noted that CPB's "three D's" – diversity, digital and dialogue – continue to serve as a framework for CPB's funding investments. CPB funds new technologies to deliver public media content over multiple platforms, and expand the pipeline of diverse storytellers, content-makers and producers that will connect to audiences diverse in race, heritage, age, gender, geography and point of view. CPB programs and initiatives include American Graduate, Veterans Coming Home, StoryCorps, investigative journalism such as America Amplified and FRONTLINE, and children's programming such as *Molly of Denali* and *Alma's Way*. CPB-supported programs that premiered in Black History Month included "The American Diplomat" on American Experience and "American Reckoning" on FRONTLINE.

Ms. Harrison reported that CPB provided public health emergency grants to public television and radio stations in areas with low COVID vaccination and high infection rates. The funds made possible station engagement with their communities through trusted local health and community leaders, and to deliver fact-based, lifesaving information in English, Spanish, or a local tribal language. CPB also supported journalism through PBS NewsHour, NPR and local and regional journalism collaboratives, and their coverage of the one-year anniversary of the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Ms. Harrison reported on CPB investments in innovation throughout the system, including support for digital transformation programs, the modernization of the public media interconnection systems and the development of a public media Content Management System and Single Sign-On Service.

Ms. Harrison reported on CPB's engagement with the public media system through the annual Public Media Thought Leader Forum at the 2022 NETA Conference on January 24. Public media professionals joined the virtual forum to hear business, government and media leaders share their thoughts about our democracy, the state of our civil society, and how public media plays a crucial role in helping to break through the disinformation and misinformation that is feeding political and social divisiveness.

Ms. Harrison reported that NPR has been rotating correspondents in and out of Ukraine as tensions between Russia and Ukraine escalate. CPB is working with NPR to identify ways to help ensure journalists' safety and security and support the work of the NPR foreign bureaus in this time of crisis. Ms. Harrison concluded her report.

Mses. Calvert and Hellreich commended CPB's Thought Leader Forum.

Future Agenda Items

Chair Ramer invited members of the Board to send suggestions for future agenda items. Ms. Calvert requested a future presentation on the CPB-supported work of the National Multicultural Alliance (NMCA) organizations.

Executive Session

At 4:43 pm Eastern Time, Chair Ramer closed the meeting for executive session.

[The minutes for these discussions are contained in the executive session record of February 15, 2022.]

The meeting adjourned in executive session.