

**LOUISIANA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AUTHORITY
FULL BOARD MEETING
October 9, 2025 ♦ 12:00 PM ♦ LPB Board Room
7733 Perkins Road ♦ Baton Rouge, LA 70810
and
Via Electronic Means Pursuant to R.S. 42:17.2**

Members Present: Chris Wegmann, Howard White, Misty Wyble, Lance Harris, Erin Donnelly, Sonny Cranch, Dr. Laura Lindsay, Conrad Comeaux, Sharon Reine, Dr. Saundra McGuire, and Taft Kleinpeter

Via Teleconference: Dan Hare, Dr. Tina Holland, Sally Davis, William Bradford and Dr. Courtney Phillips (12:10pm).

Members Absent: Jeff Thomas, Tracie Woods, and Elizabeth Crochet.

Staff Present: Clarence "C.C." Copeland, Kimberly Ducote, Angela Bessix, Matt Tessier, and Terri Crockett (Friends of LPB).

Staff Present Via Teleconference: Trace Purvis.

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Wegmann, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

Chris Wegmann ensured that all attending online could see and hear the meeting.

Chris Wegmann asked Sonny Cranch to conduct a roll call vote in Dan Hare's (Secretary) stead with the following members confirming their attendance: Chris Wegmann, Howard White, Misty Wyble, Lance Harris, Erin Donnelly, Sonny Cranch, Dr. Laura Lindsay, Conrad Comeaux, Sharon Reine, Dr. Saundra McGuire, Taft Kleinpeter, Dan Hare, Dr. Tina Holland, Sally Davis, William Bradford and Dr. Courtney Phillips.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chris Wegmann, Chair, issued a call for any public comments, and there were none in person or online.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS: Matt Tessier, Deputy Director, administered the oath of office to new LETA member, Taft Kleinpeter, representing the Louisiana School Boards' Association.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dan Hare presented the minutes of the LETA full board meeting from August 14, 2025, and asked that the minutes be approved. Dr. Saundra McGuire noted one correction: that Dr. Tina Holland was listed twice (once as present and once as absent). A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Dr. Saundra McGuire and was seconded by Sharon Reine. A Roll call vote was taken, and with all in favor the motion passed.

LETA FINANCIAL UPDATE: Sonny Cranch, Treasurer, presented the LETA financial update. Conrad Comeaux made a motion to approve the financial update, which was seconded by Dr. Laura Lindsay. A Roll call vote was taken, and with all in favor the motion passed.

LETA AUDIT REPORT: Kim Ducote, LETA Director of Business Services, presented the LETA audit report, noting that there were no findings. Sonny Cranch made a motion to approve the financial update, which was seconded by Dr. Saundra McGuire. A Roll call vote was taken, and with all in favor the motion passed.

FRIENDS OF LPB REPORT: Howard White, Chair of Friends of LPB (FLPB) gave the FLPB report:

- **Power On Generator Raffle** – \$89,380 final revenue; a 6.25% increase over last year.
- **Win the Wheels Raffle** – will run from October 15 – January 14.
- **Passport** – Beginning November 1, membership will increase to \$96 annually, with grandfathering of existing members. FLPB will be hosting Passport and Pastries, a training session for users of Passport.
- **Save the Dates**
 - LPB Holiday Party December 4, 2025, at the Burden Museum and Gardens from 6:00p to 9:00p.
 - A Very Monkey Christmas children's event will be held December 5, 2025, also at Burden Museum and Gardens.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Matt Tessier, Deputy Director, reported on the following:

- Matt reminded the board of Sexual Harassment and Ethics Training that is due by December 31, 2025.
- Lance Harris hosted Matt, LETA Director of Educational Services Nancy Tooraen, and the team from the Imagination Library of Louisiana to discuss strategies for expanding Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to the Northeast section of the state, where most of the un-served areas exist.
- Lance Harris has invited LPB and the team from the Imagination Library of Louisiana to the next BESE meeting to present on LPB resources and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.
- Matt briefed the board on the upcoming Special Legislative Session on October 23, which will focus on election laws.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: C.C. Copeland, LPB President and CEO, reported on the following:

- C.C. indicated the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) will close its doors on September 30 following elimination of its federal funding, with 115 public television and radio stations projected to close, and numerous layoffs across PBS member stations already occurring.
- C.C. indicated that a pooled philanthropic fund supported by major donors, called the Public Media Bridge Fund, has been established to help public media stations that are most at risk of closure.
- C.C. briefed the board on the following original productions from LPB:
 - *LA 64* - LPB's new travel show exploring Louisiana's 64 parishes.
 - *An Evening with George Bell and Friends* – Christmas jazz concert at the Manship Theater in Baton Rouge, airing in December.
 - An Evening at the Mansion – Christmas concert filmed at the Governor's Mansion airing in December.
- LPB welcomes Christina Jensen as the newest anchor of *Louisiana: the State We're In*.
- C.C. indicated that we have begun preparing our state budget request for FY 27.
- Entergy will be replacing 16 electric poles at the WLPB transmitter site.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Chris Wegmann appointed the following individuals to compose the LETA Officer Nominating Committee: William Bradford, Sharon Reine, Lance Harris, and Dr. Saundra McGuire. Officers will be voted on at the December full board meeting.
- Thursday December 4, will be the LETA/Friends of LPB Christmas Party.
- Chris reminded the board that ethics and sexual harassment training is due by the end of the year.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business before the board.

Adjournment: Chris Wegmann, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 12:53 PM.

Minutes prepared by Angela Bessix and Matt Tessier

LETA STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

AS OF: November 30, 2025 (5 months into the fiscal year)

Month 5	PRIOR	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
	FISCAL YEAR	FISCAL YEAR	FISCAL YEAR	FISCAL YEAR
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BALANCE
	TO-DATE	TO-DATE	FY26	FY26
	FY25	FY26		
REVENUE				
GENERAL FUND	\$ 11,780,264	\$ 8,783,955	\$ 8,783,955	\$ -
SELF GENERATED	\$ 1,029,085	\$ 860,708	\$ 2,344,201	\$ 1,483,493
INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS	\$ 200,379	\$ 82,125	\$ 315,917	\$ 233,792
STATUTORY DEDICATION (EEF)	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ -
STATUTORY DEDICATION (ILLA)	\$ 1,401,448	\$ 1,401,448	\$ 1,401,448	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 14,486,176	\$ 11,203,236	\$ 12,920,521	\$ 1,717,285
EXPENDITURES				
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$ 2,854,527	\$ 2,731,852	\$ 7,050,727	\$ 4,318,875
TRAVEL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,207	\$ 1,207
OPERATING SERVICES	\$ 793,577	\$ 896,416	\$ 1,958,202	\$ 1,061,786
OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$ 13,439	\$ 28,431	\$ 65,517	\$ 37,086
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,200	\$ 43,375	\$ 26,175
OTHER CHARGES	\$ 497,604	\$ 446,517	\$ 1,893,151	\$ 1,446,634
ACQ & MAJOR REPAIRS	\$ 476,858	\$ 763,398	\$ 1,498,818	\$ 735,420
INTERAGENCY PAYMENTS	\$ 359,998	\$ 304,668	\$ 409,524	\$ 104,856
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,013,503	\$ 5,188,482	\$ 12,920,521	\$ 7,732,039

Friends of LPB

LETA Report

Thursday, December 11, 2025

- Win the Wheels Car Raffle**

Current Revenue: \$44,500

Grand Prize: 2026 Toyota Camry Hybrid (Value: \$30,285)

Alternative Grand Prize: \$20,000 cash

Ticket Price: \$50

The raffle ends **Wednesday, January 14**, with the drawing on January 16. Winners will be announced on **social media** and **SWI**.

- A Very Merry Christmas with Curious George**

About **300** tickets were sold, raising **\$13,500**, which includes a **\$5,000 sponsorship** from the Baton Rouge Clinic. Despite cold and rainy weather, 60% of ticket holders attended, and the children had a wonderful time meeting Curious George and Santa Claus

- December Pledge Drive**

Current Revenue: \$40,197

The drive wraps up on Sunday, December 14. On **Wednesday, December 17**, we'll feature a special drop-in program for the December pledge: *Michalopoulos: The Art of Celebration* from WLAE, premiering at 7:00 PM.

2026 LETA BOARD MEETINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8	EXECUTIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12	FULL LETA BOARD
THURSDAY, MARCH 12	EXECUTIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, APRIL 9	FULL LETA BOARD
THURSDAY, MAY 14	EXECUTIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JUNE 11	FULL LETA BOARD
JULY	NO MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 13	FULL LETA BOARD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10	EXECUTIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8	FULL LETA BOARD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12	EXECUTIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10	FULL LETA BOARD

Please Note:

The LETA Board Meetings will be held on the **second Thursday of every month at 12:00 PM** in the LPB Boardroom.

There will be **no meeting in July**.