

Draft minutes  
 Regular Pacifica National Board OPEN Session  
 Teleconference Meeting  
 Thursday, Aug 12, 2021, 8:30 pm ET  
 All times are Eastern Time  
 (meeting notice appended to the end of this agenda)

Directors:

Thomas O'Rourke, WPFW, Listener - p	Jim Osborne, KPFK, Listener - exc
Chris Cory, KPFA, Listener- p	Ron Pinchback, WPFW, Staff -p
Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, WPFW, Listener - p	Ralph Poynter, WBAI, Listener - p
Lynden Foley, KPFT, Listener - exc	Sandra Rawline, KPFT, Listener, Vice-Chair - p
Jose S. Gutierrez, Jr., KAOS, Affiliate	Lawrence Reyes, KPFK, Listener - p
Heather Gray, WRFG, Affiliate - p	Shawn Rhodes, WBAI, Staff - p
Julie Hewitt, WPFW, Listener - p	James Sagurton, WBAI, Listener - p
Sabrina Jacobs, KPFA, Staff - p	Alex Steinberg, WBAI, Listener, Chair - p
Wally James, KPFT, Staff - p	Andrea Turner, KPFA, Listener - exc
DeWayne Lark, KPFT, Listener - p	Elizabeth von Gunten, KPFK, Listener - p
Ali Lexa, KPFK, Staff - p	Tom Voorhees, KPFA, Listener - exc

Others:

Lydia Brazon, Interim Executive Director - p  
 Anita Sims, Interim Chief Financial Officer - p  
 Polina Vasiliev, PNB Secretary- p  
 Arthur Schwartz, Pacifica Counsel  
 John Tatum, Parliamentarian - p  
 Marianne Edain, 2021 Recording Secretary - p

1. Preliminary items 5 min.

- A. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 8:45 pm
- B. Roll Call
- C. Report-out from closed session 8/5/21: The Pacifica National Board met in closed session to discuss personnel, proprietary, and legal matters of a sensitive nature.

D. Excused Absences – Lynden Foley, Jim Osborne, Andrea Turner, Tom Voorhees

E. Identify Timekeepers

people –  
 items -

F. Announcements

2. Agenda approval 5 min. – The agenda was approved as presented

3. Approve Minutes of the Open Session 8/5/2021 3 min. The minutes were approved as presented

4. iED Report & Q & A – Lydia Brazon 10 min.

Lydia reporting on the impact of COVID on donations and safety steps necessary to respond at the stations.

iCFO – Anita

– Anita reported that the 990 was timely submitted. She is now responding to questions from the finance committee. The California Attorney General has submitted a series of questions with a short reply deadline. She is very busy but sees progress.

5. Committee Reports – 20 min -

a. Personnel – 5 min Sandra –

Alex reported that the committee met Monday. There were no motions. They have decided to start filtering through resumes received. They intend to contact those who appear likely to see if they are still interested. They will meet in executive session to decide which resumes to pursue.

b. Strategic Planning 5 min – no meeting, no report

c) Finance - KPFK budget - 5 min – James.

The committee looked at KPFK's June finances with Anita. There is a significant deficit. They are significantly behind in fundraising. The committee is looking for potential cost savings. They are waiting for a copy of the FJC revised contract, and for the Houston brokerage contract. They expect to look at the KPFK budget at their next meeting.

d) Governance Committee – no report, Lawrence.

e) Other – 5 min

Tomas O'Rourke, tech comm – met 8-1-21 with a guest speaker. They are lining up guest experts to discuss the issue of Pacifica's place in the media world. There was discussion around assessing Pacifica's immediate tech needs. This will be looked into further. The meeting will be streamed on KPFTX. This led to discussion of potential for grants under the federal infrastructure bill. Which in turn led to discussion of the need for a qualified grant researcher and writer.

6. Unfinished business 5 min.

*none*

**7. New Business:**

***Motions on Delegate Election Timeline (See Appendix for 2 motions and bylaws citation and current NES schedule for 2021 Delegates Election) 15 min.***

Motion #1 (see appendix) was introduced.

Chair Alex ruled the motion out of order.

Thomas O'Rourke appealed the ruling. DeWayne Lark seconded.

After discussion the ruling was put to a vote. A yes vote agreed that the motion was out of order.

Voting yes were Chris Cory, Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, Heather Gray, Julie Hewitt, Wally James, Ali Lexa, Ron Pinchback, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Beth von Gunten, and Alex Steinberg.

Voting no were DeWayne Lark, Thomas O'Rourke, and Ralph Poynter.

There being 11 yes votes and 3 no votes, the motion was ruled out of order.

Motion #2 (see appendix below) was then moved.

Lawrence moved and the motion was put to a vote.

Voting yes were Chris Cory, DeWayne Lark, Thomas O'Rourke, and Lawrence Reyes.

Voting no were Wally James, Ali Lexa, Ron Pinchback, Ralph Poynter, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Beth von Gunten, and Alex Steinberg.

There being 4 yes votes and 9 no votes, the motion failed.

8. Adjourn to closed session . The meeting was adjourned at 10:21

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Meeting Notice

**Thursday, August 12, 2021**

**8:30 PM ET**

**Pacifica National Board**

**Teleconference**

**Emergency Session:** Meeting called by Directors Steinberg, Sagurton and Pinchback to discuss governance, legal, financial matters and personnel matters. Some of the meeting will be in Executive Session. Bylaws amendments will be introduced. These items are time sensitive.

**Purpose:** See explanation for meeting.

**Committee Members**

Alex Steinberg

[pnbalex@gmail.com](mailto:pnbalex@gmail.com)

Posted: 08/05/2021 - 11:30 PM



## Appendix

### Motion #1

Pacifica National Board Resolution – Submitted August 10, 2021 for consideration at August 12, 2021 PNB Regular Meeting by Director Thomas O'Rourke (WPFW) et alia.

WHEREAS: Pacifica's Listener-Members, which constitute the largest portion of Pacifica's voting members, have not yet had adequate opportunity to hear each station's LSB candidates present their positions and platforms on-air BEFORE the LSB election voting starts, which is currently scheduled for August 16, 2021 through October 16, 2021.

WHEREAS: This year the number of LSB candidates network wide total 128 Listener candidates and 33 Staff candidates. Here is the breakdown of LSB candidates per signal area:

KPFA: 22 Listeners candidates, 7 staff candidates  
KPFK: 38 Listeners candidates, 7 staff candidates  
KPFT: 25 Listeners candidates, 10 staff candidates  
WBAI: 27 Listeners candidates, 6 staff candidates  
WPFW: 16 Listeners candidates, 3 staff candidates  
[https://elections.pacifica.org/candstmt/cand\\_list.php](https://elections.pacifica.org/candstmt/cand_list.php)

WHEREAS: As of today, August 12, 2021, the current LSB elections schedule beginning on August 16, 2021 leaves only four (4) days before voting begins.

WHEREAS: Due to the large numbers of Listener candidates running in each of the five signal areas, four (4) days is clearly an inadequate amount of time for Listener-Members to be adequately informed ON-AIR as to who specifically is running for the LSBs, and what each of the candidate's qualifications, positions and platforms are.

WHEREAS: Because so little time to reach listeners on-air has been designated before voting begins, the LSB candidates' on-air campaigns at Pacifica will not fairly or adequately facilitate each candidate's rightful access to the air in time to have impact upon voter's choices, thereby preventing the fulfillment of the legal requirements and democratic spirit of the Pacifica Bylaws pertaining to its LSB elections.

WHEREAS: Recently, similar problems manifested in regard to inadequately scheduled ON-AIR debates and discussions concerning the New Day Pacifica Bylaws Amendment Referendum requiring the National Election Supervisor to postpone the voting by 15 days to begin on June 7, 2021. Due to the unprecedented numbers of LSB candidates running in this election, the same problem exists but at an exponentially bigger scale which requires a greater extension of the on-air campaign period before voting starts.

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED:

That the PNB will immediately direct the IED to:

- 1) Postpone by ONE MONTH the starting date for voting in the five LSB elections from Saturday, August 16, 2021 to instead begin on Thursday, Sept 16, 2021 (with voting ending on November 16, 2021)...

And,

- 2) That the PNB will instruct the IED to directly and specifically mandate the five GMs (facilitated by station staff) to schedule in saturation and rotation by preempting regular

programming of prime time schedule slots, the initial broadcast and rebroadcast of the following:

A) LSB candidate carts,

B) Prerecorded and/or live candidate forums and debates (including listener call-in comments & questions for candidates during live broadcasts).

And,

3) That the IED will directly review and if necessary (due to any impasse or problem) completely bypass the NES and LES's assigned roles in regard to implementation of the above (2) in order to ensure that adequate democratic and inclusive processes are facilitated without delay by the GMs and station staff at all five stations regarding LSB candidates adequate prime time access to the station's broadcast schedule.

## **Motion #2**

“Whereas, members are entitled to be informed about the views and experiences of people requesting their votes for delegate seats, and

Whereas, neither 1-minute candidate statements aka "carts" nor candidate debates have been aired on the stations' airwaves, and

Whereas, due to the "digital divide", many members do not have significant access to the internet for listening to hours-long debates on YouTube, and

Whereas, some members tend to vote soon after receiving ballots but on the current schedule this would be a disservice to both voters who have not been informed and to candidates who would go unheard,

The Pacifica National Board recommends that no ballots be sent out until all listener candidate carts are put into rotation with a published schedule at each station, and that each listener candidate has the opportunity to participate in at least one live on-air candidate forum with listener call-ins during a daytime or evening drive-time airing, or until August 30, 2021, whichever is sooner.

Further, the Interim Executive Director shall instruct all General Managers to fully cooperate with the election supervisors to provide sufficient airtime between 7am and 10pm for the live candidate forums."

Lawrence Reyes  
KPFK Listener Director  
Ralph Poynter  
WBAI Listener Director

