

**Minutes of WOMR Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 18, 2023, 5:15pm**  
**Davis Space, WOMR, 494 Commercial St, Provincetown MA 02657**  
**and Zoom**

**Attendees:** John Braden (staff), Matthew Dunn (staff), Sheila House, Breon Dunigan, Dan Gallagher, Fred Boak, Justine Alten, Clarke Doody, Georgene Riedl, Indira Ganesan, Chris Kelly (broadcast engineer), Mike Fee (public)

**Regrets:** Eli Ingraham, Barbara Blaisdell, Sarah Burrill, Tony Pierson, Lyn Cason, Sheila Lyons, Janice Roderick

**Meeting called to order at 5:20pm**

**Minutes:** Georgene motioned to approve minutes of April 2023 meeting, Clarke seconded, approval was unanimous

**Public Comment:** none

**Broadcast Redundancy Project Proposal:**

Chris Kelly, WOMR's broadcast engineer for 6, 7, or more years (we all seem to have lost count!) presented a proposal for equipment redundancy which would allow us to better handle when problems arise at our transmitter sites.

Modern equipment would allow us to have backup links to our transmitters. Also a method of more easily switching between transmitters at each site.

Some of the equipment in the proposal would be gear being decommissioned by WGBH (Chris' primary engineering job is with them), there is additional equipment that we would have to purchase.

Chris recommends that we focus on the links from station to transmitters because while our WOMR transmitter in Provincetown is old and some might suggest replacing, in his opinion it is running remarkably smooth and our WFMR transmitter in Orleans is essentially brand new. Plus, we have a third (lower power) transmitter, which Chris recommends moving to Provincetown as a redundant transmitter for our primary signal. There was talk of eventually getting a 4<sup>th</sup> transmitter for Orleans, and there are some which WGBH may be decommissioning in the future.

**Q&A**

Breon: is this giving us the ability to fix remotely?

Chris: more like having backups to existing equipment; if a location went down we could switch to a backup relatively quickly & seamless.

John: it buys us time to get things fixed rather than being down while repairs are made

Chris: without switching mechanism, it can take a day or two to switch transmitters at a site

## **WOMR Board of Directors – May 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Page 2**

### **Broadcast Redundancy Project Proposal (continued):**

Dan: is WGBH okay with us using their discarded equipment?

Chris: WGBH is happy the equipment is not going in a dumpster and it will come with letter from WGBH CTO

There was some more talk about alternatives to Comcast for our primary links to our transmitters. Dan asked about OpenCape. Chris replied that over time OpenCape prices have been dropping, their service runs close to the station, Mt Gilboa, and the Orleans antenna site, and that his experience with them has been better than Comcast; there have been very few issues and when there are he is able to talk to humans. Chris suggests we get formal quotes for both internet and “pipe to pipe” connections.

**Finance Committee Report:** see attached  
summary: finances remain strong

**Executive Director’s Report:** see attached  
a few highlights:

- pledge drive was phenomenal (greater than \$100k raised online and \$21,500 raised from direct mail appeal)

- Anderson rep met with Provincetown historical commission and there are issues repairing vs replacing the double doors

- triathlon volunteers are still needed: 3-6pm Friday June 16 and Saturday morning June 17

- Action Item:** All board members please review Policy Committee’s proposed changes to WOMR bylaws; if Board approves, they will go to the annual meeting for ratification

**Broadcast issues & updates:** see attached  
summary:

- there was a nitrogen leak at WOMR transmitter. Techs came to fix it and it should be fairly inexpensive; while they were there they also inspected the antenna

- WFMR transmitter is experiencing a harmonics issue

### **Marketing and Outreach Coordinator Update:**

- so far four potential applicants

- 2 applications in hand
- 1 who has expressed interest
- 1 who is way overqualified

- hope to shut down applications at the end of May

- Clarke has a DJ in mind and will suggest she put her hat in the ring

**Committee Minutes/Reports:** no comments

## **WOMR Board of Directors – May 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Page 2**

### **Other business:**

Clarke asked to leave Finance Committee and remain on Events Committee

Events Committee preview:

working on a Fall event “Rockin’ Picnic in the Park”, the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of October (10/21) at Brooks Park in Harwich

working on late June Meet & Greet at Devil’s Purse Brewing in South Dennis – more info to come

**Next meeting:** Thursday, June 15, 5:15pm in Community Room, Truro Public Library, 7 Standish Way, North Truro, 02652

**Adjournment:** Sheila House motioned to adjourn meeting, Breon seconded, approval was unanimous, meeting adjourned at 6:26pm

~ Submitted June 9, 2023 - Fred Boak, Board Clerk

## **Finance Report / May 6, 2023**

### **Our finances remain strong:**

- End of April checking balance was \$28,355.95 - today(May 6th) it is \$41,707.32;
- End of April Operating Reserve balance was \$50,658.58 - today it is \$84,576.30.

The increase in balances is due to receiving the second CPB payment of \$33,559 on May 2nd, and flows from another successful pledge drive. We continue to manage our funds to maximize interest income by keeping the checking account between \$30-50,000 and transferring any funds above that to the Operating Reserve.

The CD portfolio remains untouched with a current value of \$100,596.

The Equipment Reserve, also untouched, is currently \$70,723.

So, total available cash is currently \$297,603.55 (\$126,283.62 operating funds and over \$171 thousand in other reserve accounts).

Thank you

Tony Pierson

**Report of the Executive Director**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors WOMR**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 2023 / Davis Space at WOMR**

**Spring Pledge Drive:**

Below are the numbers for our Spring Drive which turned out to be the most successful Spring Drive on the books.

Goals for Spring:

On-air Appeal: \$80,000 / Raised: \$100,604

Direct Appeal: \$16,000 / Raised: \$21,845

Funds raised put us \$26,450 over our budgeted goal.

**Building Projects:**

Our rep from Andersen Windows met with the Historic Commission on April 26th. The Commission came to the station on Wednesday afternoon to look at the project (which is tomorrow as I write this), I will have more to report at the meeting. ADDED: the Historic Commission looked at the job and agreed that replacement was the only path. They approved the project with a couple of stipulations. I am waiting to hear back from Andersen to see if they can accommodate.

I would like the rep from Andersen to look at the front door for the radio station as well. I am very pleased with them so far and thought this would be a good time to get that addressed if it's not too expensive. (see photo below) ADDED: Andersen is unable to replace this door because of its size and the fact that it swings outward.

**Wellfleet Sprint Triathlon:**

Now in its 13th year, this is our biggest fundraiser that we do out in the community. The race has been sold out for a couple of months now and we expect to collect \$6k in sponsorships. We are still in need of volunteers for the day of the race, which is June 17, and for set up at 3:00 PM the afternoon prior.

**Committees:**

The Policy Committee met again this week, they are now reassessing the policies on committees. I have included the changes/updates to the bylaws that the PolCom worked on earlier this year in the meeting packet for review. I believe the board will need to vote to approve them before we take them to the annual meeting for final approval.

~ Submitted May 15, 2023 / John Braden, Executive Director ~



## **Broadcast Issues**

### **WOMR May 18, 2023**

**WOMR:** We had been experiencing a nitrogen leak in the feedline from the transmitter to the antenna. A rigging company came out to the site on Tuesday to inspect the feedline (and the antenna while they were on top of the tank). The leak was found at the spot where the feedline is connected to the transmitter. Turns out an o-ring needed to be replaced.

**WFMR:** There is a harmonics issue at WFMR that I don't fully understand. Chris Kelly is working with Nautel (the transmitter manufacturer) to remedy the issue.

