

Minutes for the regular National Finance Committee meeting March 14, 2023.

Meeting convened at 8:47 PM (ET) a quorum being present, the Chair and Secretary being present.

Attending: Teresa Allen, Sharon Adams, Elizabeth von Gunten, Kamau Harris, Julie Hewitt, R. Paul Martin (Secretary), James McFadden, Sean Kelly McPherson, James Sagurton (Chair) also attending was Chris Cory.

Agenda:

1. Convene meeting
 2. Roll call
 3. Adopt agenda
 4. Minutes (5 minutes)
 5. Review of Central Services Formula (30 minutes)
 6. Report from the Executive Director (15 minutes)
 7. Set annual meeting dates (10 minutes)
 8. Select Budget time lines (10 minutes)
 9. Adjourn no later than 10:15 PM (ET)
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The Chair announced that he'd gotten the results of the PNB committee elections at 1:14 AM (ET) that morning and that Teresa Allen was the new KPFT Director on the NFC.

Motion: (James Sagurton) "To adopt the agenda." (Passed without objection)

Minutes 8:53 PM (ET)

Motion: (R. Paul Martin) "To approve the minutes of the January 10, 2023, NFC meeting." (Passed without objection)

Review of Central Services Formula 8:54 PM (ET)

Chris Cory, a former Chair of the NFC, told the committee that although the NFC had passed a Central Services formula on January 19, 2021, that formula had never been implemented. He said that similar motions had been passed a decade or more earlier. He told the committee that the National Office needs to be funded and that Pacifica shouldn't fund the National Office at an absolute minimum, but should maybe fund it for about 20% over expenses in order to meet emergencies.

The committee discussed the possible details of a Central Services formula including how often that formula should be reviewed. It was noted during the discussion that Pacifica Radio Archives had not been the subject of a Central Services formula motion. The committee discussed the National Office's projected annual expenses of about \$1.2 Million to \$1.4 Million. Whether or not to provide exceptions for various extra expenses that some stations have such as rent was discussed. Arrearages in Central Services payments and the need for all stations to actually make Central Services payments was discussed.

Motion: (Elizabeth von Gunten) “To extend the time for this item by 10 minutes.” (Passed without objection) 9:40 PM (ET)

The need to get the audits done in a timely way was discussed. It was discussed that different stations have tended to be the most successful stations in Pacifica at different times. Chris Cory agreed to work with the Executive Director and National Business Manager on number crunching on these details for the next discussion of this topic.

Motion: (Elizabeth von Gunten) “To extend the time for this item by five minutes.” (Passed without objection) 9:44 PM (ET)

There was a discussion regarding stations that rent actually paying property taxes because the expense of those taxes are always passed on to the tenant by the landlord even though the property taxes are not a separate line item on the renters’ actuals or budgets. The unpredictability of emergency expenses was discussed. How to balance out some stations not paying a 15% Central Services fee and still being able to fund the National Office was discussed.

Report from the Executive Director 9:58 PM (ET)

The Executive Director was not in attendance.

Set annual meeting dates 9:59 PM (ET)

Motion: (R. Paul Martin) “That the NFC meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 8:30 PM (ET), through March 2024.” (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Call for the orders of the day: (James Sagurton) 10:16 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) “To extend the time for this item by 15 minutes to discuss ‘Select Budget time lines.’” (Passed without objection) 10:16 PM (ET)

Select Budget time lines 10:16 PM (ET)

The committee again discussed a timeline for the FY24 budgets. It was requested that the committee Secretary write up a draft FY24 timeline for the committee to consider at a future meeting. The Secretary agreed to do that.

Adjourned 10:34 PM (ET)

Submitted by R. Paul Martin, Secretary.