

Minutes WBAI LSB Regular Monthly Meeting in Public Session 11-12-25

Present: Milton Allimadi, Carolyn Birden, John Brinkley, Randy Credico, Elliot Crown, Joan De Lorenzo, Paul De Rienzo, Jim Dingeman, Simon Fitzgerald, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Sally Gellert (PNB Director), Gloria Guillo (Vice-Chair), Queen Mother Imakhu, Bounubti Khammentou, Alejandrina Murphy, Katherine O'Sullivan (Chair), Cerene Roberts (PNB Director), James Sagurton (PNB Director), Sharonne Salaam, Max Schmid, M. Kay Williams (Secretary)

Absent: Gail Bey, Jim Freund, Keziah Glow (Interim Program Director), Alex Steinberg (PNB Director on suspension)

Also Present: Bob Hennelly (Interim General Manager), R. Paul Martin (Treasurer), Neale Vos (CAB Chair)

Final Agenda

1. Convene meeting- Ask for recording of the meeting to be started. Identify Timekeeper. Note how chat is to be used, plus other preliminary remarks by Chair including to note that as noted and discussed the last two months, the Pacifica National Board has taken action forbidding LSB/PNB member Alex Steinberg participation in this meeting and others.
2. Adopt Agenda. (20 minutes)
3. Roll Call. (5 minutes)
4. Excuse Absences. (5 minutes)
5. Approve outstanding minutes: October 8, 2025 Meeting. (5 minutes) Sent 11-5-25.
6. Report from Radio Committee. (12 minutes) — Shawn Rhodes and Sally Gellert
7. Reports of interim General Manager and interim Program Director. (12 minutes report 10 minutes discussion- Questions limited to One minute- Responses limited to 90 seconds) Bob Hennelly and Keziah Glow
8. Report from Pacifica National Board Directors. (20 minutes & 15 minutes discussion- Questions limited to one minute) — Sally Gellert, Cerene Roberts, James Sagurton, Alex Steinberg
9. Discussion: Appropriate thoughts for observing minutes of silence during LSB meetings and chance to express opinions about what people might choose to keep in mind. (5 minutes.)

Some names omitted last meeting: Assata Shakur, Jane Goodall, Robert Redford, Diane Keaton, and the Bad Ginger Cat Christopher.

10. One minute of silence. (One minute)
11. Treasurer's Report. (5 Minutes report 8 minutes discussion) — R. Paul Martin
12. Report from Community Advisory Board (2 Minutes) – Neale Vos
13. Report From Town Hall Committee. (5 minutes) — Jim Dingeman
14. Report from the Committee of Inclusion. (5 minutes) – Carolyn Birden, John Brinkley, Joan De Lorenzo, Cerene Roberts
15. Report from the LOFT Committee. (3 minutes) - John Brinkley
16. Management Search and Review Committee, Discussion. (5 minutes) – Jim Dingeman
17. Discussion and Possible Resolution: Dealing appropriately with attacks on Public and/or Listener Supported media. (7 minutes) – Jim Dingeman
18. Discussion: Launching additional streaming of (HD) WBAI channels (5 minutes) — Jim Dingeman
19. Using Current WBAI Studio Camera Capacity to Start YouTubing WBAI Content (5 minutes) — Jim Dingeman
20. Motion to split public comment into two sessions – Cerene Roberts – (7 min)

Whereas, the WBAI LSB values the input of the station's members and listeners who make time to attend meetings where we consider issues related to the station,

Moved that all future open meetings of the WBAI LSB will include two 15-minute Public Comment sessions at 7:45pm and 8:45pm instead of the current single Public Comment 30-minute period as the last agenda item at 9:15pm.

21. New Business

22. Public Comment. (30 minutes, 2 minutes maximum per speaker before next in queue to speak. Must begin no later than 9:16 PM ET.)
23. Adjourn no later than 9:46 PM ET (Note this, and start time for public comments is one minute later to reflect the meeting's one minute of silence).

7:02 pm ET The Chair convened the meeting, a quorum being present, and made her preliminary remarks. Jack de Palma appointed timekeeper.

7:04 pm ET The Chair called for a motion to adopt the agenda as screen shared and sent in advance to the LSB members by email.

Motion (Jim Dingeman) To adopt this agenda. Seconded (Gloria Guillo) Passed without objection.

7:05 pm ET Roll was called by the Secretary, results as above.

7:11 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To excuse all absences. Seconded (M. Kay Williams) Passed with the standing objection of Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, which the Chair ruled would be noted in the minutes.

7:12 pm ET Motion (Sally Gellert) To accept the minutes from 10-8-25, previously sent. Seconded (Jim Dingeman) Passed without objection.

7:13 pm ET The Chair recognized Shawn Rhodes and Sally Gellert to present the Radio Committee Report.

Highlights:

The management maintains there is no legal requirement for reports to the listeners.

The Board heard and discussed the Radio Committee Report.

7:18 pm ET The Chair recognized Bob Hennelly, the Interim General Manager, to give his report. He stated that Keziah Glow had a schedule conflict and was at another meeting.

Highlights (See full written report appended to these minutes)

On Hand:

- B of A \$48,482.06 (has a policy of keeping two payrolls ahead in the bank account)
- PayPal \$5,299.07

Revenue:

- ❖ \$ 25,000 from Subcarrier Rent Radio Maria, with \$10K promised in Jan, 26. Got appropriated by the Pacifica Foundation, and they promised to pay 1 ½ months 4Times Square Tower Rent, which they did, but then applied this sum to WBAI's outstanding balance receivable. In the opinion of WBAI's management team, the subcarriers get their signal off of our 4 Times Square signal, which diminishes it slightly, plus they utilize the expertise of our long-time field engineer Jake Glanz plus John Ameleh to provide technical assistance. Hence, this money should be applied to our 4Times Square rent.
- ❖ Early spring conventional pledge drive earned \$17K over goal of \$125K through 604 donations. We will be doing a pledge drive starting on Dec. 2 through the end of the year. Over the next year, we will hold a one-week pledge drive every quarter with the expectation of making at least \$100,000 each time.

- ❖ Union pledges \$56,340, with 108 new donors, 131 returning donors, and 73 new BAI Buddies. Over the last 18 months, we have successfully engaged unions representing 3 million households in a sustaining sponsorship program that netted the station \$319,090 in amounts that range from \$500 to \$50,000. These have proven to be a recurring source of revenue with unions renewing their commitments in six months increments. We recently got a \$14,000 pledge from the UFT and a \$50,000 sustaining underwriting from the TWU.
- ❖ Thanks to two bequests and one individual donor we have paid close to a half-million dollars in back tower rent and are now only three months behind.
- ❖ Over the last 18 months we have also used seasonal appeals that are online and on the air.
- ❖ BAI Buddy Program
 - Increased from \$23,000 to \$25,000 a month.
 - Total buddies increased from 1,264 to around 1,300
 - Average donation per person has increased from \$16.88 to \$17.72
 - Our biggest Buddy is donating \$500 monthly image.png
- ❖ We have also developed \$28,442.41 in PSA sustaining sponsorship from major community institutions: Health + Hospitals, New York City's municipal hospital system, as well as cultural institutions like the Public Theater and the Manhattan Theater Club.
- ❖ Major gifts of over \$500 or more from June 1, 2024 through Nov. 6, 2025 total an impressive \$647,930.96, *excluding bequests.*

Payables: -

- Payroll \$16,474 (twice a month)
- November's rent of \$2,500 has also paid to Working World (Landlord)
- 4 Times Square Tower – pd \$25,5000 by Pacifica as above but added to WBAI's "outstanding balance receivable."
- We have also paid out \$16,000 in back pay in the form of raises that had failed to be paid out going back to 2021.

Programming/Staff Notes:

- We had to rebuild the trust of listeners and producers alike which is why we did not do preemptions, other than for important events like Mayor Adams indictment, Oct. 18's No Kings Day and our national coverage of election night.
- We helped lead a revival of national programming including No Kings Day Oct. 18 that included six time zones, enlisted dozens of Pacifica reporters and was picked up by dozens of affiliates while also being run here in New York City and over KPFK's air in Los Angeles. We just did a five hour We Decide: 2025 national elections return program working with the Pacifica Affiliates and KPFA's News Department.
- We have produced new programs like Democracy & Destiny, which was underwritten for \$15,000 from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.
- We now have Labor and Healthcare Confidential with Marianne Pizzitola on Mondays at 5 PM
- Jesse Lent has been brought on as a part time producer of /We Decide: America at the Crossroads with Jenna Flanagan.
- News Director Rebecca Myles' program Frontline Voices continues to get traction.
- WBAI now has six union employees, up from four.

- We are finally starting work on building out Studio B which will give us the ability to produce radio outside of the LIVE air broadcast studio which will generate additional revenue, additional editorial product and provide redundancy for Master Control.
- We are also working regularly with the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY to produce /Audiofiles/, which provides a LIVE on air showcase for the program.
- In an act of solidarity with the Pacifica Affiliate Program we are working with Ursula Ruedenberg and the folks at WIOF, the Woodstock, NY Pacifica affiliate to upgrade their broadcast capability.
- We continue to assist WBAI's 9/11 WTC first responders and survivors from our former 120 Wall Street location get enrolled in the Victims Compensation Program and the World Trade Center Health Program per the NYC 9/11 Notice Act.
- Web Traffic Year-to-Date Analytics, plus change from last year
 - Homepage - 1,231,368 views - +4.77%
 - Listen Live (Live Audio Stream) - 548,386 views - +21.43%
 - Archives - 227,466 views - +2.49%.
 - News Articles - 11,460 views - +156.57%

Streaming and Archiving:

We've completed some major structural changes to the way we provide and archive our audio stream:

- Upgraded Barix Encoder to Telos Encoder, for more durability and customization
- Added an additional Telos encoder, to maintain one encoder per internet connection (Verizon and Spectrum). This ensures we have an available backup stream in the event of an outage
- Moved archiving software directly into the studio, on a dedicated server on the studio intranet. This eliminated any disruption in internet service from affecting archive recordings
- Ensured archive redundancy, by retaining an additional recorder in the cloud
- We also plan to implement a new piece of software - LiquidSoap. This will have the ability to take both copies of our streams from both internet connections simultaneously, and seamlessly switch between them if any one ISP has a service issue.

The Board heard and discussed the Interim General Manager's Report.

7:41 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To extend the discussion 10 minutes. Seconded (Sally Gellert) Passed without objection.

The Board continued to discuss the report.

7:52 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To extend the discussion to exhaust the present stack. Seconded (James Sagurton) Passed without objection.

8:02pm ET The Chair recognized the PNB Directors (Sally Gellert, James Sagurton) to present their reports. (Cerene Roberts had an excused absence, and Alex Steinberg is still in suspension.)

Highlights:

- The Audit Committee isn't meeting. Audits have been completed through 2023. Our auditor quit and we need to find another. We are in suspension with the California Attorney General, as these audits are required of non-profit organizations. We are allowed to continue fundraising and offer tax exemptions to donors in the meantime.
- The NFC meetings are no longer being streamed. This is in contradiction with our former consent decree with the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, even though we are no longer receiving funds from them and their continued existence is in question.

The Board heard and discussed the reports.

8:18 pm ET The Chair called for discussion of our memorializations this month. Then called for the minute of silence.

8:19 pm ET The Chair recognized R. Paul Martin for his Treasurer's Report.

The Board heard and discussed the Treasurer's Report which was also screen-shared and is sent in PDF form with these minutes.

Highlights:

- Confirmed above PNB Director's reports.
- The Profit and Loss statement up to the end of March 2025 had not yet been released to the public.

8:33 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To extend discussion 10 minutes. Seconded (James Sagurton) Passed without objection.

The Board continued to discuss the report.

8:44 pm ET The Chair recognized Neale Voss to present the CAB (Community Advisory Board) Report.

The Board heard the CAB Report.

8:46 pm ET The Chair recognized Jim Dingeman for the Townhall Taskforce Report.

Highlights:

- Monthly meetings have been scheduled on the Saturday after the LSB meetings for community involvement and communication. These are posted on kpftx.

8:48 pm ET The Chair recognized John Brinkley for the Committee of Inclusion Report.

Highlights:

- 8 new voting members have been selected.

- The committee plans to gather demographics of the listening area as well as those of the staff, programmers and LSB. Challenging without specific Nielsen data for WBAI.
- There was some divergence between members of the group as to the mission and functioning of this committee. Members were encouraged listen to the recording.
- The next meetings are 11-18-25 and 12-2-25.

The Board heard and discussed the report.

8:54 pm ET Motion (James Sagurton) To extend the discussion 5 minutes. Seconded (Jim Dingeman) Passed without objection.

8:58 pm ET The Chair recognized John Brinkley again to discuss the LOFT Report.

Highlights:

- The LOFT (LSB Outreach and Fundraising Committee) wants to redo the palm cards, remove programs no longer on the air and create them for programs by category: health, legal, etc.
- Want to work with Bob and Chris to continue to make palm cards downloadable by listeners, so those that are connected to community groups can download, reproduce, and distribute them at particular events.
- Also plan to restart a monthly newsletter.
- The next meeting is 11-24-25 at 7 pm.

The Board discussed the LOFT report

9:02 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To extend the discussion 2 minutes. Seconded (Sally Gellert) Passed without objection.

The Board continued to discuss the report.

9:06 pm ET Motion (John Brinkley) To extend 1 minute. This was approved by the Chair and was unopposed by any member.

9:08 pm ET The Chair recognized Jim Dingeman to give the report of the Management Review Committee.

Highlights:

- Even though the Settlement Bylaws no longer recognizes a role for the LSB in finding and approving the station management, we want to continue meeting to maintain viability of the Referendum Bylaws should the case defending them get a hearing in court.
- Our evaluation would normally include the ED, IGM, and IPD, who have all now been working more than 1 year.
- The information on the Pacifica website regarding filling interim positions for GM and PD is conflicting. Some notifications are that positions were filled in May, June, and July. New

applications for IGM and IPD were closed on Oct 15, 2025. Three stations (WPFW, WBAI, and KPFK) were re-opened to new applications until 12-31-25.

- Pacifica hired a permanent General Manager for KPFT last summer. If a permanent GM was hired for KPFA, that name has not been announced.
- It's difficult to find someone who will do the job well at the salary given in very expensive cities.
- The next meeting will be 11-25-25 at 7 pm in Executive Session.

The Board heard and discussed the report.

9:17 pm ET The Chair called for Public Comment and made her chair's remarks about public comment.

The Board heard public Comment. Director-in-exile's report was read and is appended to these minutes.

9:47 pm ET The Chair adjourned the meeting, according to the previously adopted agenda.

Subject: UPDATE FROM WBAI's MANAGEMENT TEAM 11-12-25 PLEASE CIRCULATE. GOOGLE GROUPS
BOUNCE BACK Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2025 18:01:38 -0500

From: Robert Hennelly <rhennelly55@gmail.com>

ON HAND B of A \$48,482.06 after making payroll of \$16,474

PayPal \$5,299.07

November's rent of \$2,500 has also paid to Working World (Landlord)

Dear LSB,

I just wanted to provide this written report to update you on our efforts to revitalize WBAI so that it can help the Pacifica Foundation fulfill its mission which is perhaps more critical for our nation than it has ever been. Since Keziah and I have taken responsibility for the daily operations of the station back in June of 2024 we have consistently made its payroll and health care premium insurance. This was accomplished while at the same time having to replace the existing fundraising model which was heavily reliant on the sort of merchandising that the FCC Consent Decree Pacifica entered into last year by the Foundation expressly prohibited. ____ We also had to overcome major reputational damage from the station's prior failure to send out premiums we had taken money for. (We continue to work to resolve this as these cases arise.) ____ At the same time, we had to reset the programming and get back the listener base which had eroded so dramatically it no longer registered on the Nielsen's. NO ONE WAS LISTENING. Producers would be seemingly randomly preempted for these merchandising shows. Key to listener support is maintaining trust between the listener and the station that the programs listeners tune in for will be there on a regular basis. ____ We have made establishing this *continuity of community engagement* our top priority and we have been told by Nielsen we now register a .3 cum which reflects 130,000 listeners. We have done only one conventional pledge drive last winter when we set a goal of \$125,000 and exceeded that by \$17,000 with 604 donations. ____ Out of that pledge total was \$56,340 from unions, 108 new donors, 131 returning donors and 73 new WBAI Buddies. ____ Thanks to Cerene Roberts, I started to investigate the issue of the subcarrier fees that historically Pacifica collected for the

use of our transmitter. Historically, this service generated hundreds of thousands of dollars across Pacifica's stations that offered it. But over time, the subcarrier market shrunk but there are still two here at WBAI, an Italian and Spanish Radio Maria that on paper generate \$7,500 monthly. The Italian subcarrier is apparently current but that money goes directly to Pacifica national. It continues to be the professional opinion of the management team that the revenue realized from the subcarrier fees should be used to pay down the monthly \$17,000 tower rent that makes the subcarrier service possible. It's not unlike the owner of an apartment complex collecting rent but neglecting the mortgage for the building. After a visit to the Times Square site, I learned from our longtime field engineer Jake Glanz that the subcarriers slightly diminish our signal and that both he and John Ameleh have to sometimes provide technical assistance to the carriers. After several months of research and consultation with John Ameleh, I learned that at least one of the accounts had not been paying and that apparently invoicing had broken down since the pandemic even as WBAI's tower rent of \$17,000 went unpaid month after month. I determined who the responsible individual was within Radio Maria that apparently had not been billed by Pacifica. Stephnie Wells gave me permission to negotiate with Radio Maria to get some kind of payment, even though Pacifica had apparently failed to invoice for it since the pandemic started. In September, I notified Radio Maria that we needed to be paid at least going back to January or we would terminate the service on Oct. 15. That week we got a \$25,000 wire transfer in our bank account from Radio Maria with a commitment for another \$10,000 as well as their pledge to sign a contract which is now under legal review. Shortly thereafter, that money was removed from WBAI's bank account by Pacifica National without notice or explanation. After a strong protest from the WBAI local management team, we were told that the foundation would pay one and a half months' tower rent out of that. Yet, we were told that tower "payment being made by the National Office will be added to the outstanding balance receivable that WBAI owes to the National Office, and this information will be shared with the PNB." Over the last 18 months, thanks to two bequests and one individual donor we have paid close to a half-million dollars in back tower rent and are now not a year behind, but three months. We understand that Pacifica intends to continue keeping that practice of harvesting that subcarrier income and not directing it to the tower rent. We will be doing a pledge drive *starting on Dec. 2* through the end of the year. Over the next year, we will hold a one week pledge drive every quarter with the expectation of making at least \$100,000 each time. We had to rebuild the trust of listeners and producers alike which is why we did not do preemptions, other than for important events like Mayor Adams indictment, Oct. 18's No Kings Day and our national coverage of election night. Over the last 18 months we have also used seasonal appeals that are online and on the air. We have also successfully engaged unions representing 3 million households in a sustaining sponsorship program that netted the station \$319,090 in amounts that range from \$500 to \$50,000. ____ These have proven to be a recurring source of revenue with unions renewing their commitments in six months increments. We recently got a \$14,000 pledge from the UFT and a \$50,000 sustaining underwriting from the TWU.____ We've also seen a significant increase in the yield from the WBAI Buddy Program from \$22,000 to \$25,000 a month. We have also developed close to \$30,000 in PSA sustaining sponsorship from major community institutions Health + Hospitals, New York City's municipal hospital system, as well as cultural institutions like the Public Theater and the Manhattan Theater Club.____ We have produced new programs like Democracy & Destiny, which was underwritten for \$15,000 from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. We now have Labor and Healthcare Confidential with Marianne Pizzitola on Mondays at 5 PM Jesse Lent has been brought on as a part time producer of /We

Decide: America at the Crossroads with Jenna Flanagan/. News Director Rebecca Myles' program Frontline Voices continues to get traction. WBAI now has six union employees, up from four. We have also paid out the \$16,000 in back pay in the form of raises that had failed to be paid out going back to 2021. Major gifts of over \$500 or more from June 1, 2024 through Nov. 6, 2025 total an impressive \$647,930.96, *excluding bequests.* ____ Before the change in management from Jan. 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024, WBAI booked only \$104,635.26 in the essential category. ____ We have achieved this as we help lead a revival of national programming including No Kings Day Oct. 18 that included six time zones, enlisted dozens of Pacifica reporters and was picked up by dozens of affiliates while also being run here in New York City and over KPFK's air in Los Angeles. We just did a five hour We Decide: 2025 national elections return program working with the Pacifica Affiliates and KPFA's News Department. ____ We are finally starting work on building out Studio B which will give us the ability to produce radio outside of the LIVE air broadcast studio which will generate additional revenue, additional editorial product and provide redundancy for Master Control. We are also working regularly with the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY to produce /Audiofiles/, which provides a LIVE on air showcase for the program. In an act of solidarity with the Pacifica Affiliate Program we are working with Ursula Ruedenberg and the folks at WIOF, the Woodstock, NY Pacifica affiliate to upgrade their broadcast capability. We continue to assist WBAI's 9/11 WTC first responders and survivors from our former 120 Wall Street location get enrolled in the Victims Compensation Program and the World Trade Center Health Program per the NYC 9/11 Notice Act. See below for more detail. In solidarity, Bob Hennelly Interim GM Chris La Pilusa to me BAI Buddies From June 2024 through October 2025, we've seen the following progress on BAI Buddy metrics: * Total buddies increased from 1,264 to around 1,300 * Donation value has increased from \$23,000 to \$25,000 per month * Our average donation per person has increased from \$16.88 to \$17.72 * Our biggest Buddy is donating \$500 monthly image.png Public Service Announcements \$28,442.41 Web Traffic Year-to-Date Analytics, plus change from last year * Homepage - 1,231,368 views - +4.77% * Listen Live (Live Audio Stream) - 548,386 views - +21.43% * Archives - 227,466 views - +2.49%. * News Articles - 11,460 views - +156.57% Streaming and Archiving We've completed some major structural changes to the way we provide and archive our audio stream: * Upgraded Barix Encoder to Telos Encoder, for more durability and customization * Added an additional Telos encoder, to maintain one encoder per internet connections (Verizon and Spectrum). This ensures we have an available backup stream in the event of an outage * Moved archiving software directly into the studio, on a dedicated server on the studio intranet. This eliminated any disruption in internet service from affecting archive recordings * Ensured archive redundancy, by retaining an additional recorder in the cloud We also plan to implement a new piece of software - LiquidSoap. This will have the ability to take both copies of our streams from both internet connections simultaneously, and seamlessly switch between them if any one ISP has a service issue.

Report from PNB Director-in-exile Alex Steinberg 11.12.2025

- The New Day dominated Pacifica National Board continues to use bullying tactics to intimidate those PNB members who do not agree with them from speaking out.

- In addition to the blatantly illegal suspension of myself and Director Donna Carter from the Pacifica National Board that happened in August and September respectively after two separate kangaroo courts found us “guilty”, the Chair of the PNB, Susan Young, now silences and removes anyone from a PNB’s meeting’s zoom call if she decides that person is being “dilatory”, on the basis of nothing more than her claim that the person is being “dilatory”. If the Chair of the PNB says so, it has to be true and no appeals are allowed. Therefore, perfectly legitimate motions like making a “point of order” are rejected without any due process and in complete defiance of parliamentary procedure as defined in Robert’s Rules of Order. This happened to Director Cerene Roberts at the most recent PNB meeting of November 6.
- That PNB meeting, just like other recent PNB meetings, are full of reports that provide almost no information about the state of Pacifica’s finances but contain lots of promotional advertising about the great job that is being done by Pacifica management with the assistance of the New Day PNB. The New Day Directors fall all over themselves congratulating themselves for the great job they and Pacifica management has been doing.
- In the meantime, Directors are suffering from what we can describe as information starvation. There has been no Profit and Loss statement from the National Office for months so it is not possible for Directors to make any informed decision about Pacifica’s financial problems. We don’t know for instance where revenue is coming from at each of our stations and what expenses they are incurring. We don’t know if there is a trend upwards or downwards as we are unable to compare the numbers this year from previous years. In terms of revenue, we have no breakdown so we don’t know where revenue is coming from whether it is from listener subscribers, major donors, grants, etc. and if such revenue is sustainable or a one time event.
- The New Day Day-aligned PNB Directors see no problem in this lack of information. They apparently are not aware that by acquiescing to management’s failure to provide financial information they are abandoning their fiduciary responsibilities.
- Finally, every auditor of Pacifica’s finances for the past several years has recommended that Pacifica should hire a Controller to provide some independent oversight of finances. Not only do we not have a Controller, we don’t even have a CFO. That means there is no oversight at all of Pacifica’s finances.
- We also don’t have any information about the success or lack of success of our programming. No breakdown is being provided as to the listenership or revenue generated by different programs and what trends these indicate. Are some types of programming being favored over others because of possible donations from supporters of those programs. That would be a blatant violation of FCC guidelines. In the past we had safeguards established to ensure such things were not happening. What safeguards are there today? Now that evaluation of local programming has been taken away from the LSB, what evaluation is happening?

- In addition Pacifica's non-profit status continues to be at risk. Pacifica continues to be out of compliance with California's rules for Charitable organizations and its status as a non-profit with the right to raise funds has been suspended. Although the California AG's Office is for now allowing Pacifica to continue raising funds despite its suspension, this is obviously a very precarious situation which should not be minimized. At the bottom of the suspension has been the failure of Pacifica to provide any audits for 3 years in a row. Pacifica has not provided an audit since fiscal 2021. It is currently backdated on audits for 2022, 2023, and 2024 and in a few months will be backdated for the 2025 audit. To add to this mess the Audit Firm that has been doing Pacifica's audits and which were expected to do the audits for fiscal 2022 and 2023 has withdrawn. No satisfactory explanation has been provided as to why the audit firm withdrew.
- As of this writing the lack of financial information did not prevent the National Finance Committee of the Pacifica National Board from approving the budgets of several of Pacifica's business units without a dissenting vote. On what basis these budgets were approved is a good question. In years past the NFC routinely sent back budgets to the Local Stations Boards when it determined that the estimates for revenue and expenses in the proposed budget were not based on realistic figures that were in line with previous years. Since LSB's have been iced out of reviewing finances this feedback mechanism between local and national finances is gone. And there is nothing to replace it with either. We can only wonder if these budgets were approved by the Oracle of Delphi.
- Another recent action of the PNB has been the creation of a Personnel Committee whose mandate is the evaluation of Pacifica's Executive Director. There is a deadline that has been set of completing an evaluation before the end of the year. It is not clear why this rush when the ED's contract is almost a year away from expiring.
- We are also seeing how the PNB and the Pacifica management is proceeding as if the LSB's do not exist. This is evident in the current hiring process for General Managers of each of the Stations, which does not include any input from the LSB's. In still another anti-democratic action, the PNB majority is insisting that any proposals for bylaws amendments must go through the Governance Committee. Keep in mind that the Governance Committee, like the Finance Committee, has stripped away all input from LSB members who are not Directors.
- Finally I can report that the legal challenge to the New Day takeover of Pacifica is proceeding. We filed a notice with the California Court of Appeals. We plan to show that the so called settlement agreement was based on collusive conduct between Pacifica's new attorney, (who was hired after Pacifica's long time attorney Arthur Schwartz was fired because he opposed the fraudulent settlement agreement) and the New Day attorney. We will also show that the agreement that was reached violates the Pacifica bylaws and an earlier court ruling on the status of the 2021 Referendum. We are determined to return Pacifica to its members and hold accountable those Directors who facilitated the collusive takeover of Pacifica by New Day.

If you want more information please contact me at pnbalex@gmail.com.

Thank you.