

MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

Regular Meeting/Teleconference of the Board of Directors

Tuesday, July 11, 2023. 10:00 a.m.

MAET Administration Building – MPB Board Room
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, Mississippi

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Zoom Videoconference

AGENDA

Call to Order Chairman Mackey

The regularly scheduled meeting of the MPB Board was called to order at 10:05AM.

Roll call/Establish quorum Marvin Jeter

Members Present: *Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chair/MCCB Rep; Dr. Ormella Cummings, IHL Rep*

Members via Zoom: *Russ Latino, Vice Chair; Whitney Lipscomb, Member; Ric Sawyer, Elementary Rep*

Members Absent: *Judy Nelson, MDE Rep*

MPB Staff Present: *Royal Aills, MPB ED; Alicia Harris, MPB CFO; Marvin Jeter, COS; Bobby Wicker, HR Director; Cedric Grizzell, Underwriting Director; Evan Chouteau, Contract Archivist; Randy Evans, IT*

Staff/Guests via Zoom: *Anna Neel, MPB COO; Angela Ferraez, MPB Foundation Executive Director*

Guests Present: *Amy Whitten, Consultant; Dan Cannada, MPB Foundation President; Amanda Fontaine, Mississippi Association of Broadcasters; Alec Valentine, Community Guest*

Also Present: *Sarah Mann, Board Counsel*

Introduction of Visitors & New Members Chairman Mackey

Dr. Ormella Cummings, the new IHL Rep Board Member briefly introduced herself.

Approval of Agenda Chairman Mackey

With a motion by R. Latino/second by W. Lipscomb, the agenda was adopted unanimously without changes.

Approval of Minutes Tab 1 Chairman Mackey
May 9, 2023

Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Meeting Minutes

With a motion by O. Cummings/second by R. Sawyer, the minutes were taken up for discussion. Dr. Mackey indicated that the resolution regarding the Executive Director's salary had to be rescinded with more discussion to come during Executive Session. With that change, the minutes from the May 9, 2023, meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Mackey

Chairman Mackey reported that he continues his bimonthly meetings with the ED. He noted that there were some changes to the board including Ric Sawyer's Reappointment to the board as the Elementary Representative. Chairman Mackey also requested recognition for the departing IHL Rep.

Dr. Mackey requested consideration to reschedule the September Board Meeting as a Board retreat. After some discussion, the decision was made to table the discussion and to revisit the issue at a subsequent meeting. The Chair noted that both the MPB Executive Director and Board President would be included in the retreat.

Old Business

Chairman Mackey

The Board did not entertain any Old Business.

New Business

- Executive Director Report

Tab 2

Royal Aills

The ED presented his report that included updates regarding:

- *Master Control Refresh*
- *Fiber-to-Towers Project*
- *FCC Alert Systems*
- *Underwriting Update*
- *Vision/Mission/Shared Values Strategy Session Report*
- *Southern Storytellers Event*
- *Digitization Update*
- *Satellite Update*
- *Employee Retirement*

The report of the Executive Director was received and placed on file.

- MPB Employee Policy Handbook

Tab 3

Anna Neel

The COO presented new employee policies for approval.

With a motion by O. Cummings/second by R. Latino, the new employee policies were adopted.

- MPB Logo Refresh

The COO presented new MPB Logo for information.

- Division Reports

- Finance Tab 4 Alicia Harris

4A Monthly Financial Report

The CFO presented the Monthly Financial Report.

4B Approval of Expenses over \$50,000

The CFO presented the Expenses over \$50,000.

With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by R. Sawyer, the board voted unanimously to approve accepting bids up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the tower lighting systems equipment, maintenance, modifications, and new transmitter remote control systems.

- Human Resources Tab 5 Bobby Wicker

The HR report was received and placed on file.

- Foundation Report Angela Ferraez

The Foundation Report was received and placed on file.

- MPB Foundation By-Laws Review Tab 6 Don B. Cannada

MPB Foundation President Don Cannada presented the substantive changes requested for the MPB Foundation By-Laws and submitted them for consideration.

With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by W. Lipscomb and after some discussion, the MPB Foundation By-Laws Amendments were approved unanimously.

Consideration of Executive Session Chairman Mackey

With a motion by O. Cummings, and approved unanimously, the Board entered into a closed session to determine whether entering executive session was necessary. After determining that executive session was necessary and disclosing the purpose for executive session in open session, W. Lipscomb made a motion/second by O. Cummings to enter executive session. The Board voted to enter executive session unanimously.

With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by R. Sawyer, the Board unanimously voted to exit executive session and reenter open session. When they returned at 1:00PM, Chairman Mackey reported that the board had discussed three issues:


- 1) *A Consultant Report by the Whitten Group regarding employees job performance and personnel management*
- 2) *Executive Director compensation. With a motion by W. Lipscombe/second by O. Cummings, the Board unanimously approved to increase the salary of Executive Director, Royal Aills, by eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) thereby making his salary one hundred sixty-eight thousand dollars (\$168,000), based upon a satisfactory performance review, to be effective July 12, 2023.*
- 3) *Strategy regarding EEOC Litigation.*

Adjournment

Chairman Mackey

With a motion by O. Cummings/seconded by R. Sawyer, a recommendation to adjourn passed unanimously at 1:05PM.

SIGNED, this the 11th day of September, 2023.



Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chairman
Board of Directors



Royal Aills
Executive Director