

# MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

## Regular Meeting/Teleconference of the Board of Directors

Tuesday, September 19, 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; Member; Ric Sawyer, Elementary Rep

Members via Zoom: Russ Latino, Vice Chair; Dr. Ormella Cummings, IHL Rep; Whitney Lipscomb

Members Absent: Dr. Judy Nelson, MDE Rep

MPB Staff Present: Royal Aills, MPB ED; Anna Neel, MPB COO; Alicia Harris, MPB CFO; Dr. Marvin Jeter, COS; Bobby Wicker, HR Director; Angela Ferraez, MPB Foundation Executive Director; Kevin Cornell, IT

Also Present: Sarah Mann, Board Counsel, Office of the Attorney General

Introduction of Visitors

Chairman Mackey

*No visitors were present.*

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Mackey

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by O. Cummings, the agenda was adopted unanimously without changes.*

Approval of Minutes  
July 11, 2023

Tab 1

Chairman Mackey

*Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Meeting Minutes*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by R. Latino, the July 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously without changes.*

*Consideration & Vote to Amend the November Board Meeting Time*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by W. Lipscomb, after some discussion the previously adopted November Joint MPB & MPB Foundation Board Meeting time was amended by unanimous vote to be as follows:*

<i>10:00AM</i>	<i>Regularly Scheduled MPB Board Meeting</i>
<i>12:00PM</i>	<i>MPB/MPB Foundation Joint Board Lunch</i>
<i>1:00PM</i>	<i>MPB/MPB Foundation Joint Board Meeting</i>
<i>2:00PM</i>	<i>Regularly Scheduled MPB Foundation Board Meeting</i>

*Consideration & Vote to Schedule Board Retreat for January 9, 2024*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by W. Lipscomb, after some discussion the decision was approved unanimously to schedule a Board Retreat in south Mississippi January 9-10 with the regularly scheduled Board Meeting to be on January 10 at 10:00 a.m. with a full day retreat to follow.*

## Old Business

Chairman Mackey

*No old business was introduced.*

## New Business

- Executive Director Report Tab 2 Royal Aills

*The ED presented his report that included updates regarding:*

- *FY25 Budget Request Summary*
- *MPB Logo Refresh Campaign – Supported by Anna Neel, COO*
- *Fiber-to-Towers Project Update*
- *FCC EAS Update*
- *FCC License Renewals & Fines Update*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by O. Cummings, after some discussion it was approved unanimously for a subcommittee comprised of R. Latino, W. Lipscomb, S. Mann, and R. Aills to review anticipated FCC Consent Decree to settle previous issues regarding reporting.*

*Furthermore, with a motion by R. Latino/second by O. Cummings, it was approved unanimously that once reviewed and approved by the subcommittee, the Executive Director had permission to proceed with signing and returning the Consent Decree*

- *CPB Radio Audience Report*
- *Digitization Project Update*
- *Departure of Radio Director*

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

## Division Reports

- Finance

Tab 3

Alicia Harris

- 3A Monthly Financial Report August FY23 Lapse

- A. Harris presented the FY23 Lapse Report.*

- 3B Monthly Financial Report August FY24

- A. Harris presented the Monthly Financial Report.*

- 3C Approval of Expenses over \$50,000

- A. Harris presented the Expenses over \$50*

### *Consideration & Vote to Accept/Amend Anticipated Expenses*

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by W. Lipscomb, the consent to approve projected funds with defined parameters was unanimously granted.*

- Human Resources

Tab 4

Bobby Wicker

- B. Wicker presented Human Resources Report*

- Foundation Report

Angela Ferraez

- The Executive Director of the MPB Foundation reported on collaborative activities since the last meeting in July as well as anticipated activities scheduled in upcoming months.*

### Consideration of Executive Session

Chairman Mackey

*With a motion by R. Sawyer/second by W. Lipscomb, the board unanimously agreed to enter into closed session to make a determination if executive session was necessary. The board exited closed session and announced it had made the determination that executive session was necessary to discuss personnel matters regarding Executive Director, R. Aills's performance and pending EEOC complaint, Cause No. 423-2022-01276.*

*With a motion by O. Cummings/second by W. Lipscomb, the board unanimously voted to exit executive session and announced that no action had taken place.*

### 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.



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Dr. Shawn Mackey, Chairman  
Board of Directors



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Royal Aills  
Executive Director