



**WJFF Radio Catskill Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes of the Executive Committee
June 12, 2025 at 12:00pm**

Meeting Location (Online Meeting)

Approved on: 6/23/2025

Committee Members Present: Amy Brightfield, Katie Childs, Peter Madden, Sally Stuart

Committee Member Absent: Leif Johansen,

Board Members Present: None

Staff Present: Tim Bruno, Mimi Bradley

Members of the Public Present: None

A quorum being present, Sally called the meeting to order at 12:01.

Thank you to everyone! This is the last meeting of this executive committee for this board term. Sally thanked everyone and we in turn thanked Sally for being a wonderful president.

Tim reported on House vote on public media funding: We are redoing our on-air and social media messaging to inform the listeners as to what the current status of the vote on clawing back government funds that have been awarded to public media. We've added urgency to it: This is the moment, call your senators. If the rescission request passes in the Senate, this would claw back 130K of this calendar year's budget. We passed our 2025 budget with this in mind and so if this happens we are not in immediate trouble. Sally proposed that we task Tim and the finance committee to work on some scenarios for 2025 budget cutting.

Katie proposed that following the annual meeting, she will establish the finance committee meeting schedule asap so we can establish guard rails and answer two big questions: How much do we think we can reasonably cut this year? And what are we not willing to cut?

Ways to raise more funding in 2025 (Mimi) Mimi had a conversation with INN about their fundraising News Match; this is a program where they match some of our year end fundraising. We are eligible to participate this year; however, these funds will not be counted in this fiscal year as they will not be received until 2026. Overall INN is thinking proactively about how they can step in and support should public funding be rescinded.

API Influencers Grant (Mimi, Tim) WJFF has tapped three local influencers who are producing content to spotlight WJFF and broaden awareness of WJFF to their audiences. One is Noah Kalina who is reporting a story on his social media feed for WJFF. Another influencer we are working with is the Catskill Crew, a newish newsletter.

Summer Fund Drive: (Mimi, Tim) Donations are already being made as a response to the threat of public funding being rescinded. We've banked over \$9,000 for the summer fund drive which will be held in July.

Health Insurance for Staff: (Tim) We met with Just Works who works with INN to administer their health insurance. Sally recommends determining what the healthcare offers will be for staff; we hope to have it implemented by October or November. We are hoping to give employees a few options where the station covers 100 percent of the cost, there may be others where employees contribute a portion of the cost of their insurance.

Awards! We won 4 awards from New York State Broadcasters Association, including best spot news story and best election night coverage. One of Kim's first stories, which covered the NYSEG rising rates—also won.

Nom and Gov update (Pete) We had a virtual meet and greet with the board candidates this week that went well. Pete will supply the applications from each candidate for the board packet and one page that lists all candidates for election.

Finance updates (Katie)

FEMA Grant: CPB is still advising to stop work. The portal is open as of now (but it could close at any time) and the CPB is trying to reimburse funds that have already been spent. This impacts the installation of our transmitter. We haven't installed it yet and we will need to make a decision by mid-August on whether we are going ahead with the installation since it has to be done before winter. The estimated cost for the installation is 15K.

Libel insurance is about \$1,000 more than we budgeted. (We can increase our deductible.) Katie is waiting to hear how this will change the cost.

Hold harmless policy: Katie is working on this paragraph for our volunteers to sign with Tanya.

June Board Meeting: Afterwards we're going to have some wine and nibbles to welcome the new board members.

Dick Riesling is ending his decades of volunteering for the station. We're inviting him to the board meeting to thank him.

Upcoming events

Lew Beach Community House Fundraiser, June 28th This will be food and music with Cliff Westfall and Kassie Karlson. Tickets are \$35

Community Awards: Looking at the theme of Women Business Leaders. Visiting Chatwal Lodge in Bethel to investigate as a venue.

Closing notes:

We may need a board meeting by July 19th to address the federal funding cuts if they go through so we should schedule orientation for the new board members as soon as possible. Katie will map out the finance committee meetings asap.

MOTION to adjourn at 1pm (Stuart/Brightfield)

In Favor: All

Abstained:

Opposed:

Submitted by Amy Brightfield