

## **Minutes of Virtual Special Meeting of the Authority**

1:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 25, 2020

Facebook Live Location: <https://www.facebook.com/OETAOK>

### **DIRECTORS PRESENT BY VIDEOCONFERENCE:**

Joy Hofmeister, Chair  
Terri Cornett, Vice Chair  
Wendy Argenbright  
Richard Beck  
Cheryl Evans  
Lisa Greenlee  
Kara Hall  
Burns Hargis  
James Isaacs  
Glen Johnson  
Mike Martin  
Larry Rice

### **DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Joseph Harroz, Jr.

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Assistant Attorney General Marc Pate, Attorney Patricia Sawyer of Whitten Burrage Law.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Executive Director Polly Anderson; Vice President of Finance Shawn Black; Vice President of Production Susan Cadot; Vice President of Operations Janette Thornbrue; Vice President of Educational Outreach Curtis Calvin; Vice President of Engineering and Technology Lawson Adams; External Relations Director Chad Haney; Marketing and Communications Manager Aaron Morvan; and, Executive Assistant Brandy Kennedy.

The Oklahoma Educational Television Authority Board of Directors met virtually through Zoom and Facebook Live in special session at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2020. A Notice of Meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State and copies of the Agenda and meeting documents were posted in accordance with provisions of the Open Meeting Act as amended by SB661.

Chair Hofmeister called the meeting to order. Anderson called the roll. It was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

### **Item #4**

The Chair recognized Anderson for the Executive Director's report. Anderson recalled to the Board that staff have been working successfully from home since mid-March. Anderson noted that OETA begins its pledge drive Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> and runs through Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Anderson confirmed that OETA will continue its at-home learning programming, which airs on the WORLD channel from 11 a.m. through 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Anderson explained that the programs are paired with *PBS LearningMedia*, a free digital curriculum service.

Anderson noted that in local content, the *Oklahoma News Report* is scheduled to return to a one-hour news show Friday, October 16, which is also its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Anderson also detailed that OETA's Art Club, a summer program for students 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, highlighted different artists and an art project that students could complete at home. Anderson concluded that this program was completed in eight episodes with approximately 250 participants across the state.

Anderson specified Adams' survey of the physical plants for the translator and transmitter sites. Anderson noted that Friends of OETA, Inc. has budgeted for the costs of certain items such as air conditioners at the transmitter sites. Furthermore, Anderson mentioned that PBS has recently provided an encoder to OETA that will be able to livestream OETA's over the air broadcast. This capability is expected to go live in September.

The Chair and Martin congratulated OETA for growth in both donors as well as financial giving to the Friends of OETA, Inc., emphasizing the impact of the work done by OETA in public education.

#### **Item #5**

The Chair reported that OSDE is continuing to explore opportunities to close the digital divide in education, including with OETA as a partner. The Chair specified that OSDE and its partners are committed to helping families who do not have cable with broadband or cellular reach that is required for students in order to connect to their digital learning content. The Chair acknowledged that moving to digital content is needed in every Oklahoma community before the year's end.

#### **Item #6 (Action)**

The Board reviewed the minutes for the virtual special meeting of June 23, 2020. The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Martin made the motion to approve and Rice seconded the motion. Seeing there were no comments or discussion requested, the Chair called for a roll call vote. Anderson conducted roll call to adopt the minutes. Eight members were in favor and two abstained due to absence at the prior meeting; the motion carried. The Chair announced the minutes as adopted at 1:10 p.m.

#### **Item #7 (Action)**

Black reviewed the personnel and financial reports with the Board. Black specified that the Friends of OETA, Inc. will transfer the PBS dues to the Authority so that OETA will pay for the dues directly. He noted that in years past, the former foundation of OETA would pay these dues directly. He explained that this change is being made so that the OETA budget more accurately reflects its expenditures. Pate clarified that while there is no official position from the Attorney General, the change

was reviewed by OMES. That office confirmed that the change met their approval, which Pate also approved. Seeing there were no questions, the Chair entertained a motion to approve the personnel and financial reports. Rice made the motion to approve, and Martin seconded the motion. The Chair called for a roll call vote. Anderson conducted the roll call vote, and all were in favor. The motion carried at 1:14 p.m.

**Item #8 (Action)**

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the slate of officers for fiscal year 2021. Greenlee made the motion to approve, and Evans seconded the motion. The Chair called for a roll call vote. Anderson conducted the roll call vote. All were in favor and the motion carried at 1:12 p.m.

Chair Hofmeister entertained a motion to go into executive session. Cornett made the motion to enter executive session and Greenlee seconded the motion. Anderson called the roll to enter executive session. The vote was unanimous and the Board entered executive session at 1:16 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m., Anderson noted there was a quorum present, so the Chair entertained a motion to come out of executive session. Johnson made a motion to exit executive session and Martin seconded the motion. Anderson conducted a roll call vote. All were in favor and the motion passed; the Board came out of executive session at 2:15 p.m. The Chair noted that no votes were taken during executive session, and that the Board received notes from council.

**Item #9**

The Chair announced the next regular meeting is set for Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 1 p.m. at the OETA network headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Authority, Chair Hofmeister called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting and Hall seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Adopted this day of Tuesday, October 27, 2020.



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Joy Hofmeister, Chair



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Terri Cornett, Vice Chair