WOOL Board of Directors Meeting
Great Falls Community Broadcasting Company
33 Bridge Street Bellows Falls VT 05101
Wednesday, 9 July 2025
6:05 – 7:50 pm
MINUTES

Attendance: Bruce Sterling (President), Melissa Berry Brown, Gary Coger, Eric Kallio (Treasurer), John McCann (Programming), Evan Parks (Tech Team), Erin Petrie (Tech Team), Skye Payne (minutes)
Absent: Don Dawson (Newsletter, et al.), Don Trettler

1. REVIEW MINUTES from June 2025 combined Annual and Monthly meeting

MOTION: Evan moved to approve the June minutes as presented. Erin seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. NEW BOARD MEMBERS

- Discussion of officers for the Board and agreed to the current slate continuing with the exception that John McCann declined to continue as Vice President. The Board thanks him for his services. Eric Kallio agreed to serve as Treasurer and Interim Vice President, and this was agreed to.

MOTION: Evan moved to approve the current slate of officers. Gary seconded. Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Evan moved to approve the Eric Kallio as Interim Vice President. Erin and Melissa seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT (*see Attachment*)

- A really good month for renewals as well as new members, taking in just under $8000 for the month.
  - WOOL finished the month with a balance of $29 with CD at $7550 now.
  - Bills were at the low side this past month.
  - Treasurer suggested putting aside another $5000 into a CD to build funds for the new transmitter.
  - There is a 3-6 month time line for getting the new transmitter – it cannot be installed in the winter
  - Need a budget for planning this – Evan suggested purchase would need to be made in September, so may not want to tie funds up in a CD right now. Need to find out as soon as we can what the specific costs are. Agreed that it might be better to put funds into a Money Market account right now, rather than a CD.
- Additional monies for WOOL bank CD
  - Treasurer suggested putting aside another $5000 into a CD to build funds for the new transmitter.
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  - Agreed that it might be better to put funds into a Money Market account right now, rather than a CD. The Treasurer will move forward with this.
- Update on State grants for EAS – awaiting paperwork to be provided
- Alex Stratling from FACTV showed up to present a check to the station for $1000 for underwriting. Alex and Evan had collaborated at the Saxtons River 4th of July, and plan to do more in the future.

MOTION: Evan moved to accept Treasurer's Report as presented. Gary seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. ADMIN & TECH SUPPORT

- Studio tech update
  - Remote broadcasting
    - During the 4th of July Festival in Saxtons River, Evan did broadcast over the air for a couple of hours successfully with some minor technical difficulties
    - – so Evan feels ready to train others in doing live remote broadcasts.
    - May also be able to use cellular connection when WiFi is not available.
    - Hosts can contact Evan to follow up on learning more about live remote broadcasting.
    - Need to be mindful of which already scheduled programs would be affected by remote broadcasting – local hosts should not be pre-empted nor some programs such as *Democracy Now*
- Second transmitter estimate /proposal
  - Arrangements have been made to get the second estimate needed to apply for grant for transmitter.
  - Running at reduced power for the next 9 days while work is being done on the mountain during the days – Evan will also add a notification about this on the Facebook page
- Question about offering old transmitter and tuner to the new Ludlow station – WOOL is not using it now and not even sure whether it is working. It has not been used in over 11 years. The Ludlow station (WLUD) understands this and are willing to work with it. Evan has let them know that they would need to have a radio engineer check it out before plugging it in.
- Many spaces in this building are open right now, so is this an opportunity to obtain more space /storage /second studio for WOOL?
  - Would need to talk to the Reeds and also need to consider implications for additional rent now and in the future if the building were to be sold. Will also need to talk with Mark Piepkorn as the other major tenant.
  - Would like a second studio which would allow for easier broadcasting of live bands or interviews or other programming involving more than just a Host
  - Would also ensure that when the current console dies, there would be a back-up console so broadcasting could continue.
  - Evan and Bruce will talk with Mark P as the next step
- Evan wants to purchase another webcam – cost is less than $20, so this was agreed to.

MOTION: Evan moved to donate the old 30W transmitter and antenna, which are not being used, to WLUD. Gary seconded. Passed unanimously.

5. MARKETING

- Membership update – 131 members right now, with 50 Regular, 1 Student, 10 Senior, 60 Sustaining, 1 Organizational, and 9 Hosts. Bruce will resend a membership letter to past members who have not yet renewed.
- Pizza Night brought in about $1500 and VT Welcome Center brought in almost $1000, so both were very successful!!
- Walpole Old Home Days – said they will be sending $500 underwriting donation – The Chair of the Walpole Old Home Days did say that Evan's being there and making the announcements made the single biggest difference in the event and "Evan was amazing!"
- Evan would like to host a booth at the Rockingham Old Home Days, August 2nd, which costs $50.
- WOOL 20th Anniversary Block Party, 23 August 2025, updates
  - Volunteers, food donations getting organized
  - Block Party poster being worked on
  - Bellows Falls street banner – John M will get it put up through Fire Department

- Confirmed bathroom situation at the site is workable
- Athens will handle the alcohol services
- Lisai's Market is added as a sponsor as well as the Bellows Falls Opera House and Mr. G's; Bruce will follow-up with Shaw's Grocery
- Erin is talking with Vermont Vines about being an Underwiter

MOTION: Evan moved to buy a booth at the Rockingham Old Home Days. Gary seconded. Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Erin moved that WOOL move forward with purchasing a street banner for the 20th Anniversary, with cost to be determined. Gary seconded. Passed unanimously.

6. PROGRAMMING

- New Hosts in training
  - Miriam Jones is making good progress and should be ready to be voted on at next meeting
  - *What's My Wine?* Have 6 programs ready for final edit so soon ready to start airing
- Issue logs – 2nd Quarter logs have been uploaded to the FCC website

7. ADJOURN

MOTION: Evan moved to adjourn. Erin seconded. Passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 13 August 2025

WOOL 91.5
GREAT FALLS COMMUNITY BROADCASTING COMPANY

Treasurer's Report

DATE: July 8, 2025
TO: Great Falls Community Broadcasting Board of Directors

Black Sheep Radio Community,

See attached financial documents for our current position as of the end of June.

The balance sheet shows a $6,326.71 increase over last month. Our cash balance as of June 30 is $29,779.61.

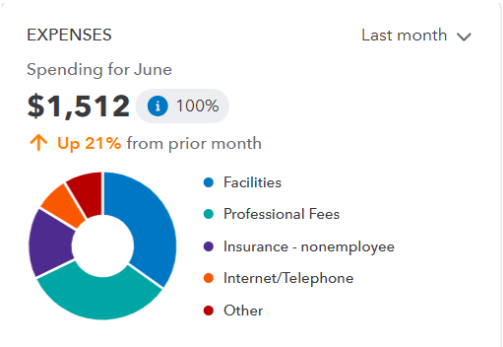
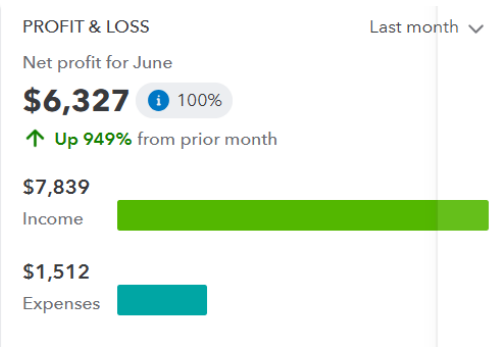
The diagrams show below P&L and Expense comparisons.

A huge month for donations and fundraising income! The Orchard Hill Pizza Night event in June brought in $1,500 for the event. The 2025 Transmitter Campaign also had some generous donations from donors making it the highest line item for income in June. In addition to membership renewals and some new members a generous donation was received from one of our current members. On another note, our 3rd party accounting review was successful and WOOL's balance sheet and profit/loss statements and are in order.

As always, send me any questions.

Thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Kallio

Treasurer