

WOOL Board of Directors Meeting
Great Falls Community Broadcasting Company
33 Bridge Street Bellows Falls VT 05101
Wednesday, 10 December 2025
6:04 – 7:25 pm
MINUTES

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

1. REVIEW MINUTES from November 2025

MOTION: Gary moved to approve September minutes as presented. Evan seconded. Passed with one abstention.

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

- Review of Treasurer's report
 - \$34,218 balance – ahead of previous month –
 - Big news was getting 25K grant for transmitter and
 - Additional Host renewals have come in and all /Hosts are current –
 - Also new underwriters and a donation of \$1000
- Volunteer hours 43.5 during November

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

3. ADMIN & TECH SUPPORT

- Studio tech update
 - Off air recently, but heroic efforts by Samnatha and Erin got it rebooted and back on air – thank you!
 - DJ Pro seems to be working well – thank you to Erin for helping with that
 - Evan still putting together remote broadcast kit
 - Minor issues with Emergency Broadcast System not reporting consistently, but may not be on our end, but Evan is still looking into it – it works to trigger alerts but the logging is not clear
- New transmitter project
 - VT Community Radio \$25K grant approved – agreement reviewed
 - Have to spend funds by June 6th to meet State's deadline
 - Need to be in earnest now about getting new transmitter up and develop schedule for purchasing equipment then getting it up and running
 - OK to have other Hosts on this committee if interested
 - WOOL personnel will do most of the work then Ira will check everything over – per Evan “pretty plug'n'play so likely off the air for only an hour or so”
 - Will schedule meeting about this for next week
 - Do we have to go by the exact equipment in our proposal or just stay within the budget → stay in the budget and hang on to all receipts
 - VT Governor's Office Budget - community radio feedback
 - We need to put in to our words why we should get this funding
 - Would like several Board members to do this, maybe along with some Hosts
 - Send responses to Border Pete and Eric before sending on to state

- National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB) membership status
 - Questions about connection to NPR and what the implications are
 - Sound Exchange payment through them is discounted, but we still pay for other licensing services
 - This is an advocacy and lobbying group but biggest benefit for WOOL has been with the Sound Exchange fee
 - Good to hear from them about

4. MARKETING

- Membership update
 - 170 paid members this year – all Hosts are paid up
 - Membership Thank You cards v Membership Cards → Border Pete would like to discontinue the Membership cards and just sent Thank You notes – maybe combine thanks and membership into one card
 - Underwriters to be listed as corporate members for tracking
- Underwriters up to 19 now, which brings in \$4750 per year
- 2026 marketing merchandise supply
 - WOOL Sticker order reimbursement: Border Pete paid \$409.90 which he would like reimbursed
 - WOOL black brimmed baseball caps order – will share through email then decide at next meeting
 - Evan has ordered a prototype hat to show to Board but not arrived yet – will bring it to a meeting later

MOTION: Erin moved to reimburse the full amount of the sticker cost to Border Pete. Evan seconded. Passed unanimously.

5. PROGRAMMING

- Programming update
 - Found some shows that had not been updated for a couple weeks, but now back up and running
 - Discussion about *Democracy Now* which comes in at variable times – its live broadcast is in the morning so question about risk of something going out over the air that should not → Erin will check with NFCB
- Host contract - tabled
- New Host inquiry
 - Samantha Kopij and sibling have visited the studio, had some on air time, and would like to do a show –
 - Samantha is a minor but brother is adult –
 - Have not submitted application yet, so should do that before doing training
- Gary Coger request to do 1 hour show of acoustic singer /songwriters)
 - Recorded during the week then into Dropbox
 - One hour on Sunday morning – John said 9-10am would work
 - Gary will get application form to John with plan to start after New Year's
 - Interview and music from local music folks
- Voice mail request from listener to have schedule made accessible to visually impaired
 - Our website is by and large ADA compliant and has a reader but the schedule it linked to Spintron which is not easily worked with
 - Consult with Daniel or another web designer
 - John will follow up with this listener
- Evan wants to pre-empt one hour of Civic Cipher and one hour of BantuNauts Raydio this Saturday for live Parade of Lights broadcast – Board agreed

MOTION: John moved to accept Gary's new show *Coffee & Eggs* starting after New Year's at 9am for 1 hour on Sundays. Erin seconded. Passed unanimously.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- Studio comfort for Hosts
 - Temperature –
 - Suggested to put plastic over the windows to block cold air
 - Cannot use space heaters in the studio – Evan will notify Hosts
 - Dress appropriately because owners set the heat and we may not adjust it
 - Owners pay the heat, not WOOL
 - Seating – Don Trettler will donate a chair and will look for others ;-)

7. ADJOURN

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

NEXT MEETING: 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 14 January 2026



Treasurer's Report

DATE: December 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 November.

The balance sheet shows that WOOL has a surplus of \$1,436.63 after all incidental and recurring expenses were paid last month. Our cash balance as of November 30 is \$34,218.45.

The diagrams show below P&L and Expense comparisons.

WOOL has been awarded \$25,000 as part of the Vermont Community Radio grant process. This amount will greatly help support the transmitter upgrade project. Several host membership renewals were received in the month. Thank you WOOL Hosts! A couple of new underwriters were brought in and many thanks to the Tuttle Family Foundation for their annual donation. A larger expense in the month was Pacifica's annual renewal for our syndicated programming.

As always, send me any questions.

Thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Kallio

Interim Vice President & Treasurer

