

The March 15, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors of Great Falls Public Radio Association was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on the Zoom platform by board president Rich Liebert. Present on Zoom were board members Janice Driver, Lonnie Hill, Joseph Moll, Thomas Risberg, Matthias Schalper, and Diane Stinger. Guests present were Tim Hodges.

Minutes from the February 15, 2021 board meeting and the February 22, 2021 work meeting were read and approved as written.

Rich Liebert presented the financial report. As if today's date in March, 2021 GFPR has \$14,424 in the checking/savings accounts in its account at First Interstate Bank, Great Falls, and \$25,521.16 in the Missoula MTPR account. Expenses for the month totaled \$3,103.69, leaving total revenue of \$37,322.10. The major expenses included \$1,038.16 to Vertical Bridge for tower rental, \$814.11 to Northwestern Energy for electricity, and \$687.45 to Andersen-Zurmuehlen for a final bill. MTPR sent a spreadsheet showing a total of \$6,597 in donations for January and February, 2021, \$3,100 of which were one time (one month only) donations. Assuming they were truly one-time donations as opposed to first-time sustaining donations, it leaves a sustained income of \$1,748 per month for January and February.

Rich reported the Corporation for Public Broadcasting has received \$175 million for distressed rural radio stations; KGPR may be eligible for a grant from those monies.

Rich additionally reported GFCMSU sent a phone bill for \$1200 for the year. It was determined GFPR would investigate disconnecting the fax line to reduce costs and negotiate with GFCMSU for a lower rate.

Engineering report: Greg met with Gabe and trained Gabe on the studio console.

Thomas met with Gabe to record Voices and Views.

Pledge Week was discussed. It was agreed we would invite community leaders to submit recordings advocating support of public radio and KGPR. Lonnie Hill will craft a message. Thomas will send an email to supporters reminding them of Pledge Week and inviting them to submit a recording. Each board member committed to come into the studio during a Midday Music show during Pledge Week. Lonnie asked for photos of the studio for Facebook. A list of possible community leaders to contact was made.

It was agreed an appointed volunteer Program Director was needed. Diane nominated Gabe Vasichek, Joe Moll seconded the nomination, motion was approved unanimously. It was suggested a Program Director job description be written, and 5 sustaining funders be found to support a paid program director, and also to fund editing for local content. A special spring drive after Pledge Week was discussed, depending on Pledge Week revenue.

Local musicians during Pledge Week was suggested, including and especially student musicians. It was noted the Great Falls Public Library produces many quality programs KGPR could consider coordinating with. It was suggested KGPR should ask Lisa Schmidt to re-record some of her older Land of Grass episodes for podcasts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Diane Stinger, Secretary, Great Falls Public Radio Association