



**WMHT Public Media**  
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**WMHT Educational Telecommunications  
WMHT Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
March 18, 2021**

A Meeting of the WMHT Board of Trustees was held on March 18, 2021 via a zoom visual and audio conference call. Kathleen Jimino, Chair of the Board of Trustees, presided.

***Present***

Kathy Jimino	Martin Mbugua
Robert Altman	Lee A. McElroy Jr
Don Applyrs	Steady Moono
Bridget Ball Shaw	Susan Novotny
Karen Carpenter-Palumbo	Karen Opalka
Gloria DeSole	Mary Ellen Piche
Mona Golub	Viki Sand
Susan Kress	Shelby Schneider
Annemarie Lanese	Teresa Zielinski

***Excused***

John Kolb	Kelly Smith
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***Also Attending***

WMHT Staff: Sandra Beer, Val Belden, Virginia Claus, George Hauenstein, Julie Raskin, Joseph Tovaes, and Chris Wienk.

Guest: Kevin Testo, The Bonadio Group

***Call to Order***

Ms. Jimino called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

***Consent Agenda Items***

On a motion by Ms. DeSole seconded by Dr. McElroy the consent agenda of minutes and notes listed below was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees.

**Minutes and Notes**

- January 21, 2021 Board Meeting
- February 5, 2021 Governance Committee Meeting
- February 8, 2021 Community Advisory Board Meeting
- February 11, 2021 Strategic Planning Meeting
- February 17, 2021 Governance Committee Meeting
- March 16, 2021 Finance Committee Meeting

***Presentation of the 990's***

Kevin Testo, Partner, The Bonadio Group presented the 990 for FY20. The Finance Committee reviewed the 990 in detail. This document has a great deal of important information and was circulated to the Board in advance of this meeting and being

filed with the IRS and made public. There has not been any tax liability in recent years, including this year. The board thanked Mr. Testo for his presentation.

***Finance Committee and Investment Sub-Committee Report***

Ms. Ball Shaw, reported that she, Mr. Altman and Ms. Raskin met with Hugh Johnson's team to investigate investment options for the company's short-term reserves. She then turned the session over to Mr. Altman. As of the end of February, the news is quite good. Net Income before Depreciation is \$831,136 better than budget. This is due in large part to the increase in the Individual Giving income. Our production and underwriting income areas are also doing better than anticipated. Our staffing continues to be down which is keeping the expenses down, though we are near to hiring for a number of open positions. Mr. Altman expects this strong financial position to continue through the end of the fiscal year.

Though not yet reflected in the financial statements, Mr. Altman reported that the recent Federal stimulus package included significant support for public broadcasting and also reported on a \$1Million bequest received by the station.

Ms. Raskin shared that WMHT is being audited by CPB, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, for the first time. All CPB grantees are subject to these routine audits. The findings will be published in approximately one year.

***Governance Committee***

Mr. Altman reported on behalf of Mr. Kolb. The Committee has been busy identifying and is now meeting with candidates. Some may be presented to the Board as potential trustees before November if they are able to start serving early. The Committee continues to welcome new suggestions.

***Strategic Planning***

Ms. Sand invited Trustees to speak as she outlined the draft of the 3 year strategic plan intended to start in July. This is an extraordinary time and the plan hopes to address the needs and great opportunities that are present. The Board will have the opportunity to review a draft of the complete plan at their May meeting.

***President's Report***

Mr. Altman quickly noted that the organization is excited about the work that is underway, including assisting with reopening plans for cultural organizations, documenting a public art program in Troy, and reporting on the continuing turmoil in state government.

***Chair's Report***

Ms. Jimino expressed gratitude to Doris Malesardi for inspiring her husband to make such a generous legacy gift to the station. She also thanked Mr. Altman and his staff for their part in working to create the strong financial situation that the station is in at this time. As she has been involved with the annual request for public broadcasting at national level, she is proud to be associated with WMHT and its daily, local work and to be part of how responsive public broadcasting was during this past year across the country. She is proud to be associated with this organization that is responsive to the community and responsible to our funders.

On a motion by Ms. Sand seconded by Mr. Mbugua the board unanimously approved moving into executive session.

***Executive Session***

On a motion by Ms. Piche, seconded by Mr. Mbugua, the board unanimously approved ending the Executive Session. No action was taken in the Executive Session

***Adjournment***

On a motion Ms. DeSole seconded by Ms. Piche the board unanimously approved adjourning the meeting at 5:24 pm.