

**Held 4 December 2024, 7-9 PM CDT online via Zoom <https://zoom.us> ID: 811 895 6459**

**7:05 Call to Order**

Evelyn Underwood (Chair) called the meeting to order.

**7:06 Introductions**

Chair introduced herself then called attendees to do so. We had quorum.

**7:24 Approval of the Agenda**

Todd Hunter moved to approve; Ian Hammond seconded; approved.

**7:26 Approval of the Minutes**

Todd Hunter moved to approve the September 5, 2024 draft minutes; Marlene Hendrickx seconded. Mike Feldman pointed out that the Treasurer's Report was missing from the draft, and some corrections were offered; approved as amended.

**7:35 Reports****7:35 Station Manager's Report**

Eric Bohlen (Station Manager) reported that the old Monk's building has been sealed off from WEFT's upstairs, and we can now access that space. WEFT is working with 2 University of Illinois student groups -- Office of Experiential Learning did a listener survey which found fewer and fewer radio listeners; Eric will get there report about attracting a younger demographic. The group associated with the American Advertising Federation recommended more donation apps and did an email campaign to venues and bands and got 70 of 100 responses. They want to do another project with WEFT in the spring.

The WEFT listening app generated listening time and geographic statistics. Jeff Machota asked if the streaming app was able to distinguish robot listeners, but that is not yet available.

**7:45 Board of Directors Report**

Vicki Niswander (Board Chair) reported that WEFT received a grant from the Community Foundation for a new Optimod (the device that combines two audio channels into a single FM Stereo multiplex signal that is then sent to the transmitter over the Studio-Transmitter Link). The new Optimod will be able to also encode Radio Data System text into our FM signal; Dave Vollenweider has been working on getting song titles and other short text that modern FM receivers can display. The BoD is also working on a grant for new digital STL for when a new downtown hotel building blocks our current microwave link. The BoD is also considering a new capital campaign. There was discussion of having a strategic planning session like WEFT did some years ago, A straw poll indicated that most attending the Associates meeting are interested in attending a planning session.

**7:52 Treasurer's Report**

Mark Niswander shared his treasurer's report and went over balances, income and outlays for the quarter. Jeff Machota mentioned that he is work on the federal tax return which is complicated by differences in how donated securities are reported by different accounting and investment firms.

**8:00 Governance and HR Committee Reports**

Vicki Niswander reported that the revised by-laws effort is moving slowly and needs review. She needs to post the very long document that compares current by-laws to the proposed. No HR report.

**8:02 Programming Committee Report**

Gina Pagliuso reported that there are a lot of changes to the program schedule, and mentioned prior and upcoming airshifter training. See attached report below.

**8:09 Music Committee Report**

Bob Paleczny mentioned that the upcoming Music Committee meeting is in-person and is the committee's annual holiday pizza party. Bob is adding holiday music to the Zara overnight collection.

**8:11 Digital Library Report**

Bob Paleczny shared the DL report (see below). He mentioned that with the new Spinitron automatic recognition for Zara overnight and other slots, that WEFT's Sound Exchange Aggregate Tuning Hours report may double. The DL committee is planning to move the music ripping computer from the basement to the Great Hall. Also covered was maintenance of the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Radio Data System (RDS) project, and problems with the transmitter and antenna, and crashes of the front studio mixing board.

**8:19 Financial Development Report**

Vicki Niswander reported that the Winter Appeal letter was going out with some delays.

**8:20 Remote Access Team Report**

Gina Pagliuso provided a written report (attached below). Gina said remote operations continued with no major changes.

**8:21 Community Outreach Report**

Todd Hunter reported that a lot of new younger people have been participating, in part from the U of I class projects. Gift basket promotions have been effective at recruiting new WEFTies.

**8:27 Comments**

Maureen Hendrickx heard mention of Pay Pal, and asked about credit-card and on-line payment systems for use at tabling events and on-line donations. There was some discussion of what we have and what it costs us.

**8:37 Voting**

There are 2 PC seats open, 2 BoD seats, and no open seats on AEC. We continue to vote by Zoom private message to Vicki Niswander, the meeting host. Vicki Niswander described explained how to run through the board.

**8:41 Voting - Board of Directors**

There were no nominations.

**8:43 Voting - Programming Committee**

Gina Pagliuso nominates Don Hittle, who accepts, and Evelyn seconds. Dave Witzany says that he would like to serve on the PC, thus nominating himself; Todd Hunter seconds.

The candidates make statements, accept questions and endorsements.

**8:50 New Business – Holiday Gathering**

Since we've been meeting via Zoom, there haven't been any face-to-face meetings of the Associates, so the AEC is considering a holiday gathering. There was much discussion of venues and times., and t

**8:55 Vote to Extend**

Gina Pagliuso moves to extend the meeting by five minutes; Todd Hunter seconds; the ayes have it.

**8:55 Election Results**

Vicki Niswander reported that both Dave Witzany was elected and Don Hittle was re-elected to the Programming Committee.

**8:55 New Business (continued)**

The Holiday Gathering discussion continues. The consensus was to have coffee and cookies at the station on Saturday 14 December from 4 to 6 PM.

**9:01 Connie Hosier Obituary**

Todd asked to remember long-time WEFTie Connie Hosier, whose family supported WEFT recently with parking lot fundraisers, and who did a movie review drop-in show.

**9:04 Agenda Complete - adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at the completion of the agenda.

The next Associates meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 6 March 2025, at 7-9 PM online via Zoom.

**WEFT treasurer report - December 2024****Current balances**

PNC Savings account	\$19,897	(earns 0.02% interest)
PNC Checking account	\$9,765	(0% interest)
PNC CD (Goldman Sachs)	\$25,299	2 yr @5.05%, 6/11/26
Schwab cash	\$1,834	(earns 0.45% interest)
Schwab CD1 (Flagstar Bank)	\$38,087	1.5 year @ 4.75%, 7/7/25
Schwab CD2 (Poppy Bank)	\$25,070	9 mo @5.15%, 4/21/25
Schwab CD2 (Amer Expr)	\$24,825	2 yr @3.7%, 9/25/26
PayPal	\$633	
<i>Total</i>	\$145,410	

**Stock**

AAPL 836 \$232.87 \$194,679

On 11/8/24 PSEC announced that they were cutting their dividend by 25%(to 4.5 cents/shr from 6 cents/shr). This caused the stock to plunge ~16% (from ~\$5.25/shr). Our dividend has now decreased from \$180/mo to \$135/mo.

PSEC 3000 \$4.81 \$14,430

*Total stock value* \$209,109

*Total assets* \$354,519

**Monthly activity****Income**

Donations-October \$10,555

November \$2,487

2024 Fall Donation Drive \$10,540

**Bills paid****American Tower**

\$829

Ameren (trnsmttr)

\$1,609 (covers 2 months)

**Ameren (studio)**

\$157

**Constellation**

\$124

**Comcast**

\$357

**AT&T**

\$212

**DonorSnap**

\$79

**Eric Bohlen (health ins stipend)**

\$250

**Paychex TPS taxes**

\$971

**Paychex EIB invoice**

\$55

**Paychex payroll**

\$2,169

Annual safety deposit box fee

\$43

Ahten Elliott Prop. (cleaning services)

\$240

Annual Blues subscription

\$34

PIRA digital

\$375

Misc.

\$250

(includes sewer fees, trash collection, credit card fees, bank fees, etc.)

*Total*

\$7,754

**PC Report for Dec 4, 2024 Associates' Meeting**New/Time Change Shows:

The Get Out of Jail Free Radio Hour – Matt Henshaw – Saturday 12:01am-1am  
The Rift – Sunday 3-4pm – Roshan Krishnan (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> wks)  
Lady Lynn Live – Thursday 6-8pm – Lynn White (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> wks)  
That's Not Punk – Thursday 6-8pm – Emmet Deykoontz (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> wks)  
Beats Sticks and Kicks – Friday 10pm-midnight – Constant Walker (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> wks)  
The Midnight Drive – Friday 12:01am-2am – Devonte Sydnor  
Catch the Beat – Wednesday 5:30-6pm Off – Cope Cumpston (Off and On September-Early Dec)  
Alternative Radio – Saturday 7-8am (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> wks), Sunday 3-4pm (2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> wks)  
Four Show rotation – Magical Mystery Tour/Behind the News/On the Ground/EcoJustice Radio – Wednesday 6-7pm (while Friday Forum is on hiatus)  
Roots Rock Reggae – Thursday 8-10pm (3<sup>rd</sup> wk) – Bob Paleczny

Special Programming:

Catch the Beat – see above  
Adrian Lugo's Halloween broadcast – Oct 31 12:01-3am  
Alice's Restaurant Massacre – Thanksgiving Nov. 28 8am and noon  
A Christmas Carol – Dec. 23 6-8pm  
The Get Out of Jail Free Radio Hour – December 28 12:01-3am

Ended Shows:

Friday Forum – Wednesday – on hiatus until the Spring semester  
Catch the Beat – Wednesday – on hiatus until after the New Year  
Out of the In Between – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8-10pm – Kristy Rice

PC Membership/Open Seats:

Two Associate-elected seats are available for election this evening and three BOD elected seats are available – please see Vicki or Gina for BOD election procedure if interested. Don H's term expires tonight.

PC Officer Elections – Gina elected Chair, Don elected Vice-Chair, Marleen elected Communications (terms to run thru September 23, 2025).

PC working on:

The PC has continued holding meetings via Zoom. Meetings have been held regularly throughout the quarter.

Airshifter tracking tool – reminder emails went out to any Airshifters that have not attended two Associates' meetings in the past year (12 Airshifters) and all Airshifters in arrears with their membership dues (8 folks) on 11/26 and 11/27 (11 meeting/6 dues prior to Sept 2024 meeting).

Airshifter training – thanks to booth trainers who helped get approx. 10 new Airshifters trained since the September Associates' meeting.

PC continues emailing new/changed on-air programming highlights to wefto

Marleen will reach out to individual folks and U of I to see if there's interest to host Global Music programming (Monday/Tuesday/Thursday 2-4pm)

### **PC Report for December 4, 2024 Associates' Meeting (con't.)**

#### **Probationary Reviews:**

Probationary Review for Lovely Lo-Fi (Saturday 6-8pm – Kaitrin Higbee) was completed Oct 22

#### **Current Open Show Time Slots:**

##### **Sunday**

Open Format 3-6am

Celtic Music Go Bragh Go Bragh 6-8pm (alternating weeks)

##### **Monday**

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Monday Morning Menu 6-9am

Monday Morning Jazz 9-11:30am

World Beat 2-4pm

##### **Tuesday**

Freeform Overnight midnight-6:30am

World Beat 2-4pm

The Courier 4-5:30pm (Excellent volunteer opportunity)

##### **Wednesday**

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Morning Menu 6-9am

The Courier 4-5:30pm (Excellent volunteer opportunity)

Open Format 8-10pm (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> wks) – currently Zara RPM

##### **Thursday**

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

World Beat (until June 2025) 2-4pm

Informational Format 5:30-6pm

Roots, Rock Reggae collective (2 weeks/month open)

##### **Friday**

Freeform Overnight 2-6am

The Courier 4-5:30pm (Excellent volunteer opportunity)

Blues Live Collective 8-10pm (2 weeks/month open)

##### **Saturday**

Freeform Overnight 1-7am (or 8am – week dependent)

Open Format 8-10am (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> weeks alternating with Higher Ground) – currently Peace Talk Radio, Economic Update, Counterspin

Program proposal forms (hard copies) are in PC binder in the back studio. Digital versions found at [http://new.weft.org/about/show\\_proposal.html](http://new.weft.org/about/show_proposal.html) and may be emailed to [programming@weft.org](mailto:programming@weft.org).

## WEFT Digital Library Associate Report

### Zoom Meeting 7:00 – 12/04/2024

1. NPR/Sound Exchange – 4th. Qtr. '24 2-week reporting period 11/3/24 – 11/16/24  
Streaming and Playlist files uploaded – had to fix 30 second overlap in Playlist  
3rd Qtr. '24 results email from Jeff Cabiness – Compliant and ATH = 1640  
2nd Qtr. '24 results email from Jeff Cabiness – Compliant and ATH = 1813  
Expect ATH to increase now that we have playlists for Zara Overnight and Genre
2. Change collecting computer from basement system to Great Hall computer  
Will have to collect and clean on a regular basis, email me if you add files  
Will try to collect at the end of each month
3. Move current collecting computer out of basement  
Use as an upgrade (to Windows 10) replacement of the Streaming/Recording computer
4. Dave's RDS add in – will add song title and artist to digital radio text  
Unit has arrived – need power supply, BNC adapter and USB cable  
Processing of Spintron API – upgrade Recording/Streaming system  
Grant has been awarded for new Optimod – how does this affect RDS install
5. FCC – 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Issues & Programs filed 10/10/24, 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. due 1/10/25
6. FCC ETRS – 2024 Form One filed 10/3/24  
Sage is going to stop producing ENDEC (EAS), will have parts for a while
7. Dave Vollenweider 8/23/24 added domain weft.internal  
Updated hosts files on all Windows computers
8. Will copy Holiday directory into Zara Overnight next week
9. Turn down Transmitter Power to 10% Tuesday 12/03/24 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
Marty – American Messaging – uses Deerfield Comm as climbers (AMT approved)  
Reflected Power (new high?) 88.6 11/21/24, recent low 60.8 11/30/24  
Reflected Power this morning is at Upper Limit, I lowered power to 88%
10. Andrew's mixing board experience – Cue track 1 on Numark (CD2) heard awful squeal  
Left side of board went dark - Eric disconnected power cord from AC adapter  
Reset mixing board 9/28/24

## **RAT (Remote Access Team) Report for December 4, 2024 Associates' Meeting**

As of November 25, 2024, 13 shows per week were being home-produced and 48 shows per week were being produced in-studio. The balance of 21 shows per week was being covered by RAT member remote operations (Courier/Informational programming/Zara).

As of Oct 28, 2024 13/47/22

As of Sept 23, 2024 13/47/22

WEFT RAT continues to support Airshifters who choose to remain at home via remote Zara coverage or through facilitation of the broadcast of home-produced programming.



2024-12-04 WEFT Associates Meeting attendees:

Eric Bohlen  
Andrew Cardinal  
Grant Chassy  
Lorri Coey  
Jeannie Covert  
Denise Curia  
James Egan  
Richard Esbenshade  
Mike Feldman  
Jason Finkelman  
Lora Goodnight  
Indranil Gupta  
Edwin Hadley  
Ian Hammond  
Marleen Hendrickx  
Kaitrin Higbee  
Don Hittle  
Todd Hunter  
Adrian Lugo  
Jeff Machota  
Shaun Mills  
Mark Niswander  
Vicki Niswander  
Gina Pagliuso  
Bob Paleczny  
Kristy Rice  
Bill Saylor  
Richard Schoell  
Denny Stone  
Ben Theobald  
Barbara Trumpinski-Roberts  
Evelyn Underwood  
Dave Vollenweider  
Constant Walker  
Dave Witzany  
Jeff Zolitor

Excused absences:

Przemyslaw Bosak  
Cope Cumpston  
Kevin Elliott  
Zack Widup