

Held Wed, September 3, 2025, 7-9 PM CDT online via Zoom <https://zoom.us> ID: 811 895 6459

7:02 Call to Order and Introductions

Quorum was established shortly after 7 PM. Ben Theobald (Chair) called the meeting to order, after various attendees struggled with Zoom. Ben called for attendees to introduce themselves.

7:20 Approval of the Agenda

Edwin Hadley moved to approve the agenda; Zack Widup seconded; approved.

7:25 Approval of the Minutes

Richard Bressler moved to approve the 04 June 2025 draft minutes; Gina Pagliuso seconded. Some corrections were offered; approved as amended.

7:28 Renewal of the Associates SOP

Mike Feldman noted that the Associates Committee Standard Operating Procedures document expires every three year, and he prepared a new version to expire 3 years hence with no other changes. Gina Pagliuso moved it be accepted and Todd Hunter seconded; approved.

7:30 Station Manager's Report

Eric Bohlen (Station Manager) reported that the Rose Bowl's "WEFTopia" fund raiser took the tower repair funding campaign over the top of its goal. The station-to-transmitter feed is now via the internet and WEFT's on-air audio is no longer has static. The control room mixing board is having occasional failures which require unplugging / re-plugging the power supply to recover.

Eric mentioned that Brian Paris was advising on weft.org web site maintenance.

Eric called for volunteers for WEFT Fest, and mentioned that there are various events that need volunteers to represent WEFT: Craft Crawl - Sat. 4 Oct.; 1 Nov car parking for Illini football game; also Pygmalion, Ellnora, Folk & Roots, a 5K, and Pride Fest.

7:40 Board of Directors Report

Vicki Niswander reported for Audrey Fisher (Board Chair). The Board is working on the FY26 budget which is due by the end of September.

7:42 Treasurer's Report

Mark Niswander shared the spreadsheet of WEFT's finances and pointed out that WEFT is still running reddish with approximately \$400/mo donations vs \$1000/mo expenses. The BoD found a bookkeeper.

7:46 Governance and HR Committee Reports

Vicki gave a concise description of the changes in the proposed new bylaws concerning election to the Board of Directors. Instead of 3 different bodies electing portions of a 15-member board, the proposal is to hold one election per year with terms staggered over 3 years for a 9-member board. Vicki scheduled a Zoom meeting for 17 September to discuss the bylaws proposal.

There is no HR report.

7:50 Programming Committee Report

Gina Pagliuso submitted a PC reported. See attached report below. She mentioned upcoming air-shifter training.

8:00 Music Committee Report

There was no report, but Vicki mentioned she hoped that there would be CD and poster sales at WEFT Fest. Eric mentioned there will be non-WEFT vendors with booths at WEFT Fest.

8:04 Digital Library Report

Dave Vollenweider reported that there is Internet service at the tower. He added Piatt county to the EAS weather alerts. There are CD players out for repair. There's a grant request out for Network Attached Storage to replace external hard drives for the music collection. Bob Paleczny's hard drive has 90K files. We plan to purchase 2 new FM antennas for performance monitoring of WEFT and adding WSOY-FM Decatur to the EAS..

8:09 Financial Development Report

Vicki Niswander reported that the appeal letter for the fall drive is out. We're not offering tee-shirts as a premium; we may have a denim shirt sale.

8:29 Remote Access Team Report

Gina Pagliuso provided a written report (attached below) and said that RAT operations are stable.

8:14 Community Outreach Report

Todd Hunter reports that outreach is evolving from a social media effort to event tabling, with Denise and Kristy for Urbana events. There's 12 on the mailing list and 4-6 active meeting participants.

Eric mentioned he's looking for new ideas, and adding sponsorship for the AIDS Project 5K, and participation in the U of I Homecoming parade..

8:21 New Business / Comments

There was lengthy discussion of a return to in-person meetings with concerns for venues and on-going COVID outbreaks. Hybrid meetings with a Zoom setup for remote attendees seems a necessity now.

8:35 Voting

There are no open Programming Committee seats or Associates Executive Committee seats, so only three open Board of Directors seats could be filled. There were no nominations for the board.

8:41 Agenda Complete - adjourn

With no new business, the meeting adjourned at the completion of the agenda.

The next Associates meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 03 December 2025, at 7-9 PM online via Zoom.

WEFT treasurer report - September 2025

~~Current balances~~

PNC Savings account			\$13,898 (earns 0.02% interest)
PNC Checking account			\$13,279 (0% interest)
Schwab cash			\$29,325 (earns 0.45% interest)
Schwab CD (Cross River Bnk)			\$20,000 1 yr @4.1%, 1/2/26
PNC CD (Goldman Sachs)			\$26,450 2 yr @5.05%, 6/11/26
Schwab CD (Amer Expr)			\$24,989 2 yr @3.7%, 9/25/26
Schwab CD (First Nat Bank of MI)			\$25,101 2 yr @4%, 1/22/27
Schwab CD (Bank of Amer)			\$30,110 2y @3.85%, 7/16/27
PayPal			\$1,277
	Total		\$170,531

Stock			
AAPL	586	\$256.08	\$150,063
PSEC	3000	\$2.59	\$7,770 Pays monthly dividend of \$135.
	Total stock value		\$157,833
	Total assets		\$328,364

~~Monthly activity~~

Income		
Donations-August		\$6,651
September (to date)		\$18,127
Helen Harrison Foundation		\$10,000
Amount attributable to 2025 Fall Donation Drive		\$3,212

~~Bills paid~~

American Tower		\$829
Ameren (trnsmrtr)		\$1,842 August
Ameren (studio)		\$230
Constellation		\$246
Comcast		\$370

AT&T	\$212	
DonorSnap	\$79	
Eric Bohlen (health ins stipend)	\$250	
Paychex TPS taxes	\$1,924	
Paychex EIB invoice	\$128	
Paychex payroll	\$4,274	
PayChex Flexperks	\$82	
Hartford Ins (prop/liab ins)	\$7,280	
Spinitron (annual)	\$1,044	
Zoom (annual)	\$160	
RedFire CPA (July & Aug)	\$975	
Misc.	\$173 (includes sewer fees, trash collection,	
		credit card fees, bank fees, etc.)
	Total	\$20,098

Notes

Bold indicates relatively steady amount from month to month.
 On 9/12/25, transfer of \$6,000 from PNC savings to PNC checking account.
 On 9/15/25, transfer of \$10,000 from Schwab savings to PNC savings account.

PC Report for Sept 3, 2025 Associates' MeetingNew/Time Change Shows:

Whirled Waves – Thursday 2-4pm Marleen Hendrickx (moved from Friday at the end of June)
The Rap Magic Show – Saturday 12:01-2am Donte Winslow
Radio Free Labor – Saturday 11am-1pm now hosted by Gus Wood

Special Programming:

Catch the Beat – on and off throughout the quarter – Wednesdays 5:30-6pm
Sweet & Savory Blues – Thursday 11:30am-2pm currently being covered by subs (Dave D)

Ended Shows:

Jazz Silhouette – Friday 9-11:30am

PC Membership/Open Seats:

Two BOD elected seats are available; Tyler Witt was BOD elected to the PC at their August meeting. Please see Audrey, Vicki or Gina for BOD election procedure if interested.

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 (17 Airshifters) and all Airshifters in arrears with their membership dues (9 folks) on 6/2/25 (9 meeting/8 dues prior to June 2025 meeting).

Airshifter training – 8-10 folks attended Airshifter classroom training on June 29. Some have completed booth training, others have begun volunteering at the station and one trainee joined the WMW collective.

PC continues emailing new/changed on-air programming highlights to wefto. Please email Don H at dhittle@gmail.com with special programming notes to share via "Program Notes" emails. Open time slot list will be emailed to wefto this week.

PC is working on an FCC requirement reminder email/booth posting. Indecent material may only be aired on WEFT between the hours of 10pm-6am with an Ongoing Indecency Waiver. OIW covers song lyrics only, not Airshifter speech. PC will add language to OIW Application that makes that distinction. Also, please make required legal station IDs, sign in and out on the Operations log and record transmitter readings every two hours. There may be a "training" video to share with Airshifters regarding FCC regulations in the future.

Please notify Eric if curse words are heard during Zara ON – due to open MM slots, playlist runs through to 9am some mornings.

PC Report for Sept. 3, 2025 Associates' Meeting (con't.)**Current Open Show Time Slots:****Sunday**

Open Format 3-7am

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

Monday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Monday Morning Menu 6-8am

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 1-6am

Morning Menu 6-9am

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

Thursday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Thursday Blues 11:30am-2pm

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

Roots, Rock Reggae collective (3 weeks/month open)

Friday

Freeform Overnight 2-6am

Friday Morning Jazz 9-11:30am

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

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

Open Format 10 pm-midnights (2nd, 4th and 5th weeks)**Saturday**

Freeform Overnight 2-7am (or 8am – alternating weeks)

Open Format 8-10am (1st, 3rd and 5th 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 and may be emailed to programming@weft.org.

RAT (Remote Access Team) Report for Sept 03, 2025 Associates' Meeting

As of August 25, 2025, 14 shows per week were being home-produced and 45 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 July 28, 2025 14/45/21

As of June 23, 2025 14/46/22

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

Attending 03 September 2025:

Cliff	Barns
Eric	Bohlen
Richard	Bressler
Herbert	Burnett
Andrew	Cardinal
Jeannie	Covert
Cope	Cumpston
Dave	Daubert
Rick	Esbenshade
Mike	Feldman
Jason	Finkelman
Edwin	Hadley
Ian	Hammond
Kaitrin	Higbee
Don	Hittle
Todd	Hunter
Adrian	Lugo
Mark	Niswander
Vicki	Niswander
Gina	Pagliuso
William X.	Saylor
Ramavarapu	Sreenivas
Ben	Theobald
Barbara	Trumpinski-Roberts
Evelyn	Underwood
Dave	Vollenweider
"Constant"	Walker
Rich	Warren
Lynn	White
Zack	Widup
Dave	Witzany

Excused:

Lorri	Coey
Kevin	Elliott
Lora	Goodnight
Indranil	Gupta
Kristin	Holtz
Craig	Koslofsky
Jeff	Machota
Kristy	Rice
Richard	Schoell