

**Held Thurs March 05 2026, 7-9 PM CDT online via Zoom <https://zoom.us> ID: 811 895 6459**

**7:09 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.

**7:26 Approval of the Agenda**

Todd Hunter moved to approve the agenda; Andrew Cardinal seconded; approved as corrected.

**7:27 Approval of the Minutes**

Todd Hunter moved to approve the 03 December 2025 draft minutes; Evelyn Underwood seconded. ?? offered corrections; approved as amended.

**7:28 Reports**

We had the Outreach committee report first since Todd Hunter needed to leave early.

**7:28 Community Outreach Report**

Todd Hunter reported that weather trumped the holiday party, and that the committee will resume activity in late March. Denise Curia reported that tabling the WEFT Booth will resume at the Urbana farmers' market the 2nd Monday in May. Eric Bohlen listed several upcoming bothing events including 5 festivals.

**7:34 Station Manager's Report**

Eric Bohlen (Station Manager) mentioned that a Spintron reporting period was coming up and playlists will have required track durations. Other issues covered in other reports above and below.

**7:35 Board of Directors Report**

Audrey Fisher (Board Chair) reported that the used NetWave console on order from eBay was delayed. The board is establishing a team to evaluate options with our equipment problems in the longer term; she's calling it the "Green Squad".

**7:37 Treasurer's Report**

Cliff Barnes shared the spreadsheet of WEFT's finances. See attached spreadsheet below, which is laid out differently than past reports, but contains the same information. Four month income and expenses was about \$3000 positive. WEFT filed an IRS extension request for tax filing given we have a new accountant.

**7:42 Governance and HR Committee Reports**

There are no Governance nor HR reports this quarter.

**7:43 Programming Committee Report**

Gina Pagliuso submitted a PC reported. See attached report below. Ed Hadley said he was happy to have WEFT rebroadcast Incoming Wounded show. Gina sent email reminders about dues and meeting attendance. Another airshifter training sessions is upcoming.

**7:50 Music Committee Report**

Richard Schoell reported for the absent Anthony Santarelli reminded us that the MC meets the third Monday of each month via Zoom.

**7:52 Digital Library Report**

Eric Bohlen report that FM antennas ordered for the roof for performance monitoring and WSOY (Emergency Alert System) primary source, are delayed. The furnace at the studio failed and was repaired. CD players continue to fail and we're down to two working units. The BoD is researching options for the Studio-Transmitter-Link (STL) which is now monitoring our Icecast stream, even though the microwave STL equipment remains in place.

Mike Feldman described repair efforts on the Harris NetWave broadcast console – the mixing board in the front studio. Paul Meuth recruited electrical engineer and long-time service technician Greg Danner to diagnose and repair the NetWave. On three occasions, Eric would move programming to a USB drive played from the back studio while the console was offline. Greg determined that the analog board had been damaged and in a second session replaced failed and missing components on that board. In a third session he repaired the meters. Since then the board has been more reliable, but still suffers occasional misbehavior and outright failures, thus the replacement board on order. In the meantime the repaired analog board is generating a louder signal which causes the stream and over-the-air signal to distort when the board is operated at historic levels. Until the partially repaired board is calibrated, air-shifters are instructed to use lower levels to avoid distortion.

**8:07 Financial Development Report**

Eric Bohlen reported that Don Tanner is temporary chair replacing Vicki Niswander. The spring drive is set for March 24 through April 3, and the theme is "Match Madness". Several donors have agreed to match donations dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. The goal for the drive is \$20,000. A letter is ready to go out to past donors.

**8:12 Remote Access Team Report**

Gina provided a written report (attached below) and said that RAT operations are stable. There are 14 shows per week produced at home and 42 shows live in studio, and 24 shows handled by the RAT. Someone (Rex? Zack, Rich?) asked how to take and long meter readings when producing shows at home. Gina said we haven't been doing that and Audrey (?) mentioned that any air-shifter in-studio stopping or starting Zara should take an extra set of readings at that point in addition to the readings they normally take. Gina pointed out the Day Sheets nominally schedule readings every two hours, but it is OK to take more.

**8:15 New Business / Comments**

None.

**8:16 Voting**

There are no open Programming Committee seats; all Associates Executive Committee AEC seats expire each March, and one expiring and two open Board of Directors (BoD) seats could be filled.

Lynn White was able to join the meeting after her show, and stood for re-election to her Associate-elected BoD seat, and Don Tanner seconded her nomination.

Mike Feldman said he preferred not to stand for the AEC Secretary seat, but would stand for an at-large seat to maintain AEC continuity. Zack Widup initially stood for AEC at-large, but after some discussion agreed to stand for AEC Secretary even though he would miss next December's Associates meeting. Ben Theobald agreed to stand for Chair once more. Gina Pagliuso nominated Evelyn Underwood, who was unable to attend, to retain her AEC at-large seat.

Audrey Fisher, as Zoom meeting host, and unable to vote being a BoD Member, initiated Zoom poll for the one BoD nominee and another for the four AEC nominees. Gina Pagliuso used the Zoom chat to list the nominees for voting Associates.

**8:41 Discussion: ideas to attract new listeners / air-shifters / volunteers to WEFT**

Don Tanner opened the discussion by saying “Be where the kids are.” There are already some things WEFT is doing well, for example Zunaira Shoaib’s “Operation Cupid” Valentine’s card project partnering with the Gallery Art Bar, and 217 (Flea?) event at Lincoln Square. These events had lots of college students who expressed interest in WEFT. Don also suggested that we be aware of where the younger potential air-talent is, for example at Parkland and U of I student stations. Some may be on waiting lists to get a show on the air.

Kaitrin Higbee mentioned that a young producer “Flapjaque” from Chicago responds to WEFT posting about on-air events, so there is interest in radio out there.

Zack Widup mentioned C-U Bands and Fans Facebook Page is consider WEFT as a co-sponsor of the page, he can promote air-shifter training and other events.

Cope Cumpston, who requested this discussion based on prior discussion at BoD and PC meetings invites Tyler Witt to chime in. Tyler runs a local record company and podcast, and is aware of a lot of grass roots house shows and music production. Consider a new show spotlighting local music in addition to WEFT Sessions that’s on late at night.

Eric Bohlen suggests a youth advisory board as a vehicle drawing new talent and fans to WEFT, and help recruit their friends. Kristy Rice suggested creating a local “brand” or catchy name.

Mike Feldman asked Gina about open slots in the early evenings for local music. Gina said there’s not been an specific show proposals, but there is talk for the 5-6 PM hour, but that is strip programming for informational shows. A good time slot would be 6-7 PM – the PC is looking for specific show proposals.

Edwin Hadley recounted a thing at WEFT called “Live on-the-air Parties” that did require a crew of people to make them happen, but died off when liability insurance where alcohol is served became stricter. They drew local bands and their fans.

**8:55 Motion to Extend**

Gina Pagliuso moved that we extend for an additional 15 minutes; seconded and approved. The brainstorming discussion continued.

Cope chimed in that the problem is to get a core group of people to commit to a weekly effort more than just one-off events. Tyler said there is talk of a collective to promote and air local music, and there’s a Parkland radio DJ, (Dreya Erins?), is interested in such a group.

Mike Feldman related how WEFT Sessions gets bands booked from the wider area – Bloomington-Normal, Springfield, Danville, and their shows often have steaming listeners from their fan base, and over the following month we’ll get a few more bands booked from that area. Mike also described his Year-in-Review shows at the end of the year, and how the best band tracks find their way into Zara’s local music collection. Mike’s been hoping for an archivist to help with that process.

Mike also recalled that he used to engineer live music on other air-shifters’ shows, like Dave Wright’s and Bob Paleczny’s blues shows, and a few jazz show afternoons and evenings. There has been much less of that lately.

Cope, Kristy, Gina ask how to keep the ball rolling – a new committee? We need an active and committed crew to do the reach new and younger participants. Don ask about Canopy Club; Eric described some ongoing shows, but mentioned that there have been younger volunteers who help with one project and then lose interest. Eric also warned that some local house venues are illegal, and worries it can run us afoul of the FCC. Cope was encouraged to keep the discussion going.

**9:17 Voting Results**

Audrey Fisher announced that there were no “no” votes. Lynn White received 16 votes for BoD term ending 03/28. For the AEC, Mike Feldman (at large) and Zack Widup (Secretary) received 16 votes, and Evelyn Underwood (at large) and Ben Theobald (Chair) received 14 votes.

**9:22 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 June 2026, at 7-9 PM online via Zoom.

**WEFT Treasurer Report - March 5, 2026 Associates Meeting**

February 28, 2026 Statement Balances	PNC	Schwab	PayPal	Total	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	March 5, 2026 Balances
<b>CASH</b>							
PNC Checking account	23,673.76			23,673.76	0.00%	N/A	23,504.04
PNC Savings account	9,697.41			9,697.41	0.01%	N/A	9,697.41
PNC Investment - Cash	1,895.93			1,895.93	0.04%	N/A	1,895.93
Schwab cash		34,720.28		34,720.28	0.05%	N/A	34,720.28
PayPal			1,894.68	1,894.68	0.00%	N/A	1,894.68
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>	<b>35,267.10</b>	<b>34,720.28</b>	<b>1,894.68</b>	<b>71,882.06</b>			<b>71,712.34</b>
<b>CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT</b>							
Goldman Sachs	25,081.75			25,081.75	5.05%	6/11/2026	25,076.25
American Express		25,001.05		25,001.05	3.70%	9/25/2026	25,001.73
First National Bank of MI		25,074.55		25,074.55	4.00%	1/22/2027	25,068.15
Bank of America		30,065.25		30,065.25	3.85%	7/16/2027	30,064.92
<b>TOTAL CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT</b>	<b>25,081.75</b>	<b>80,140.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>105,222.60</b>			<b>105,211.05</b>
<b>STOCK (Market Value at 12/31/2025)</b>							
AAPL		179,906.58		179,906.58	Shares: 681	Annual Income: 708.24	177,257.49
PSEC		8,160.00		8,160.00	3,000	1,620.00	8,190.00
<b>TOTAL STOCK</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>188,066.58</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>188,066.58</b>			<b>185,447.49</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH, CDs AND STOCK</b>	<b>60,348.85</b>	<b>302,927.71</b>	<b>1,894.68</b>	<b>365,171.24</b>			<b>362,370.88</b>

26,977.68

**October 1, 2025 to January 31, 2026 (4 Months)**

Total Income	54,153.95
Total Expenses	50,724.68
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>3,429.27</b>

**Recent Activity**

**Donations**

January 2026	4,171.01
February 2026	14,905.51
March 20216 to Date	1,469.00

**Items of Interest**

Form 990 - Extension Filed, Due August 15, 2026  
 Actual Filing date dependent on CPA's Schedule  
 Transition from Mark to me nearly complete  
 Still some documentation to be processed.

**PC Report for March 5, 2026 Associates' Meeting**New/Time Change Shows:

Friday Forum – Wednesdays 6-7pm (Feb 11 – mid April)  
New Roots Rock Reggae collective members – Marleen H and Dennis W  
Tech Unfiltered – Urvi Banerjee 1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 5-6pm began Jan 24

Special Programming:

A Christmas Carol – Monday Dec. 22 6-8pm  
MLK Programming – Monday Jan 12 4-8pm

Ended Shows:

Magical Mystery Tour/ Behind the News/ On the Ground (will be back in Friday Forum slot mid-April through early Fall semester)  
Incoming Wounded – Ed Hadley will discontinue production of Incoming Wounded March 28

PC Membership/Open Seats:

The PC has NO open seats! Thanks to everyone that's committed their time on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month.

PC working on:

The PC has continued holding meetings via Zoom. Meetings have been held regularly throughout the quarter (Dec 23 meeting was canceled due to winter holidays).

Airshifter tracking tool – reminder emails went out to any Airshifters that have not attended two Associates' meetings in the past year (10 Airshifters) and all Airshifters in arrears with their membership dues (3 folks) on 2/27 and 2/28 (14 meeting/9 dues prior to December 2025 meeting).

Airshifter training – Eric and Gina to set new Airshifter training date (usually run a class after Spring Fundraising Drive)

PC continues emailing new/changed on-air programming highlights to wefto. Please email Don H at [dhhittle@gmail.com](mailto:dhhittle@gmail.com) with special programming notes to share via "Program Notes" emails.

PC drafted, emailed and posted a document regarding respect for on-air personnel's space and time in the booth.

Cope drafted and emailed a document to notify folks of Dec 17 FCC meeting and minimum FCC requirements of all WEFT Airshifters.

The PC has/will be contacting Airshifters that are not properly signing in/out on the Operations logs. We'll also contact folks that are not taking, regularly taking or properly documenting meter readings.

The PC received a listener complaint regarding the manipulation of playback speed. The issue was addressed with responsible Airshifter(s).

The PC sent an email to all PA show Airshiffters to alert them that WEFT cannot archive programs on our website for an extended period of time with music tracks (violates 2 week copyright rules). Airshiffters were asked to stop playing music or allow WEFT to edit out any music prior to archiving.

The PC spent a lot of time in January and early February discussing the possibility of slotting a non-informational show into a Courier time slot, which had been tried in 2017 (with Associate and BOD sign-off) and with little interest in the time slot. The current idea was to attract new/younger listeners to a “possible” local music show between 5-6pm. Ultimately, the PC decided that they weren’t comfortable modifying the SOP to allow for this change. There is a chance (if a proposal is received) that a 6-7pm slot might open up for this type of programming/ possibly a local music collective. The PC is hopeful that the March 5 Associates’ Mtg. agenda item “Ideas to attract new listeners/Airshiffters/volunteers to WEFT” will spur brainstorming and action.

### **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

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

#### **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 Menu 6-9am

Friday Morning Jazz 9-11:30am

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

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

#### **Saturday**

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

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).

## **RAT (Remote Access Team) Report for March 5, 2026 Associates' Meeting**

As of February 23, 2026, 14 shows per week were being home-produced and 42 shows per week were being produced in-studio. The balance of 24 shows per week was being covered by RAT member remote operations (Courier/Informational programming/Zara).

As of January 26, 2026 14/42/24

As of December 22, 2025 14/41/25

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.

March 5, 2026 WEFT Associates Meeting Attendees

Cliff Barnes  
Eric Bohlen  
Przemyslaw Bosak  
Richard Bressler  
Andrew Cardinal  
Cope Cumpston  
Denise Curia  
James Eagan  
Mike Feldman  
Audrey Fisher  
Indranil Gupta  
Edwin Hadley  
Ian Hammond  
Marleen Hendrickx  
Kaitrin Higbee  
Don Hittle  
Todd Hunter  
Shaun Mills  
Gina Pagliuso  
Olivia Patterson  
Kristy Rice  
William X. Saylor  
Richard Schoell  
Don Tanner  
Ben Theobald  
Lynn White  
Zack Widup  
Tyler Witt

Excused:

Jeannie Covert  
Rick Esbenshade  
Jason Finkelman  
Kristin Holtz  
Jeff Machota  
Anthony Santarelli  
Evelyn Underwood  
Jeff Zolitor