

GALLUP PUBLIC RADIO (GPR) BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 **TIME:** 5:35 p.m. – 7:25 p.m. **LOCATION:** UNMG's Zollinger Library Conference Room

ATTENDEES:

- **Board Members Present:** Raymond Calderon (President), Carol Sarath (Vice-President), Matthew Mingus (Secretary), Markos Chavez, Frederic Held, Angela Benally.
 - **Board Members Absent:** Gabriel Suk and Samir Wahed.
 - **Staff Present:** Tom Maxedon (Station Manager), Calvin Gleason (Production Manager).
 - **Guests / Public Present:** Dan Berg, Rhonda Berg, JoAnn Benenati.
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1. CALL TO ORDER

President Raymond Calderon called the meeting to order at **5:35 p.m.**

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

- **Motion:** Markos Chavez moved to approve both the agenda for the October 13 meeting and the minutes from the August 10 meeting.
 - **Second:** Matthew Mingus seconded the motion.
 - **Result:** Approved unanimously.
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3. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS & STATION MANAGEMENT

Station Manager's Report (Tom Maxedon)

- **Tower Equipment & Lightning Repair:**
 - Following the September engineering visit by Marcus Damburger (KRQE Chief Engineer), a likely lightning strike at the tower site tripped a commercial circuit breaker on the building shared with KXTC (iHeart) and damaged microwave cabling and fiber connections.

- Tom presented a repair quote from Marcus Damburger for \$3,100 to hire a specialized tower crew and replace damaged cabling.
- **Motion:** Matthew Mingus motioned to approve the repair quote for up to \$4,000 (allowing a buffer for potential additional cabling costs). Carol Sarath seconded. Approved unanimously.
- Vertical Bridge owns the building and tower. The board noted that KGLP's previous \$4,000 roof repair patch will serve as an offset against any past rent claims should Vertical Bridge ever inquire (KGLP has not been billed or paid rent in approximately 9 years).
- **FCC, EAS & Cybersecurity Compliance:**
 - UNM IT confirmed strong firewall protection for station connections. Station passwords and IP access rules were updated to enforce 12+ character security standards.
 - Tom completed registration for the mandatory nationwide FCC EAS test occurring November 17 at 2:20 p.m. EDT.
 - Quarterly FCC reports (filed Oct 10) and NPR quarterly reports (filed Oct 5) are fully up to date.
 - KGLP integrated a new monitoring tool via Spintron to track playlist copyright compliance automatically.
- **Programming & Cost Reductions:**
 - Tom secured an additional \$750/year reduction from Native Voice One and eliminated \$1,000 in redundant web streaming and website tools. Total annualized programming cost savings now stand at approximately \$13,000 (excluding ongoing NPR rural market rate negotiations).
- **Program Schedule Updates & Flow:**
 - Tom and Calvin reviewed the newly implemented schedule grid designed for better listener flow.
 - **Additions:** "Indigenous in Music" (with Omaha Nation host Larry K), The Bioneers paired with Green Street (forming a Thursday 2:00 p.m. environmental block), Radiolab, and moving Mountain Stage to Sunday evenings alongside eTown. Other new shows added are available online.
 - **Removals:** Early Music Now, Concierto, Fiesta, and Alternative Radio.

- Democracy Now! and BBC World News overnights remain unchanged.
- Most shows were retained, but some were moved to different dayparts.
- **Local News Internship Wrap-Up:**
 - Intern Logan Reed Black completed four feature news stories (Route 66, Gallup data center proposal, local watersheds, and library expansion) before concluding his grant-funded summer internship.
 - Tom and Raymond discussed continuing local reporting partnerships with UNM and local students (including a Gallup student currently studying broadcast journalism at GCU).
- **Personnel & PTO Policy:**
 - Tom updated station payroll and PTO documentation to align with New Mexico state requirements (allowing up to 64 hours of PTO carryover).

President / Treasurer's Report (Raymond Calderon)

- **Financial Status & CDAR Investments:**
 - Upon maturity of the previous CDAR, \$100,000 was placed into a 90-day short-term CD and \$413,000 was allocated into a 6-month CD to maximize interest following Federal Reserve rate hikes, while keeping cash balances protected within FDIC/CDIC limits.
 - GPR already received its first State of New Mexico reimbursement check of \$82,625.39. Raymond submitted the second quarterly reimbursement request (\$102,000–\$106,000 covering Feb–May 2026) to NM DFA.
 - NM DFA notified GPR that a state formula miscalculation occurred in favor of independent rural stations, which may result in an additional ~\$100,000 in state reimbursement funding for KGLP.
- **Bank Signatures & Account Clean-Up:**
 - **Motion:** Raymond Calderon moved to officially remove former station manager Rachel Kaub and former board member Terry Sloan from all KGLP bank accounts, credit cards, and financial records, and formally add Station Manager Tom Maxedon as an authorized signer. Matthew Mingus seconded. Approved unanimously.

- **Audit & Form 990 Tax Filing:**
 - CPA Veronica Villanueva is finalizing the Form 990 tax filing under an approved extension following the death of Ollie Waters.
 - **Board Transitions & JoAnn Benenati Nomination:**
 - Raymond reiterated his firm intention to step down as Board President by December 31, 2026.
 - Guest Rhonda Berg expressed strong interest in joining the board and stepping into the Treasurer role, bringing 40 years of non-profit financial and administrative experience. The board enthusiastically welcomed her nomination for formal election at the January 2027 Annual Meeting.
 - The board discussed Gabriel Suk's extended absence and agreed to reach out regarding his board status per bylaws.
 - **December Meeting Date:**
 - The board agreed to move the December meeting forward to **Monday, December 7, 2026**, to avoid holiday scheduling conflicts.
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4. OLD BUSINESS

- **4WD Transport to Transmitter Site:** Discussion regarding long-term 4WD transport to the transmitter. Due to delays in finalizing a vehicle MOU with UNM-Gallup, Tom will explore trade/underwriting arrangements or local vehicle options.
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5. NEW BUSINESS

- **Annual Expense Modeling & Budgeting:** The board agreed to work with Tom to develop an expense forecast for 2027 to model equipment upgrades, internships, travel, and personnel needs.
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6. PUBLIC INPUT

- Rhonda and Dan Berg participated in discussions regarding station programming, local news funding, and community engagement.
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7. ADJOURNMENT

- **Motion:** A motion was made to adjourn.
- **Second:** Markos Chavez seconded.
- **Time:** The meeting adjourned at **7:25 p.m.**
- **Next Board Meeting:** Monday, November 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.