Golden Valley Community Broadcasters, Inc.

KZFR Community Radio Board of Directors

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Meeting Date: 8 September 2026

Location: On Flume Offices, 527 Flume Street, Suite 110, Chico

Commencement Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Open-6:00 pm/Meeting Closed 7:50 pm

Present:

A quorum is defined as a 'majority of board of directors' under Bylaws, Sec. 5.

Laura Lukes (Pres.)	Josh Indar*
*David Fuhs (VP)	Julie Kennedy
Eric Johnson	Hoppie Campos
Bryan Bickley	Emmauelle Sainte (arrived late)

Absent: Paul Blackwood

*programmer-elected

Staff:

Grant Parks, General Manager

Leah McKean, Volunteer Coordinator

Ray Laager, Underwriting Director

Shirley McCoy, Office Manager

Diane Culpepper, Business Manager

Guests:

1. Meeting Opening

1.1 Call to Order/ Begin Recording/Welcome/Attendance

1.2 Amend/Approve Agenda

Discussion:

No discussion.

Action: Motion to approve agenda. –David Fuhs

Seconded- Josh Indar

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Paul Blackwood, Emmanuelle Sainte

1.3 Amend/Approve Previous Minutes

1.3.1. August 2026 Minutes

Discussion:

No discussion.

Action: Motion to approve August 2026 minutes. – Eric Johnson

Seconded- David Fuhs

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Paul Blackwood, Emmanuelle Sainte

1.4 Treasurer's Update

1.4.1. Review and Approve July 2026 Financials

Discussion:

--Laura notes that the July financial reports may look weird with all the red, but this is because it is the first month of the FY, showing what we had budgeted annually vs. what we actually spent or earned.

--Julie asks for clarification on line item 109- Taxes Property. Diane explains that our property taxes came in in July. We paid approximately 2/3 of what we budgeted- 74%. This includes our equipment- generators, boards, etc. Diane says our taxes only increased by a dollar.

--Eric suggests that the station buy our own all-in-one laser printer. A good quality color all-in-one printer would cost approximately $500 and a new ink cartridge set would be approximately $60. Julie asks how much it would cost to repair it. The printer Eric was looking at comes with a 3-year warranty and are designed to handle 20,000 pages per month. Grant: we definitely do NOT exceed 20,000 pages per month. Most of our cost is offset by underwriting trade with Coastal Business and it includes service. We do $150 trade per month and pay $80 in cash. It is best to keep this current arrangement as is.

Action: Motion to approve July 2026 Financials. –Julie Kennedy

Seconded- Josh Indar

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Paul Blackwood, Emmanuelle Sainte

1.5 Public Input/Correspondence

Discussion:

--Grant reports that he received an email from a listener regarding a song played by a programmer. This is a Program Committee issue.

--Eric asks if Grant saw the complaint about the Best of Chico and multiple votes per person. Grant did receive this message but says we can't change how Best of Chico is right now. Laura also responded to this comment. She thanked her for commenting on the structure and told her she would forward her email to Grant.

1.6 Meeting Notices and Announcements

Community Advisory Board (CAB): 11/02/2026 via Zoom

Executive Committee: 10/06/2026 in person

Fundraising Committee: 09/15/2026 in person

Grantwriting Subcommittee: 09/16/2026 via Zoom

News Committee: 09/15/2026 via Zoom

Program Committee (PC): 09/17/2026 via Zoom

Technology Advisory Committee (TAC): 09/22/2026 in person

See: KZFR Board and Committee Meeting Google Calendar

BOD Event Cash Counts: (signups shown as of Friday, July 3, 2026)

Link: KZFR BOD Internal Controls (Cash Count) FY 24-25_Sign-up sheet - Google Sheets

Count Date	Event	Signed Up	Need
Mon Sept 14	Touch of Chico	Julie Kennedy	1 person
Mon Oct 5	Chico Swing Band	Laura Lukes	1 person
Mon Nov 16	Best of Chico Winners Party	Julie Kennedy	1 person
Mon Nov 9	Mini Concert #1		1 person
Mon Nov 22	Fall Record Swap		1 person

2. Action Items- NONE

3. Staff and Committee Updates

3.1 Staff Reports

3.1.1. GM Report- Grant Parks

--Grant submitted a report via email to BOD members after the agenda packet went out.

--At the time of the meeting, Best of Chico was at 89,000+ votes. This exceeds the nomination round- it got 55,000. The final round in 2025 got a quarter of a million votes. We have already exceeded the Best of Chico 2025 numbers. This has generated approximately $32,000 of income for the station. Winner's showcase and the Winner's Party will also generate additional income.

--Grant is working on cybersecurity for the station per new FCC rules. These need to be in effect by the end of this month. This will require us to buy hardware from Vista Net and have them install it. FCC wants all radio stations to update all of their passwords and there is a character minimum for each network we remote into. It will also require us to take our EAS off of the main network and isolate it into a firewall. It is a significant undertaking.

--Grant announces that we were approved for the California Arts Council General Operating Support Grant and the City of Chico Arts Grant. Grant had gone to the capital to speak on behalf of the Public Media Bridge Stabilization Fund. The State approved $3 million. The State will be figuring out how to distribute this to public broadcasters who used to be recipients of the CPB Broadcasting Grant. This includes us but also includes Capital Public Radio, KQED, K-PBS, etc. Grant is not sure how much we will receive from this. There are a lot of stations who used to get CPB grants in California, so if everyone were to get one equally distributed, this would only be approximately $2,500.

--Hoppie asks why we are working with Vista Net. Grant explains that we are currently under contract with them. They perform maintenance of our servers and we have an existing

relationship with them. They are a local company. They do not currently do any underwriting/trade with us.

3.1.2. Underwriting Report- Ray Laager

--Ray submitted a report via email to BOD members after the agenda packet went out.

--Ray reports that we were short on participants again for the Blood Drive. He suggests partnering with another organization such as his BNI chapter that has 35 members/businesses in each chapter. Hoppie suggests partnering with Chico State's fraternity system- they have required community service hours to fulfill. He suggests organizing an event to bring the Bloodmobile to the frat and sorority houses. Ray and Hoppie will discuss this idea further. Josh asks if we will do another Drive this year. We usually do one in the Spring and one in the Summer.

--Ray explains more about the Best of Chico final round voting. Only the top 5 businesses make it to the final round and you can only vote for one of the top 5. Some of these businesses are buying ads in the final round. Everybody has this option. This is how the income is generated. Julie asks if businesses are still signing up to advertise in the final round. They were coming in steady until around the Friday before the Board meeting. Ray does not anticipate any more sales coming in after this point but they could. Once the final round is over, a lot of winners purchase ads in the Winner's showcase. These are fairly lucrative and a good percentage of winners purchase these ads.

--Eric asks about the decrease in our monthly underwriting for the month and what Ray is hearing as feedback. Ray: last year, we had a big ad buy from Chico Performances. We just got this again this month and this will change things a little. It is a tough economy. Inspire School is very interested in coming on for a 3-month contract. Ray feels we will get a lot of buzz over the Best of Chico. Laura adds that if we can do a really good job on the Winner's Party we can make a big name in this way, too. The Fundraising Committee can discuss what this might look like.

3.1.3 Volunteer Coordinator Report- Leah McKean

--Submitted prior to meeting.

--Leah, Shirley and Diana Suzuki will be on the Action News Now noon news with Linda Watkins-Bennet on 9 September. Hoppie reports that we can ask the station for the hyperlink to share on our social media pages. Leah announces that we will have a raffle and that we have already started selling tickets- we can take cash, card, and Venmo. Tickets are 1 for $5, 3 for $10, and 7 for $20. Satava donated a moon jellyfish to the raffle worth approximately $450. This is the grand prize. There is also a gift basket that all of our vendors and sponsors donate to and 4 tickets to Turtle Bay in Redding.

--Julie asks if the date of the All Station Meeting is still TBD. Leah: we are still hoping for 11 October and the venue is confirmed. The time is TBD. The venue has a conflict from 3 to 5pm. We need to decide on an earlier or later meeting. Laura asks if it is possible to set the date for

this annually so people can plan ahead. The notice usually arrives less than a month ahead of time. Leah says this is something that staff would have to discuss; they are almost always held in March-April and October-November. It also depends on what events are occurring around that time and when the Pledge Drives are- we try to schedule these for 2-3 weeks ahead of Pledge Drive.

--Eric suggests using a Doodle poll to vote on dates. He finds this very valuable. Leah explains that we are usually in a crunch time when we pick a date and it's usually picked by Grant and the staff. We could try something like this. It would likely be more annoying setting the Doodle up- there's a little fore thought that has to go into this. Laura comments that staff and programmers are the primary focus at these meetings and the Board is there to show their support. Leah emphasizes that the programmers appreciate having Board members there. She feels that it is very important for Board members to attend the All Station Meetings.

3.2 Committee Reports

3.2.1. Community Advisory Board (CAB)- Laura Lukes

-Submitted prior to meeting.

-Julie is considering taking over for Laura in leading the group. Laura asks Grant to create a recruitment PSA and for Leah to post this on our social medias.

3.2.2. Executive Committee- Laura Lukes

--Submitted prior to meeting.

--OLLI (Osher Life Long Learning Institute), adult education through the college, is looking for non-profits and businesses to do field trips. Laura thinks it could be interesting if we could offer this for KZFR a few times a year. She does not want to create work for staff. Josh asks about if we will still be doing an Open House and if these events could coincide. Hoppie suggests having our Open House during the Christmas Preview. This might be a way to bring people in. Josh expresses that the other businesses in the building might not like this idea. Laura encourages the Board to keep in mind what the impact on the staff would be. Leah says we have a tentative Open House date in January.

3.2.3. Fundraising Committee- Grant Parks

--Report submitted prior to meeting.

--Eric asks who we have lined up for our mini-concert series. For November, it will be Laurie Lewis and Nina Gerber. In February, it will be Rita Hosking. In May, we will have either Jimbo Scott or Triple Tree. These will all be held in the 416 Studio. Part of this is anchored in the City of Chico Arts grant that we have received- part of the grant is going to be used to purchase the equipment we will need and will also help to offset the amount we have to pay these musicians. The station has wanted to purchase this equipment for a while- this will allow us to hold shows in Studio 416 and also at other venues. We will also be purchasing stage risers- two 4x4 risers

that can go 2 feet high. We can also rent these out. We will also have Metric Cosmetics doing our video-stream and providing B-roll footage for social media use. Grant is still waiting on the check before purchasing anything.

--Julie asks what the capacity of Studio 416 is for mini-concerts. Capacity is 40.

3.2.4 Grant Subcommittee- Grant Parks

--The Committee will be working on LOIs for the Park and McArthur Foundations. On 6 October, Grant will be meeting with the Discovery Shoppe personnel to make our presentation for our $13,665 grant targeted towards emergency preparedness and station tech. They will vote on whether we will receive funding at this presentation.

3.2.5. News Advisory Committee- David Fuhs

--Report submitted prior to meeting.

--Grant has posted the job listing for a News Coordinator. Two interns, Hopriana and Maddie, have left and David is really short on stories.

--Marc Albert reached out to David. He used to program our News show several years ago. He is willing to volunteer to help us out.

--David recommends that eventually Zephyr News shift to a Friday morning slot. If we want to have a daily news program in 5 years, it won't be airing on a Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday night. We may have more listeners on a Friday morning. If it goes to daily, we will have to have it as late in the week as possible. However, it would be questionable whether Lorenz could continue as the Audio Producer. Once we have a News Coordinator in place, we can make these changes.

3.2.6. Program Committee- Grant Parks

--Report submitted prior to meeting.

--The Committee will be discussing moving both Cultural Roots of Aztlan and Dinosaur Hour down in the programming schedule. Dinosaur Hour would start at 6pm and Aztlan would start at 8:30/9pm. This will help keep listeners throughout the Friday evening time slots. Per the 2022 Program Matrix this is supposed to be a News and Public Affairs program but there's yet to be a program that has lasted for more than a year and has been local.

--Eric asks if the Program Committee has considered airing repeated popular shows, "encore" performances. Grant explains that there are a lot of new programmers that need time slots and repeating another program would take away from these new programmers' opportunities. Additionally, there would need to be someone to listen back to the program and edit out temporal things- "tomorrow", etc. If anything, this would only occur in the very odd late night hours of the exact same day so there would be minimal to no editing needed.

3.2.7. Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)- Grant Parks

--No report was submitted.

3.2.8. Investment Committee

--Report submitted prior to meeting.

--Eric suggests that we move the $30,000 currently in a Money Market account into our CD accounts. Laura clarifies that this is a strategy we use at Golden Valley to move money from one place to another. We moved this from Tri Counties. Eric suggests putting this into a Daily CD account- this is totally liquid and has no penalty for draw outs. Our $600+K is in a high-yield online savings account with Raymond James- this is a variable and not a fixed rate.

--Eric spoke to Eric Shanks, our Raymond James representative. Our money has been in a laddered CD structure- a portion is a 1 year, a portion is a 2 year, etc. so that some money becomes available every year in the event that we need it. The current rates are really good, and they get better as you make them longer term. All of these are making approximately 4.5%- more than anything Golden Valley proposed. These are all FDIC insured as well. There is also an option for a structured investment. They use a firm such as Goldman-Sachs to invest in stocks- we wouldn't get to pick the stocks or know what the stocks are. They guarantee a rate of return of up to 9% or as low as 0% per year. This would be a five-and-a-half-year term. Raymond James is only our representative. They pick CD owners and they usually go with very conservative ones such as Goldman-Sachs, Morgan Stanley, etc. Raymond James is not making any money on us.

--Eric plans to go back to Golden Valley and see what they can offer us. Laura met with Megan at Golden Valley. Golden Valley's rates were lower. Laura points out that Golden Valley's rates are NOT variable. Eric explains that once we establish a CD account with Raymond James, our rate would be locked in and also NOT variable. Any CDs at Golden Valley are NOT in stocks. Golden Valley may be interested in underwriting or sponsoring our events. Raymond James is NOT interested in anything like this. Laura asked Golden Valley to be a Touch of Chico sponsor- they could not do it this year, but they did donate money to buy food for the volunteers.

4. Matters for Discussion- NONE

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1 Review Items for next BOD Agenda: No action items at October meeting. No discussion items at October meeting.

5.2 Meeting Close/Thank You

Next meeting will be 13 October 2026 via Zoom.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by S. McCoy