**SUMMARY**

**ALABAMA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION**

**FOUNDATION AUTHORITY MEETING**

August 18, 2020

*Via Zoom Conference*

Interim Executive Director Philip H. Hutcheson confirmed that the board meeting of the Alabama Educational Television Foundation Authority (AETFA) had been publicly noticed according to the Alabama Open Meetings Act, the Federal Communications Commission, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and per the policies of the AETC.

The AETFA consists of 13 members, of which ten members (listed below) were present, representing a quorum. Chairman Barry Copeland called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

Mr. Barry Copeland, Chairman Mrs. Tijuanna Adetunji, Vice Chairwoman

Mr. J. Holland, Secretary Dr. Allen Mendenhall

Mr. Ferris Stephens Mr. Les Barnett

Mrs. Bebe Williams Mr. Pete Conroy

Mr. William A. Green, Jr. Mr. Philip F. Hutcheson, Interim President

The minutes of the last AETFA meeting (January 16, 2020) had been provided in writing for review prior to today’s meeting. There being no changes or discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Philip F. Hutcheson, Chief Legal Counsel/CFO of Alabama Public Television (APT) presented financial reports for the last two quarters to the AETFA board members. It was noted that despite the pandemic, revenues had increased during this time period for APT and WLRH in Huntsville.

Chairman Barry Copeland brought up the fact that the new AT&T streaming service did not carry APT/PBS programming. He had called and spoken to management at AT&T, but he was told that the decision about carrying APT or any public television station was in “secret negotiations.” Interim Executive Director Phil Hutcheson explained to Chairman Copeland that because AT&T’s service is streaming versus broadcasting, the “must carry” law does not apply as it would for cable companies. Chairman Copeland added that since the streaming-only service is in our future, this could mean complications down the road for APT, and Mr. Hutcheson was charged with making sure that APT will be represented in the “secret negotiations.”

After a brief discussion, it was suggested that the next meeting of the AETFA be held on November 10, 2020 in the Birmingham office of APT, if possible, after the conclusion of the AETC meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Having no further business, a motion was made to adjourn and was seconded. A vote to adjourn passed unanimously, and the AETFA meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.