

WORT Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

February 18, 2026 | 6:00 PM Central

Hybrid meeting in Vinyl Library & via [Zoom](#)

Public comment may be submitted in advance of the meeting using [this form](#)

WORT Directors

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant Foster (President) GF | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stuart Levitan SL |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carlos Dávalos (Vice President) CD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julia McAnly JMcA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phil Rhein (Secretary) PR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chali Pittman CP |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tanya Graham (Treasurer) TG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Spitzer-Resnick JSR |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thom Jones (Staff Representative) TJ | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy (as of 2/1/26) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Bowes TB | |

Attendees: **Adrienne Ranney (AR), Nate Carlin (NC), Esty Dinur (ED), Laura Gutknecht (LG), Lisa Malawski (LM), Scott Peterson (SP), John Quinlan (JQ)**

Agenda:

1. Call meeting to order: 6:03PM
2. Adopt agenda: **CP motions, CD seconds - JSR moves to add proposal from Personnel Cmte. during committee reports; APPROVED as presented via unanimous consent**
3. Approval of [☰ Draft WORT Board Meeting Minutes - 2026.01.21](#) : **TB moves to approve, TG seconds; APPROVED via unanimous consent**
4. Disclosures and recusals: **CP recuses from discussion or action on Personnel proposal re: interim hire of Dev. Director; SL recuses from action on Item 09**
5. Public comment & communications: **(none)**
6. Reports
 - a. Committees
 - i. [Executive Committee](#) & [Board Consultant](#): **GF notes development of ICE response plan by MS and staff, which has been approved by Exec. Cmte and in process of being distributed to volunteers; date of 2026 Annual Meeting set for Sunday, June 28 - PR moves, TJ seconds; APPROVED via unanimous consent; Station Mgmt task force applications have ended, with announcement of voting members upon confirmation of applicants, expected prior to first meeting during week of Feb. 23: MS: "goal is to meet weekly, so it will be intensive - want to thank everyone who expressed interest, with hope for robust participation"**
 - Action requested: Approve board consultant contract renewal through July 1, 2026: **TG moves to approve, JSR seconds; APPROVED via unanimous consent**
 - ii. [Finance Committee](#): **TG notes development of investment policy and choice of money market account re: recent large donor gift: JSR offers to share another community investment plan**
 - iii. [Personnel Committee](#): **JSR updates report to note ongoing discussion between GF and Nate Rasmussen of union re: possibility of increasing part-time staff to full-time and any**

impact on collective bargaining agreement, and; decision to extend deadline of Dev. Director hiring to March 01, as well as ongoing discussions between Personnel and Hiring committees on potential for restructuring position description into two part-time positions by splitting pledge drive and major donor responsibilities, as well as plans to develop a transition plan to hire part-time contractors to take on Dev. Dir. responsibilities upon SSheldon's retirement from full-time role prior to March 15, with comment from JQ, regarding potential for volunteer assistance.

JSR moves and TG seconds proposal to allow Personnel Cmte. authority to approve interim Dev. Dir. hiring plan once developed, in lieu of awaiting for full BoD or Exec. Cmte review; **APPROVED** via unanimous consent.

- iv. [Elections Committee](#): PR summarizes ongoing plan to bring volunteer membership and voting registration documentation into compliance with state law and WORT bylaws using a brief survey tool to be communicated to all volunteers once proposals finalized, after testing of online voting with in-person paper balloting concludes.
- b. Advisory Committees, Boards & Workgroups
 - i. Community Advisory Board
 - ii. [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee](#): preliminary discussion of contacting recent BoD resignees, to determine any common threads making the commitment untenable.
 - iii. [Engineering Committee](#)
 - iv. [Policy & Bylaws Committee](#): CP notes deadline to submit any proposed bylaw amendments no later than May 06, to meet minimum 60 days notice set forth in WORT bylaws due to formalizing date of 06.28.26 Annual Meeting
 - v. [Programming Committee](#): JMCA notes extension of [listener survey](#) extended until 03.01.26 and opening of two open positions on Programming Cmte, one for a listener-sponsor and one for a music volunteer; comment by SP re: length of last listener survey, which was a barrier to completion; JMCA: *"100% hear you and we shortened it this time, so survey live on site takes about two minutes to complete"*
 - vi. Communications Workgroup (see News & Talk Director report)
 - vii. Music Workgroup (see Digital Production Director report)
 - viii. Station Management Task Force (see Executive Committee report)
- c. Staff
 - i. [Digital Production Director](#): MS notes meetings of Music Work Group are on pace to begin within next two weeks, in addition to one immediate takeaway from conclusion of recent Music DJ survey: *"people are hungry for more training, they want more."*
 - ii. [Donor Relations Director](#)

- iii. [News & Talk Director](#): **Public comment by ED: “quick correction - Tony is Thursday host, not Tuesday; I am still not trained as music host after two years and my question is about plan for ICE: is there a plan to train receptionists and those of us in studio?” AR confirms training with receptionists on Sunday Feb. 22, with plans for further notification throughout station.**
 - iv. [Technology & Facilities Director](#)
 - v. [Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator](#)
7. Update Committee Appointments:
 - +** Proposed Update of WORT Subunit/Committee Matrix - 2026.02.13 : **TB moves to adopt updates, JSR seconds, with note by JMcA re: addition of tenure dates for Programming Cmte; APPROVED via unanimous consent.**
 8. Proposed Standard Rules of Conduct policy amendment
 - ☰** Clean Proposed Update: WORT Policy on Standard Rules of Conduct | 2026.02... : **SL moves to adopt, CP seconds; APPROVED via unanimous consent.**
 9. Request for permission, either gratis or for an appropriate fee, for Stu Levitan to use [this](#) photo for print publication and e-book, in *Madison: The Illustrated History Vol. 2, 1932-1979*. **Following brief discussion but no debate re: ownership of photograph, TB moves to grant request, TG seconds; APPROVED via unanimous consent (SL abstains)**
 10. Confirm next scheduled meeting: **Wednesday March 18, 2026 at 6PM**
 11. Adjourn: **TJ moves, CP seconds to APPROVE by unanimous consent conclusion at 709PM Central**

The WORT Board of Directors typically meets the third Wednesday of every month at 6 pm and will meet on: March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18 and December 16 in 2026.

All meetings of WORT's Board of Directors are open to the public.

WORT Mission:

WORT is a non-commercial, listener-sponsored, member-controlled community radio station broadcasting to South-Central Wisconsin and maintaining an active Internet presence. WORT programming shall respect all peoples and their environments, and shall serve a broad spectrum of the community by:

- (i) Providing a forum for both the discussion of public issues, and the expansion of musical and cultural experience, in order to promote greater communication, education, entertainment, and understanding.*
- (ii) Facilitating community expression and providing community access to share music, culture, news, and information.*
- (iii) Challenging the cultural and intellectual assumptions of our listeners through unique and diverse programming.*
- (iv) Including audiences and programmers under-represented by other media.*