

Board of Directors Application : Entry # 10738

Contact Information

Name

David Devereaux-Weber

Address

Email Address

Home/Cell Phone

Member Type?

Listener Sponsor

Length of term

Until June 2029

Current Occupation

retired

Any past felony convictions?

No

Background:

Please indicate your involvement with WORT, past or current.

- * One of the co-founders of WORT in 1975.
- * Served over 12 years on the WORT Board, including some as Secretary and President.
- * Co-host of "The Ice Cream Sundae Show" in 1975.
- * Occasional substitute host of "A Public Affair".
- * Many years on the Executive Committee.
- * Many years on the Engineering Committee and still active.
- * Many years on the Finance Committee.
- * Many years on the Personnel Committee.
- * A number of months as Acting Technology/Facilities Director (unpaid).
- * I was President in 2018 when the shooting happened at the station. I acted as the Station spokesperson to the press after this incident. I organized an all-station meeting to listen to the concerns from volunteers and staff, and communicate the actions of the Station. I worked with law enforcement and worked with Staff and Volunteers to improve Station security.
- * I was President at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- * During the COVID time I applied for a Paycheck Protection Plan loan and WORT received a more than \$99,000 loan. When the

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Loan Forgiveness became available, I applied on behalf of WORT and the PPP Loan was forgiven.

I applied for a State of Wisconsin grant which WORT received and which covered air purification equipment in WORT HVAC equipment.

Please indicate your involvement with communit(ies) in WORT's listening area.

As an employee of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Information Technology staff, I worked with the City of Madison and the State of Wisconsin to develop a fiber optic network which subsequently became the Metropolitan Unified Fiber Network <<https://mufn.org/>> serving schools, libraries and other nonprofits in the Madison area. I worked on another fiber optic network from Madison to Chicago, which subsequently became BOREAS, the Broadband Optical Research, Education and Sciences Network <<https://boreas.net/>>, serving research and educational networks in Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Iowa..

These networks were used by the UW-Madison Physics Department to connect to the Large Hadron Collider in Europe to conduct research which led to the discovery of the Higgs Boson, and, for connection to an off-campus data center to process data from the IceCube neutrino observatory at the South Pole. Francis Halzen the principal investigator of the IceCube project was awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize for Physics.

Ideas

What are your goals for WORT?

- * To work collaboratively with the Board, Staff and Volunteers to re-establish a position of Station Manager.
- * To improve WORT's acquisition of new listeners and website users.
- * To improve WORT's fundraising.
- * To improve the community's sense of connection with WORT.
- * To increase the number of remote broadcasts of WORT's programs.

What do you see as WORT's major responsibilities to the community?

To bring news and weather information to the communities in our listening area.

To serve as an example of cooperation among people of different groups and identities in our communities.

There are many areas where WORT could improve and many new activities WORT could undertake. Please list specific tasks on which you would be willing to work.

I've outlined those areas above.

Why do you wish to be on WORT's Board of Directors?

To help WORT continue successfully into the next fifty years.

The Board currently meets monthly on a Wednesday night. Meetings are scheduled at 7:00 p.m. and may finish as late as 11 p.m.. Are you able to regularly attend Board meetings?

Yes.

WORT's Board is an active participant in station affairs. Board members do committee work and participate in pledge drives and other fundraising events. Board members are expected to commit to five to ten hours a month in addition to meetings. Roughly estimate the time you have available for work in addition to Board meetings.

I can devote at least ten hours for WORT work in addition to meetings.

Feel free to add any additional relevant material.

I've been involved with four different transmitters for WORT, the Collins on Winnebago Street, and the Harris, GatesAir and Nautel on Forward Drive,