

KMOS-TV  
Community Advisory Board  
May 2025 Meeting Minutes  
May 13, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm.

Community Advisory Board Members in attendance were Rick Langdon, Doug Sokalowski, Meryl Lin McKean, Rosalie Spencer, Marshall Abney, Jamila Khalill and Doug Harris.

KMOS-TV staff in attendance were Josh Tomlinson, Tonia Werneke, Scott Alvested, Brandi Miller, and Nellie de Laurier.

Board members reviewed the proposed May 2025 CAB Meeting Agenda and a motion to approve was made by Marshall Abney. Rosalie Spencer seconded the motion. None opposed and the May 2025 CAB Meeting Agenda was approved.

Board minutes from November 2024 were reviewed and a motion to approve the November 2024 CAB Meeting Minutes was made by Marshall Abney. Doug Sokolowski seconded the motion. None opposed and the November 2024 CAB Meeting Minutes were approved.

Josh Tomlinson delivered the General Manager's Update:

Josh began his update by thanking the Community Advisory Board members for their continued support. With current federal funding concerns, community support is more important than ever. The launching of [ProtectMyPublicMedia.org](https://ProtectMyPublicMedia.org) has generated an explosion of public support of public media.

In March multiple sources reported that the White House planned to send a rescission package to Congress requesting funding that has already been approved for public media be rescinded. As of today this has not been sent.

The White House did release an Executive Order stating that funding received from the Corporation of Public Broadcasting (CPB) cannot be used to support PBS or NPR. As many stations, including KMOS, receive the majority of their funding from the CPB this could have a major impact on stations being able to pay their PBS dues and provide quality programming.

The FCC recently launched an investigation into public media to ensure that underwriting messages meet federal guidelines. KMOS did not receive notice of being included in this investigation. The FCC is focusing on large stations and PBS and NPR on the national level.

KMOS received a notice to cease work on the Next Generation Warning System project that includes the purchase and installation of a new antenna on the KMOS transmission tower. Funding for this project is sponsored by a grant from FEMA and those funds had been frozen. Funds have since been reinstated and work will continue on the project this summer.

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In March, KMOS underwent a mock CPB inspection conducted by Bob Winteringham. KMOS received a rating of “generally compliant” and the only compliance suggestions made were to ensure all daily operation procedures are fully documented and to list the street address when reporting open meetings.

Membership numbers are holding steady with Alicia Brockhaus and Joni Shelton doing a great job of taking care of our members. Scott Alvested has been doing a lot of outreach events with multiple screenings for the Indie Lens pop up and recently attended an Outreach Workshop.

On April 21st KMOS held our annual Student Awards Banquet. This year the Best Editing Award was renamed in honor of Producer Christy Millen who passed away last year. Izaiah Townley held the honor of being the first student to receive the new Christy Milen Award for Best Editing.

Remaining awards went to:

Outstanding Administrative Support Student - Sia Kiran Vududala  
Best On-Air Promotions - Christian Lampher  
Outstanding Programming Student - Roseme Sapkota  
Fred Hunt Award for Master Control Excellence - Ankit Suresh Kuttarmare  
Best On-Camera Talent - Nolan Baker  
Production Team Player - Jordan Birk  
Thrive Intern of the Year - Ronan James-Estenson  
Best Documentary - Kayla Blankenship  
Best Non-Documentary - Nolan Baker  
Fred Hunt Scholarship - Christian Lampher

Questions from the Board -

Doug Sokolowski - Will KMOS be preparing two budgets in preparation of funding cuts?  
Josh's response - No, at this time we are keeping a close eye on the situation but proceeding with business as usual. If cuts do happen KMOS has a few contingency plans in place, including holding off on filling empty staff positions.

Maryl Lin McKean - What is the realistic impact the executive order has on programming?  
Josh's response - While many small stations may struggle to pay their PBS dues and continue to provide quality educational programming as a result of the executive order, KMOS is in a position where we can pay our PBS dues from other fund sources if this executive order stands.

Michael O'Keefe delivered the Programming Update -

Next week the programming staff will be attending conferences in Atlanta Georgia. Brandi Miller and Nellie de Laurier will be attending the PBS Annual Meeting while Michael O'Keefe and

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Nellie de Laurier will attend sessions at the Spring PTPA meeting. These conferences will help strengthen alliances with other regions to access additional programming opportunities.

In local programming, this month KMOS will explore some of the ways that the disease of opioid addiction has affected our community. Each Tuesday night at 8pm we are broadcasting different programs on the topic from across the country, leading up to May 27th when all of primetime is devoted to the topic beginning with *7 days: The Opioid Crisis*, which sets the stage for the KMOS production of *Fentanyl and Families in the Midwest: The Devastating Impact of Opioids*.

June Pledge lineup includes *Springstien*, *Walking with Dinosaurs*, and *Manchu: Brotherhood of Sacrifice*.

Michael then announced his upcoming retirement after 43 years of service to KMOS. His retirement reception will be held May 30th from 1pm - 4pm in the Elliot Student Union Auditorium at the University of Central Missouri.

New Business -

Reminder was given that the next CAB meeting will be held on August 12, 2025 at the University of Central Missouri in the Elliot Union, room 237B.

The meeting was then opened for Board comments.

Rosalie Spencer wished Michael all the best in his retirement.

Meryl Lin McKean wanted to recognize staff efforts in light of the federal funding issues currently being faced and expressed how valuable public media is to our community. She also wanted to congratulate Michael on his retirement.

Marshall Abney congratulated Michael on his retirement and thanked Josh for keeping everyone informed on the federal budget issues.

Doug Sokalowski expressed how important public programming is for the community, especially during COVID when KMOS aired educational programs for students during lockdown. He also commented that naming the Best Editing Award for Christy Millen was an honor to her legacy. He then congratulated Meryl Lin McKean on the [ProtectMyPublicMedia.org](https://www.protectmypublicmedia.org) promo spot she was part of. And finally, congratulations once again to Michael on his retirement.

Rick Langdon wanted to thank Michael for all he has done for KMOS over the years and wished him a happy retirement. He also wanted to thank Josh for all he does to stay on top of everything.

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To conclude the meeting, a motion was made by Meryl Lin McKean to forward the May 2025 CAB Meeting Minutes to the University of Central Missouri's Board of Governors. Rosalie Spencer seconded the motion and none opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53 pm.