**Minutes of the**

**Pocahontas Communications Cooperative Corporation Annual Meeting**

**March 27, 2022**

**The Highland Center – Monterey, VA**

**12:00 PM**

**Call Meeting to Order – Laura Finch**

The meeting was called to order at 1230.

**Approval of Minutes From 02/22/21 Annual Meeting**

Beth made the motion to approve the minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting and Pete seconded the motion. The motion was approved without dissent.

**Introduction of Board Members and the Board Member Elections**

Laura noted that Beth Armstrong is heading up the strategic planning process this year. The strategic planning group hopes to have a report ready soon.

Regarding Board elections, former Board Chair Jason Canze has moved away from this area and Melody Moats has been serving in his place for the remainder of his term. She has also volunteered to continue on the Board for an additional term. Beth Armstrong and Melody Moats are the two currently serving Board members for Highland County and they have both agreed to serve another term. Laura asked for nominations from the floor. Scott Smith added that there were no nominations received in response to the letter sent out requesting nominees to the Board. Laura called for a motion name Beth and Melody as Board members. The motion was made by Vic and seconded by Heather. The motion was approved without dissent. The Bath County volunteer seat is currently held by Pete Pitard and he is willing to continue to serve for another term. Laura asked for nominations from the floor for the Bath volunteer seat on the Board and hearing none requested a motion to nominate Pete Pitard for the Bath volunteer seat to the Board. A motion was made by Keith and seconded by Pete. Scott noted that he received a message on the AMR website from visitors to the area from NJ who were blown away that AMR had a smooth jazz program and they very much enjoyed listening to Pete’s selections that evening on his show. Scott continued that AMR has something for everyone and everyone of those volunteers who make that possible are very much appreciated. The motion to name Pete as the only nominee for the Bath volunteer seat on the Board was approved without dissent.

**Star Award Presentation – Scott Smith**

Scott introduced LD as the DJ on Friday evenings. The STAR Award is given each year to an outstanding AMR volunteer and is in honor of Steve Terry, a dedicated WVLS volunteer who passed away several years ago. This year’s STAR Award winner is Lloyd “Cousin Roland” Armstrong who was a WVMR volunteer for many years, anchoring the board for numerous football broadcasts and providing country and gospel music shows. He was a noted singer as well and always had a smile on his face. He passed away on February 25 and is survived by his wife, Susan Armstrong, daughters Sherry Sharp, Jennifer Watson and Amanda Boggs, two brothers and numerous grandchildren. The family requested in lieu of flowers, donations be made to AMR and several donations have been received.

**General Manager Report** **– Scott Smith**

The world changed in March, 2020 due to the pandemic. Scott was at WVMR on March 12, 2020 and received a phone call from Mickey Frank Thomas, who told him that the Highland County Maple Festival was going to be cancelled due to the pandemic. The past two years provided AMR the opportunity to inform and entertain the community during all the challenges presented by the pandemic. AMR staff and volunteers have excelled over the past two years. The staff include Danny Cardwell, Abby Dufour, Brad Hertko, Jake Hyer, Chuck Niday, Heather Niday, Bonnie Ralston, Sage Tanguay, Tim Walker and they have done a wonderful job through difficult times. Steve Timberlake has been a WVLS volunteer for over 24 years. Danny Cardwell is heading up the social media program and is moving AMR forward on that front. AMR podcasts are available with more on the drawing board for the future. AMR has radio clubs with local schools. Scott introduced Judd Bankert, a former Olympic athlete, who was interviewed by the Highland School kids radio club. AMR now has a variety of promotional materials such as t-shirts, mugs, and other items to get the AMR name out to the public. Maple Festival broadcasts were very successful this year. The Blue Grass Jamboree will return next weekend after being on hiatus due to the pandemic. Steve Timberlake suggested that Caroline Smith be recognized as a supporter of AMR and wife of legendary WVLS DJ Doug Smith. Doug’s memorial service will be featured during the spring fund raiser in April at the WVLS studio in Monterey.

**Program Directors Report** **– Heather Niday**

AMR now has two online streams which provides more flexibility for covering local sports events.

Insert the Program Director’s Report text here.

**Public Comment**

Danny Cardwell discussed the upcoming Blue Grass Jamboree. After being cancelled for two years due to the pandemic, this should be a very good year for the jamboree with high attendance likely. Danny said the organizers could use some additional volunteers. Beth Armstrong complimented Heather for all her hard work in programming and all her other efforts on behalf of AMR. Beth described the work of the strategic planning committee and said that the committee was making good progress on the new strategic plan. The new plan should be ready soon.

**Closing Remarks** **– Laura Finch**

Laura complimented all the staff and volunteers at AMR for their hard work during the past two years through all the challenges of the pandemic. Scott asked that the cooks, Chef Lisa and her assistants, be recognized for the excellent meal.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:30PM.