

Truth Has a Voice Foundation

Minutes of Board Meeting of

October 18, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m. (VIA ZOOM)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by the President at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.

On Sept. 18, 2023, this meeting was rescheduled from September 18, 2023 to October 18, 2023 via email with the board members in agreement.

At this date, the Board of Truth Has a Voice (THAVF) Foundation consists of five members: Merrell Bergin, President; Joe Jordan, Treasurer and Secretary; JoAnne Allen, Director; Tonya Wyles, Director; and Maisey Ramsey, newly elected on August 17 effective as of this meeting. All were duly notified of the meeting via email, and provided with an agenda. All members and Ark Valley Voice (AVV) Managing Editor/Publisher, Jan Wondra, were in attendance via Zoom.

Approval of August 17, 2023 meeting minutes was postponed to the next meeting.

Because Jan would have to leave early for another commitment, her report was advanced to this point on the agenda. She reported on the following:

- Dan Smith is retiring as Sr. Reporter but will do occasional opinion columns.
- Salida Candidate Forum was successfully concluded at the Salida City Council Chambers on Oct. 4, 2023, in partnership with the League of Women Voters. Merrell noted that one candidate had complained of a question from moderator Jan referring to an AVV survey, and whether prior review of questions by co-host LWV would or would not be appropriate.
- BV Schools Candidate Forum with LWV is upcoming.
- DEI “Diverse Voices”- next steps
- Pittsburgh and Denver Conferences attended by Jan were worthwhile.
- Potential January 2024 AVV conference at which anti-democracy activities would be discussed.
- Journalism Trust Initiative (JTI) update; application needs to be audited; cost?
- The \$1,000 that are unused in THAVF funds previously earmarked for 2023 high school intern needs to be redirected.
- Colorado Media Project 2023 #newsCOnneeds (\$5k Match x 3 Challenge); runs concurrently with INN NewsMatch.
- Colorado Engaged Elections Fellowship: \$1k Grant. Collaboration between Hearken, COLab, Gates Family Foundation and Colorado Media Project. \$1,000 received 10/16/23, work continues on this shaping AVV coverage.
- Crest Academy Interns – unpaid, full school year, focus on interviewing skills.
- Contact was made for an intern from DU.
- (Jan left the meeting at 5:22pm.)

