WPRA Board members in attendance at the meeting were: Dean Dietrich, Nick Abts, Larry Graham, Niles Berman, Joan Rudnitzki, Mike Crane, Anne Katz, Mary Peterson

Members of Friends of WPT Board in attendance at the meeting were: Terry Heinrichs, Greg Dombrowski, Ronald Anderson, Warren Dorm, Mike Falbo, Roger Hauck, Mary Mohs, Reid Rayome, Thomas Schober, Patricia Stoffers, Jon Miskowski

Others in attendance: Malcolm Brett, Gene Purcell, Marike Stucky, Eric Greiling, Jason Butler

Dietrich called the WPRA Board to order at 3:03 pm.

Brett discussed the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents’ action to join UW Colleges individual colleges to nearby 4-year colleges and also to move Broadcast and Media Innovations to UW Systems Administration. He said that the plan in place today may not be the plan that is eventually executed and that a consultant firm will begin work on Monday, November 13 on the details of the consolidation.

Purcell said that Brett had given a presentation on the Centennial of public broadcasting in Wisconsin shortly before the Regents voted. Purcell noted that WPR and WPT are a partnership with his agency, the Educational Communications Board, and so while ECB is not affected overtly, ECB has an interest in the transition going well.

Brett told Board members who had planned to attend a social gathering with President Ray Cross that they will have an opportunity to advocate for WPR and WPT at that gathering.

Berman asked about the factors that WPR and WPT were considering in weighing the benefits or drawbacks of any particular new campus home. Brett said that editorial independence, HR, procurement, and day-to-day operations are the most important considerations. He said that it was his opinion that the Regents enthusiastically support the work of WPR and WPT and are committed to creating a structure to allow WPR and WPT to do their best work.