



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Western Reserve Public Media Board President to Step Down

Chair David Hunter will continue serving as board member for one year

NORTHEAST OHIO — April 30, 2014 — Western Reserve Public Media, which operates Western Reserve PBS (WNEO channel 45/WEAO channel 49), today announced that attorney David Hunter will step down as chairman of the board of directors effective June 30. His replacement and other new officers will be named at the organization's May 27 board meeting. Hunter, a partner at the business law firm Brouse McDowell, will continue to serve as a regular board member for a one-year term.

Elected to the board in 2005, Hunter has served as chairman for the past year. "When I accepted the chairman position last June, it was with the understanding that I would serve one term," Hunter stated. "I am confident that the next elected chair will continue to successfully lead Western Reserve Public Media and I am happy to continue on the board for another year to assist in the transition."

During his tenure on the board, Hunter has helped to lead Western Reserve Public Media through significant changes, including the restructuring of the organization's board to include greater representation from the community. The organization's original charter also required that the board chair position be rotated among the presidents of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University — the consortium of universities that established Western Reserve Public Media's corporation in 1971. The bylaws changed in 2005 to allow community members to serve as chairs and Hunter is the third community member to do so.

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“Western Reserve Public Media has been fortunate to have great leaders serve as chairperson of the board — David Hunter included among them,” stated Trina Cutter, president and CEO of Western Reserve Public Media. “His analytical prowess and sharp wit have served us well.” Past chairs include Mark Auburn, community volunteer and former dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts at The University of Akron, and Renee Pipitone, lifelong Akron resident and community volunteer.

Hunter is currently the longest-tenured partner at Brouse McDowell and one of the longest-serving attorneys in the history of the firm. He is recognized for his expertise in general business law and commercial law. In addition, he serves as chief executive officer and chairman of the board of directors for Valley Savings Bank, a locally owned and operated community bank.

Western Reserve Public Media’s board meeting, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday, May 27, at 3:30 p.m. at 1750 Campus Center Dr., Kent, Ohio. For more information, contact Western Reserve Public Media at 1-800-554-4549 or by email at programs@WesternReservePublicMedia.org.

About Western Reserve Public Media

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. It serves the largest population of Ohio’s eight PBS member stations.

Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1), a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of Northeast Ohio. It is available to 5.13 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average month, more than 1 million people tune in. The organization also operates three standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2), MHz Worldview (WNEO 45.3/WEAO 49.3) and V-me (WNEO 45.4/WEAO 49.4).

Through funding from the Ohio Department of Education, Western Reserve Public Media provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in 10 Ohio counties. For more information about the organization, visit www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

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