

HPPR is looking to hire it's next Executive Director to build on the progress made over 10 years of leadership by Deb Oyler, who is now undertaking the challenge of leading the Finney County, KS United Way.

Now in its 38th year of operation, HPPR has established itself as a valued civic, cultural, artistic and educational resource serving the High Plains region 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It has also developed as a unique institution that spans the multi-state region by focusing on the common factors that tie us together across state borders and operating studios in both Garden City and Amarillo as well as transmitting stations in 19 locations across four states.

HPPR strives to continually extend and improve this service, just as it did last year by launching [HPPR Connect, an entirely new program service](#) providing the best of public radio news, information and discussion from NPR, PRI, APM, WNYC and the BBC 24 hours a day. In working with HPPR's board, staff and volunteers, HPPR's next Executive Director will have many opportunities to take HPPR into a new era of listener service by building its base of financial support, using new technologies to reach listeners, and developing valued local programming.

In seeking strong candidates for the position, HPPR is looking for an individual with these sorts of personal traits:

- Regularly listens to public radio, believes in its value and recommends listening to others;
- Has a strong track-record and recognized reputation for successfully leading a service-oriented organization, be it private, non-profit or public;
- Has provided strategic and managerial leadership to a staff about the size of HPPR's or larger and manages by building a strong, mutually supportive and accountable team of employees and volunteers;
- Is interested in taking on a new challenge with a new organization in a potentially new field, though one that could benefit from their experience and skills in other areas;
- Is comfortable in a public role and adept at communicating the value and case for a service organization;
- Has good networks within the High Plains region (or parts of the region), particularly among civic leaders and individuals of influence and means;
- Is "at home" with the High Plains region and is appreciative of its culture, economy, geography and climate and takes a regional perspective that crosses state and local boundaries.

If you know of someone who would be a strong candidate, or are interested in learning more yourself, please contact:

Joel Herndon, HPPR Board and Directors President

jsherndon@st-tel.net

620-397-1897

A full job listing can be [downloaded here](#) and is included below.

Job Title: Executive Director

Reports to: Board of Directors

Supervises: Full-time staff of High Plains Public Radio directly or through delegation

POSITION DESCRIPTION, RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The Executive Director of High Plains Public Radio is responsible for providing leadership, direction, planning, and oversight of all day-to-day operations including administration, finance, development, programming, and operations. The position is also responsible for providing clear strategic direction, creating a stimulating and challenging environment for staff and volunteers, and ensuring compliance with all FCC, CPB, IRS, HPPR and other applicable policies and regulations. The Executive Director further provides vision and leadership to develop HPPR's organizational resources and capabilities, including people, money, content, skills, operating processes, physical plant and technology to sustain and advance the station's mission and goals.

The position reports directly to the Board of Directors of the Kanza Society, Inc., the nonprofit corporation that owns and operates HPPR. Operations are based in both Garden City, KS where HPPR is headquartered and Amarillo, TX where HPPR also maintains studios and offices. The position requires presence in both locations as well as travel throughout the High Plains region.

The primary responsibilities of this position, to be carried out either directly or through delegation to appropriate employees, are in four areas:

I. Governance, administration and finance

- Reporting to, seeking guidance from and providing support to the Board of Directors, including development of the Board itself.
- Developing a two to three year strategic direction for HPPR; defining and managing an annual operating plan that translates the strategy into action
- Preparing and presenting an annual budget to Board of Directors; managing the budget and regularly reporting variances and corrective actions to the Board
- Hiring, managing, evaluating and providing professional development of personnel
- Ensuring compliance with all applicable federal, state, local, grantor, HPPR and other policies and regulations; ensuring proper and timely filing of all required federal, state, grantor and other reports and filings (e.g. FCC, CPB, IRS)

II. Marketing and Development

- Acting as Chief Development Officer for the organization.
- Providing strategic leadership for HPPR's development initiatives
- Creating high public awareness of HPPR's programming service through effective promotion
- Developing effective listener membership and business underwriting solicitation approaches; achieving revenue from these sources that matches or exceeds benchmark levels for public broadcasting operations similar to HPPR
- Assisting with on-air and off-air fundraising activities and station special events

- Cultivating major donor relationships and developing and leading major donor programs
- Cultivating area foundation relationships and directing staff and volunteers on preparing grant applications and meeting grant reporting requirements
- Designing and conducting capital and special projects campaigns to support new programming initiatives and service expansion
- Maintaining effective relationships with agencies and individuals responsible for public funding, including serving/and or delegating HPPR's representative to the Kansas Public Broadcasting Council

III. Programming and Operations

- Evaluating the overall quality and effectiveness of HPPR's broadcast programming and digital content; developing overall content strategy and providing content direction
- Ensuring that content serves HPPR's mission of discerning and emphasizing the common geographical, historical, cultural, environmental, social, and economic ties that bind listeners within its coverage area
- Ensuring the signal reliability, quality, and FCC compliance of all HPPR transmission sites
- Expanding the audience reach and engagement of HPPR's digital services, including improving the effectiveness of content development, widening distribution through social media and other third-party platforms, and assessing performance through digital audience analytics

IV. Community Relations

- Communicating with member listeners in order to develop relationships, maintain member and listener loyalty and provide an example to other staff
- Communicating with the general public in the coverage area in order to identify service opportunities, promote awareness, foster listener membership growth, and make the case for continued business underwriting and public funding
- Partnering with area organizations and institutions to develop and extend HPPR's programming services

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Effective planning and management skills to focus and optimize the use of available resources to continually improve and expand HPPR's service
- Strong leadership skills to motivate, direct and build collaboration among HPPR's staff, board members and supporters
- Strong and adaptive communications skills to promote awareness and develop support for HPPR across a wide range of constituencies

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree, or 5+ years' equivalent executive-level management and supervisory experience.
- Demonstrated ability to supervise and develop employees.
- Demonstrated ability to strategically manage development programs and play an effective role in major donor solicitation
- Demonstrated skill in budget preparation and fiscal management.

- Demonstrated knowledge of contracts, grant maintenance and management.
- Ability to travel widely and frequently across HPPR's large coverage area
- Prefer knowledge and understanding of the principles and procedures of operating a community/public radio service, including both digital and broadcast operations
- Prefer familiarity and experience with emerging digital technologies.
- Prefer knowledge of FCC, CPB and IRS regulations, policies and standards.

To apply for this position, please send a detailed letter of application, resume and names and contact information for three references to:

Joel Herndon

President, KANZA Society Incorporated, dba High Plains Public Radio

P.O Box 669, Dighton, KS 67839

Or e-mail application materials to: jsherndon@st-tel.net

Deadline: Open until filled

HPPR is an Equal Opportunity Employer