

Raidió Teilifís Éireann
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of RTÉ
held on Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 2pm via Teams

Present: Siún Ní Raghallaigh (Chair)
David Harvey
Daire Hickey
Aideen Howard
PJ Mathews
Anne O'Leary
Jonathan Ruane
Susan Ahearn
Kevin Bakhurst (Director General)

In Attendance: Robert Shortt, Group Secretary
██████████ (Grant Thornton)
██████████ (Grant
Thornton) ██████████ (Arthur
Cox)

I. Grant Thornton Report into Toy Show the Musical

SNR detailed how the planned publication of the report was now expected to be Thursday Jan 25th.

AOL presented the Report to the Board.

██████████ and ██████████ entered the meeting.

██████████ brought the Board through a high-level summary of the Report and its main findings.

AOL raised the issue of culpability in the context of the misallocation of advertising revenue as sponsorship revenue.

██████████ said it was a very serious part of their Report and cannot be underestimated. It was anonymised because the issues were significant.

SA said it was ARC that directed the numbers relating to the misallocation be changed.

██████████ said he was amenable to amending the Report to reflect that.

██████████ said the scope of the Report is not looking at culpability.

SA said it would be useful if the rationale behind the use of anonymity was articulated in the Report.

██████████ said it was his belief the Report would have taken a lot longer to complete without agreeing anonymity with those interviewed and detailed some of the legal concerns encountered.

■■■■ provided legal guidance on what might be said outside the Report without regard to its use of anonymity.

The Board thanked ■■■■ and ■■■■ for their work on the Report and ■■■■ thanked the Board for their cooperation.

(■■■■ and ■■■■ left the meeting)

SNR proposed that the Report be sent to the Minister and published with the amendments raised by the Board and with further discussion on the Board's statement to accompany the release.

KB suggested a further amendment requesting an explanation of the rationale behind the use of anonymity.

It was agreed that RSH would follow up this request with ■■■■ with the final version would be circulated to Board members.

It was agreed that the final version of the Report would be sent to the Minister and published.

SNR then outlined the process gone through by the members of REMCO to validate for publication the list of the ten highest earning presenters.

The issue of delegating that role to REMCO and the sharing of information with other members of the Board was discussed.

JR said he felt there was a discrepancy between what decisions are made at subcommittee level and what decision are made at Board and how they interact.

AOL expressed concern over how these issues had been raised.

DHI said it was important for him, as a director, to stand over the figures on the ten highest earning presenters.

AH asked if this was a question of procedure for all committees or just with particular reference to this issue.

KB said it was good for directors to ask these questions and that enough time should be allocated for the Board to consider them.

A general discussion over how decisions taken at committee level and Board level ensued.

SNR said more rigour could be brought to how committees interact with the Board and this would be discussed further.

The meeting ended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr. Raghoebar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line through the middle of the first part.

Signed: _____

Chair