World Computer Exchange, Inc.
127th Meeting of the Board of Directors
10 September 2025
09:00 am to 10:30 am EST

Mission: To reduce the digital divide for underserved communities and youth worldwide; to use our global network of partnerships to enhance communities in these countries; and to promote the reuse of electronic equipment and its ultimate disposal in an environmentally responsible manner.

Present: Pamela Cooney, Suzanne Grant Lewis, Lisa Dale, Ayesha Hassan, Satish Gupta, Jeremy Griffiths, Charles Brennick, , Manoj Kumar, Chege Ngugi, Charles Brennick
Apologies: Pascal Bekono, , Alex Higuera

Approval of Previous Minutes (May and June): There was a motion to approve the May minutes by Jeremy, second by Satish. Approved unanimously. Satish motioned to approve the June minutes, seconded by Jeremy. Approved unanimously.

1. **Treasurers Report**:
   a. **Balance Sheet**: Assets are tied to Bank accounts. Liabilities – deferred revenue is the biggest item, representing funding that comes with conditions, usually for a specific shipment that hasn't happened yet. The biggest amount is $11,500 donated by the Mideast Children's Alliance for a shipment to the West Bank, which continues to have barriers to imports. Pam is working on a proposal to shift the funds for a refugee program in the Middle East.
   b. **P & L:** Note that the Program fees of $12,000 from a Malawi shipment was done by Charles's company. In the Expense section Parts line, we had to pay for those desktops. The other bigger item was the $6,000 for the coding bootcamps in Puerto Rico.
   c. **Cash Forecast:** This conservative projection indicates that the key is getting the grant from the 20/22 Act Foundation.

   Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Lisa, seconded by Chege. Vote: Unanimous.

2. **Update from Charles Brennick:**
   a. Charles reported he continues to help with some daily activities, including responding to computer requests and donations of equipment. He is focusing on getting tech donations, which is key to sustainability and growth.
   b. The outreach to former USAID employees has started to bring in computer donations.
   c. WCE is sponsoring two campaigns to bring in donations of laptops for a computer center in Timor Leste and a health center in Guatemala. The idea is that these projects will promote their projects along with WCE, which features them on our website and in social media posts.
   d. Another way Charles has been helping bring in more laptops is by identifying ITADs in areas where a company is offering a computer donation but we don't have chapters. Charles worked out an arrangement to have an ITAD in New Jersey pick up a donation

from a company in NYC. The ITAD refurbished and sold the equipment, and WCE received $990 from the net proceeds.

e. Charles and Pam have significantly lowered the cost for the WCE refurbished laptops with the goal of making shipments more affordable for our partners.

3. **Fundraising Committee Report:** Sue presented the committee's report with a PowerPoint presentation here. She talked about how WCE was championed by a team of Goldman Sachs analysts to compete for a financial award from their Analyst Impact Fund. We did not win an award, but she and Pam learned a lot from working with the GS team about how outsiders see WCE.

4. **New Board Member Vote:** Sue and Pam had several conversations with Victor Panov, who was recruited through BoardLead to join the Board. Sue was impressed by his curiosity and enthusiasm about WCE. Victor has already attended the new Vetting and Evaluation Committee meeting. Motion to approve was made by Sue with a second by Jeremy. The vote was unanimous.

5. **New Partner Proposal:** The Board reviewed information on a new potential partner in Nigeria, the Triumphant Redeemer Glorious Center in Ekiti State, Nigeria. Manoj had sent a volunteer to visit this group. The computers will go in a new community library in Ekiti State, Nigeria. Motion to approve them as a new partner was put forward by Pam and seconded by Sue. Vote was unanimous.

6. **Orders and shipping Update**: Since the May Board meeting, we have shipped 99 computers including Seattle shipments of 56 laptops to the University of Livingstonia in Malawi and 25 to Project Lucas in Kenya. Other shipments were 10 laptops from Boston to our longtime partner, Jou Nuovo, in Haiti, and 8 laptops to the Ifaluyi Isibor Foundation in Nigeria from Atlanta.

   We are expecting to do a shipment of 100 desktops each to two universities in Kenya. These will need to come from a refurbishing company. There continue to be many inquiries each week, but few are able to raise the funds involved.

7. **Services: Chicago Chapter:** We are continuing our Chicago Chapter with a US/Ukrainian nonprofit where a volunteer has been working with a new volunteer and two teenagers, training them in laptop refurbishing. We are storing our laptops at their warehouse at no cost.

8. **New Franklin, MA Chapter:** A Franklin High School student who has volunteered with our Boston Chapter is starting up a chapter in his town. His mother works for Fidelity, and she was able to secure a donation of 200 laptops that we will be picking up over the next few months in batches of 40. Some will come to the Boston Chapter for refurbishment.

9. **Inspire Girls Coding Bootcamps**: A new Inspire Girls Coding Bootcamp session is starting up in Zambia this month to run through to December. The last session included 457 girls from 15 schools, and this new session expects to enroll 1200 girls from 22 schools.

10. **Puerto Rico**: Thanks to the $50,000 grant from the 20/22 Act Society Foundation in December, two coding bootcamp sessions ran at the ACUTAS Community Center in Puerto

Rico this June. We are also in discussions with two high schools about running coding bootcamps and laptop refurbishing clubs this fall, thanks to the efforts of interns Andrea Rios and Carmen Andera Navas. We are about to pick up another donation of 257 laptops in Puerto Rico and are exploring a donation of laptops to some charter schools that are expanding on the island. That will bring our inventory to 850 laptops in storage. The challenge is getting them refurbished and loaded with an operating system.

11. **Vetting and Evaluation Committee:** The committee had its first meeting in August and Manoj, Pascal, and Pam met along with Victor Panov, who is hoping to join the Board. They discussed how to formalize the vetting process for new partner organizations and the evaluation process from the partners that have received WCE shipments. Victor has since developed an initial plan for how to automate reminders for sending evaluation forms to partners after 3 months and then annually for three years after they have received computers.

12. **Other Business:** There was no other business and the meeting adjourned.