WEFT

Educational-FM

BROADCASTING STATION HISTORY RECORD

First licensed .....

Call Letters WEFT (eff. 4-28-80) W E R U

Station Location Champaign, Illinois

Name PRAIRIE AIR, INCORPORATED

Transmitter Location South ½ of NE ¼ of Sec. 20, Twp 20N, of Range 8E, of 3rd Principal Meridian
3½ mi NW of Champaign, Illinois

Main studio location to be determined, Champaign, Illinois

Form BC-126
December 1978

Authorization Record

File No.	Granted	Facilities	Expires
BPED-2624 HAAT: 390' (L)	6/21/79 (H&V)	90.1mhz ERP: 0.4kW (H&V) Class: A Ch.# 211 CP FOR NEW ED-FM STATION	6/21/80
BPED-2624 (1)	9/10/79	CALL LETTERS ASSIGNED & EBSA ISSED	
EBSA	4-28-80	CALL SIGN CHANGE	
BMPED800528AJ (2)	7-17-80	MP (BPED-2624) for ext. of time to:	1-8-81
BMPED-801215AM (3)	1-29-81	MP (BPED-2624, as Mod.) for ext. of time to:	7-27-81

Form BC-126 (Back)
December 1978

Form BC-121
May 1976

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters WEFT XWERU ....NEW..EDUC..EM.....

Name PRAIRIE AIR, INCORPORATED

Champaign, Illinois (PO Box 224, Station "A" Champaign, Illinois 68120)

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action Nature	Action Date
BPED-2624 R&F PRESS:	1-17-78 1-20-78 NOV 17 1978	Construction permit for new Educ FM on: Frquency: 90.1MHz #211 ERP: 0.399KW HAAT: 390' trans CCA 250-B Ant: HARRIS FMC-4B, 4 sections TL: South ½ of NE ¼ of Sec. 20, Twp 20N, of Range 8E, of 3rd Principal Meridian 3½ mi NW of Champaign, Illinois SL&RC: to be determiend 40 10 51 88 19 04 ATTY:------ ENGR:-------	GRANTED	6/21/79

#2

APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

90.1MHz.

Call Letters: W E F T

Name: PRAIRIE AIR, INCORPORATED

Station Location: CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BMPED800528AJ PRESS (0)	JUL 3 1980	MP (BPED-2624) For Extension of Time to: 12-21-80 (NEW STATION)	GRANTED 7-17-80 TO 1-8-80
BPED-800729AI (C) ACCEPTED APR 3 '81	CUT OFF MAY 22 '81	Construction permit increase ERP: 0.955 kW (H); HAAT: 146.5' (H), change TL: 17 E University St., Champaign, Illinois; SL: 113 N Market, Champaign, Illinois and make changes in antenna system. 40 06 58 88 14 30	
PN Recd.	6-16-81		
Amended	8-11-80	Additional Engineering Data	
Amended	5-21-81	Chg. ERP: .919 kW (H); HAAT: 131.5' (H)	

Form BC-121
March 1979

#3

APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

90.1MHz.

Call Letters: W E F T

Name: PRAIRIE AIR, INCORPORATED

Station Location: CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BMPED801215AM PRESS (O)	JAN 23 1981	MP (BPED-2624, as Mod.) For Extension of Time to: _____ (NEW STATION)	GRANTED: 1-29-81 TO: 7-27-81

Form BC-121
March 1979

About the History Cards …

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file.

FM History Cards were initiated in the early 1940s, with the authorization of the earliest FM stations in the FM band, then at 42 to 50 MHz. (The band was shifted to its present location, 88 to 108 MHz, in 1946.) History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). Prior to that move, the History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of radio station history.