RESOLUTION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

unanimously

Resolved,

That the Board of Directors

of the

Corporation for Public Broadcasting

Expresses its Heartfelt Condolences
to the Family, Friends and Colleagues of

Jim Lehrer
Journalist and public media champion.

We will long remember with gratitude Jim’s pioneering work in the field of journalism and devotion to public broadcasting.

Jim began his more-than-50-year career as a journalist in 1959 when he became a reporter, writer and editor for the Dallas Morning News and the Dallas Times-Herald. He became the producer and anchor of “Newsroom” on local public television station KERA in 1970.

In 1973, Jim received a fellowship from CPB and joined PBS as public affairs coordinator. He teamed up with Robert MacNeil to cover the Watergate hearings, and their collaboration would become the award-winning nightly newscast “The Robert MacNeil Report,” which became “The MacNeil/Lehrer Report,” “NewsHour with Jim Lehrer,” and finally the “PBS NewsHour.”

Over the course of his career, Jim covered the John F. Kennedy assassination, interviewed presidential and vice-presidential candidates beginning in 1976, and moderated 12 nationally televised presidential debates. He and Robert MacNeil were inducted into the Television Hall of Fame in 1999. Jim’s other awards and accomplishments include winning two Emmys, a Peabody Award, the 1999 National Humanities Medal, and CPB’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

In his 36 years at PBS NewsHour, Jim shaped it into a program that continues to be the gold standard for journalistic excellence. Jim remained true to his calling, providing thoughtful and insightful news and analysis to the American public. Through his straightforward reporting-style, Jim helped public broadcasting earn its reputation as the most trusted institution in America.
As a lifelong storyteller, Jim was also a published author who often used his life experiences as subject matter for two memoirs, over 20 novels and three plays. We remember with fondness his passion for buses and collection of bus memorabilia.

We extend our condolences to Jim’s family, friends and colleagues at “PBS NewsHour,” MacNeil/Lehrer Productions and WETA.