

# **State of Alaska FY2010 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Administration Public Broadcasting Commission Component Budget Summary**

## Component: Public Broadcasting Commission

### Contribution to Department's Mission

The primary purpose of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC) is the encouragement and support of noncommercial public broadcasting in the state through the provision of operating and capital grants in support of the delivery of noncommercial programs intended for a general audience by locally controlled nonprofit broadcast stations or telecommunications entities.

### Core Services

- The primary service provided by the Commission is guiding development of an integrated public broadcasting system for the state through allocation of grants to qualified entities. In addition, the Commission shall:
- Provide monitoring and oversight of expenditure of state grants by eligible stations, and assure compliance with state grant requirements.
- Provide consultative services in all aspects of public broadcasting to all public or private agencies that request them.
- Serve as a library and clearinghouse for public broadcasting information.
- Prepare and submit to the governor and legislature a long-term plan for the development of public broadcasting stations and systems in the state and biennially update the plan.
- Perform all other functions necessary to ensure the orderly and coordinated development of public broadcasting in the state.

### FY2010 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

**FY2010 Component Budget: \$54,200**

**Personnel:**

Full time	0
Part time	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

### Key Component Challenges

Through its grantees, the 26 public radio and 4 public television stations that serve Alaska, the APBC seeks to sustain high quality, locally relevant public broadcasting services for all Alaskans. Public broadcasting is a key component of Alaska's emergency services, telecommunications and education infrastructure providing critical local and state news, and information such as weather, marine conditions and emergencies. The viability of this statewide service is now greatly challenged by sharply rising fixed operating costs and deferred maintenance issues compromising the non-commercial programming service.

The system's ability to offset losses in State support remains a significant challenge. In 1992, the State invested \$7.5 million in public broadcasting. In FY2009, the investment is \$3.4 million. This funding reality has resulted in declining capacity, service and buying power, a situation greatly exacerbated in recent years by large increases in fixed expenses driven by high energy costs. Despite this challenge, the APBC continues to focus on advancing cost effective collaborative initiatives that improve or expand service to communities via the public broadcasting system. In doing so, the APBC prioritizes initiatives that focus on sustaining and enhancing the ability of stations to provide strong local services as well as maintaining an ability to adapt to ever changing technology. The Commission seeks increased operating funds to address this issue.

System engineering capacity is at an all time low and some stations have experienced catastrophic failures in core equipment and service; a condition that will only worsen. The Commission seeks increased operating funds to

address this critical issue.

Historically, the APBC has lacked a clear methodology or formula for allocating operating grants. As State support has declined over the years, this has become an increasingly divisive issue. The APBC is developing an alternative funding methodology that strives to distribute limited funds in a clear, predictable and equitable manner.

### **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2010**

The APBC plans to implement a new formula based methodology for allocating annual operating grants.

The APBC will remain focused on sustaining high quality non-commercial media services at the authorized funding level while seeking additional sources of financial support for Alaska's public broadcasters; may qualify for financial support from federal and other non-state entities.

### **Major Component Accomplishments in 2008**

The Commission secured an increment for public radio in the legislature; putting an end to a 16 year negative funding trend from the State.

The Commission continued work on developing a model for an alternative funding methodology that strives to distribute limited funds in a clear, predictable and equitable manner.

The Commission supported system training and professional development initiatives by partnering with the Alaska Broadcasters Association in support of the annual ABA conference in Anchorage. Fifty public broadcasters took advantage of the broadcast journalism and new media sessions that were partly funded by the Commission.

The Commission continued to encourage partnerships and collaborations between licensees as a means to further consolidate common services and functions in order to maintain program delivery while reducing administrative expenses.

The APBC operates without any state employee support. In a model arrangement between Department of Administration and the APBC, the state contracts with a private entity to provide administrative and support services at a fraction of what it cost when the APBC was fully staffed in the 1980s and 1990s. For the ninth year in a row, the Commission received year round administrative support and services from Alaska Public Broadcasting, Inc (APBI). In addition to supporting the Commission's activities, APBI worked year round on behalf of the 30 stations earning new capital revenue and gaining new operational cost savings. Examples include working with non-State agencies to secure funds for system wide infrastructure and technology improvements and innovations; negotiating with national network program providers for affordable rates for all Alaska stations; producing affordable in state training and professional development opportunities for station personnel.

In partnership with the stations and the APBC, APBI provides a level of coordination and oversight for the overall activities and efforts of the Alaska public broadcasting system. In doing so, APBI recognizes and places appropriate authority in the hands of the service providers while upholding the policy and budget authority of the Commission.

### **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

AS 44.21.256-290	Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission
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**Public Broadcasting Commission  
Component Financial Summary**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<b>FY2008 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2009 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2010 Governor</b>
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Services	5.0	5.9	5.9
74000 Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	48.3	48.3	48.3
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>54.2</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1004 General Fund Receipts	53.3	54.2	54.2
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>54.2</b>

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2009 Management Plan to FY2010 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2009 Management Plan</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>54.2</b>
<b>FY2010 Governor</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>54.2</b>