



Talkeetna Community Radio, Inc.
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General Manager's Report to the Board February, 2010

It has been a great month in terms of programming, a little rocky for broadcast quality but no major downtime, and busy but running smoothly around the office. I feel like I have a sprint ahead of me for the next 4 months to finish everything I've started.

Fiscal

As previously announced by e-mail, we received more money than estimated from CPB as fiscal stimulus funds; a total of \$11,525.

I sent a letter, renewal form, and Listener Survey to former members whose membership has expired within the last two years, as well as a few select individuals whose expirations were further back. There are many individuals on the list that I expect to renew with the added attention.

Organizational/Programming

We have had a tremendous response to the Listener Survey, with 102 surveys submitted as I write this report. I will present some preliminary results at the Annual Meeting, and ultimately post results to the website. The Board of Directors ballot has received more attention than usual, with 64 ballots returned so far. I think this is likely to be a record turnout for a KTNA election.

You may have noticed some trouble with transitions between shows following the ENCO automation system upgrade. Most of the problems resulted from the “timed records” – the shows that we record for playback later the same day including the first hour of *Morning Edition*, the second hour of *All Things Considered*, and *Alaska News Nightly*. These have all been resolved. Remaining problems with transitions that are worse than normal have to do with the clock on the automation system, which is less stable on the computer we are using now than on the previous unit. I am hoping to link the clock to a web-based service so that it will always be correct.

At Laura Wright's initiative we ran a special on activist Temple Grandin provided to us at no charge by Independent Minds. We receive many notices about specials that are available to us, but have rarely run them in the past. Any feedback about whether this program was appreciated is welcome.

I will be posting the job opening for the Development Coordinator on the Monday before the board meeting. The delay has just been because of work overload. Closing date on the application is March 1. The job description and application instructions will be on our website, posted around town, and in various other locations. Please send us some good applicants!

I have initiated a system for tracking on-air volunteer hours, and will report the results to you monthly. Deb returns from her extended break on February 15. Laura has done an outstanding job filling in a portion of her position.

Technical

Other than working out the ENCO upgrade bugs it has been a smooth month technically. We switched to KUAC once briefly when a volunteer didn't turn the NPR pod back up, but it was during work hours and quickly corrected after being off for about 10 minutes. We replayed two shows after a bad file knocked a key program in the automation system offline so that we weren't updating files.

Brad Rich has started working at the transmitter site as a contract maintenance person. Brad has been a volunteer for a number of years as co-host, and now host, of G-Rock on Sunday afternoons. He is the maintenance person for Trapper Creek Elementary School just across the street from the transmitter. It is a great situation for us as Brad will be able to check in on the site weekly and perform some routine maintenance functions that have been neglected for awhile. We will also have him complete some badly needed projects at the site.

External

Shortly after our last Board meeting I met with the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce Board to discuss the KTNA announcement policy. I invited them to set up a committee to work with me to explore opportunities for improving the policy while still retaining its core purpose for airing "public service announcements." I will be meeting with the committee just before our Board meeting.