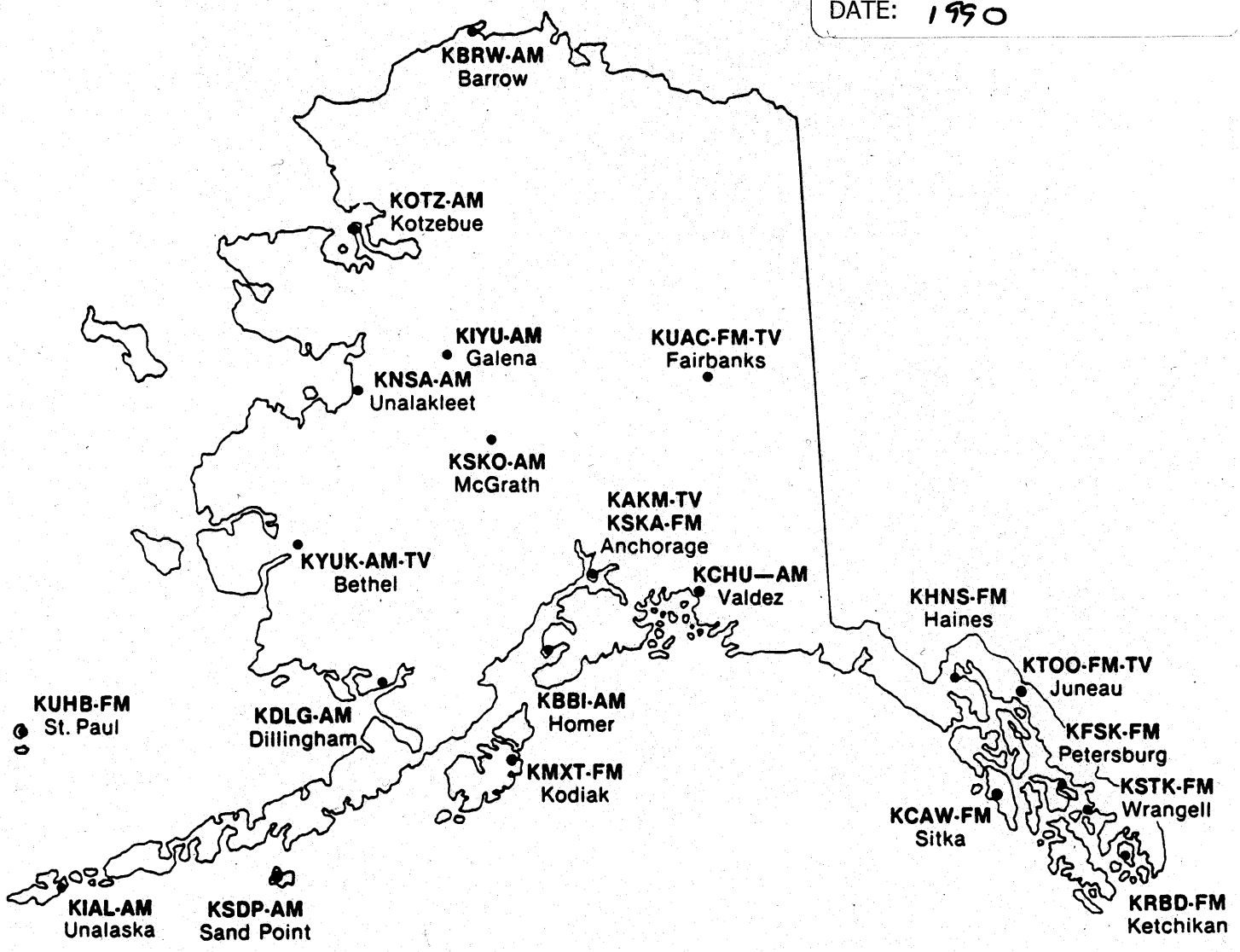
PUBLIC BROADCASTING IN ALASKA: A LONG-RANGE PLAN



DEVELOPED BY THE ALASKA PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMMISSION

1990 Edition

Preface

This document is the eighth edition of a Long-Range Plan for Public Broadcasting in Alaska. The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC) is directed to develop such a plan by AS 44.21.266 (12).

In response to the above statute, the APBC has created a standing committee for Long Range Planning. This document and previous editions and revisions are the result of the committee's work. This edition was approved by the full Commission on November 29, 1989. The APBC's Long Range Plan is updated annually. The Commission welcomes the task of annual revision, since public broadcasting and telecommunications generally are changing rapidly. The annual revision process allows the plan to be adjusted for changes in technology, funding sources, and the needs of the citizens of Alaska for public broadcast services.

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ALASKA PUBLIC STATIONS AND ADDRESSES

Full Service Radio Stations

KSKA (FM), 91.1 MHz, 4101 University Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508	561-1161
KBRW (AM), 680 AM, P.O. Box 109, Barrow, AK 99723	852-6811
KYUK (AM), 640 KHz, Pouch 468, Bethel, AK 99559	543-3131
KDLG (AM), 670 KHz, Box 670, Dillingham, AK 99576	842-5281
KUAC (FM), 104.7 MHz, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775-1420	474-7491
KHNS (FM), 102.3 MHz, P.O. Box 1109, Haines, AK 99827	766-2020
KBBI (AM), 890 KHz, 215 East Main Court, Homer, AK 99603	235-7721
KTOO (FM), 104.3 MHz, 224 Fourth St., Juneau, AK 99801	586-1670
KRBD (FM), 105.9 MHz, 716 Totem Way, Ketchikan, AK 99901	225-9655
KMXT (FM), 100.1 MHz, 718 Mill Bay Road, Kodiak, AK 99615	486-3181
KOTZ (AM), 720 KHz, P.O. Box 78, Kotzebue, AK 99752	442-3435
KSKO (AM), 870 KHz, Box 70, McGrath, AK 99627	524-3001
KFSK (FM), 100.9 MHz, P.O. Box 149, Petersburg, AK 99833	772-3808
KCAW (FM), 104.7 MHz, 2-B Lincoln St., Sitka, AK 99835	747-5877
KCHU (AM), 770 KHz, P.O. Box 2085, Valdez, AK 99686	835-4665
KSTK (FM), 101.7 MHz, Box 1141, Wrangell, AK 99929	874-2345

Public TV Stations

KAKM (TV), Channel 7, 2677 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508	563-7070
KYUK (TV), Channel 4, Pouch 468, Bethel, AK 99559	543-3131
KUAC (TV), Channel 9, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775-1420	474-7491
KTOO (TV), Channel 3, Channel 6, 224 Fourth St., Juneau, AK 99801	586-1695

Repeater Radio Stations

KCUK (FM), 88.1 MHz, P.O. Box 6144, Chevak, AK 99563	858-7713
KIYU (AM), 910 KHz, P.O. Box 165, Galena, AK 99741	656-1488
KUHB (FM), 91.9 MHz, c/o Pribilof School District, St. Paul Island, AK 99660	546-2222

KSDP (AM), 840 KHz, P.O. Box 328, Sand Point, AK 99661	383-5737
KNSA (AM), 930 KHz, P.O. Box 178, Unalakleet, AK 99684	624-3974
KIAL (AM), 1450 KHz, Box 181, Unalaska, AK 99685	581-1888

Other

AIRRES, P.O. Box 20-2545, Anchorage, AK 99520-2545	258-0000
KCZP-FM, 91.9 MHz, P.O. Box 2111, Kenai, AK 99611	283-7953
Puffin Public Broadcasting, Inc., 88.1 MHz, P.O. Box 396, Seward, AK 99664	224-3181

APBC LONG RANGE PLAN

Table of Contents

List of Tables

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public Broadcasting in Alaska: A Long Range Plan

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission's Long-Range Plan is a seven chapter document. Chapter I is an introductory chapter setting out the goals and objectives and statutory basis of the APBC and defining public broadcasting. Chapter II provides a history of public broadcasting in Alaska. The Commission's actual Long-Range Plan is detailed in Chapters III through VII of the document. All items in the plan are based on the Commission's enabling legislation and its own rules and regulations.

Public broadcasting in Alaska is locally owned and operated. That sort of ownership arrangement has the advantage of freedom from State or other governmental control. There are no State or local government officials in positions of direct control over any of the public stations in Alaska, except for KUAC(FM)-TV in Fairbanks, licensed to the University of Alaska and KDLG in Dillingham, licensed to the city school district. Each station, through this ownership arrangement, is responsive to the needs of its service area. There are no absentee owners of public stations. Because they are locally owned and controlled, except as noted above, the salaries and other expenses paid by Alaska public stations reflect community standards - not State salary schedules or expenses. Community standards also are the governing factor in the selection of program schedules for the stations, and in any judgments about the ethical or moral standards adhered to by station programs. It is important to point out that local control of public broadcasting in Alaska is <u>real</u>. Each station is governed by a locally-elected board of directors composed of citizens who receive no pay for their work on behalf of the stations. Those local boards have full managerial and policy-making powers with regard to each of the stations. The APBC provides grants to these <u>local</u> stations as a <u>part</u> of each facility's total support.

The goals of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission are to provide the citizens of Alaska with an integrated public broadcasting system which will provide them with the opportunity to: (a) make informed decisions as participants in local, state and national government; (b) understand complex issues in both private and public sectors; (c) further their general education, welfare, health and safety, cultural enrichment, and entertainment; (d) understand in detail the problems, needs, and strengths of their local communities and to encourage them to participate in solving those problems, meeting those needs, and celebrating those strengths; and, (e) have access to public broadcast media.

The major distinction between public broadcasting and commercial broadcasting is how each raises its funds. Commercial broadcasters sell audiences to advertisers. A commercial program is designed to accumulate the maximum mass audience, or, in the case of radio or cable television, a whole station or channel may be designed to appeal to a particular audience segment. Public broadcasters, on the other hand, provide programs to audiences. Public broadcasting selects and schedules programs to various audiences. Many of those audiences are not large enough to provide a profit to commercial broadcasters. Public broadcasting can also afford to take the time to explore issues in depth and takes chances with new program forms. Additionally, public stations in Alaska sometimes provide the only broadcast service to remote areas of the state, where even minimal commercial audiences do not exist.

Public broadcasting began in Alaska in 1962 when KUAC, an FM station licensed to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, began broadcasting. In 1970 Legislation creating the Alaska Educational Broadcasting Commission (changed to the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission in 1976) was adopted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Since that time 16 additional full-service public radio stations and four public television stations have begun operation. In addition, the APBC supports numerous repeater and translator stations.

The APBC's first priority is to maintain operating support and capital replacement for already existing facilities. It would be counter-productive to bring new facilities into

existence if on-going support did not increase proportionately. Hence, any new developments proposed by the APBC will be contingent on increased funding as approved by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature.

Extending the reach of existing stations to serve unserved areas by translators occupies the second priority slot. New radio service through local access repeaters is the APBC's final system development priority.

APBC funds provide only a portion of support for Alaska public stations. Stations receive funds from a variety of other sources. The APBC's rules and regulations set up guidelines for station use of state funds, but no state control over programming is permissible. All stations must use the same accounting system to allow the Commission to easily compare expenditures from one station to another. The APBC's priorities in the area of funding and system accountability begin with the desire to maintain a uniform accounting system for all Commission grantees. Inclusion of regular and recurring capital replacement costs in the APBC's funding mechanism is assigned second priority. The third priority is an exploration of alternate funding mechanisms. Fourth priority is assigned to assure that the system provides for accural financial reporting, valuation of in-kind services and donations, and conformance to CPB accounting standards.

The APBC's highest training priority is the training of the members of local boards of directors of the licensee organizations which control public stations in Alaska. The Commission has conducted that training directly through publications and staff-conducted workshops. Recent budget cuts have severely curtailed that effort. The Commission's second training priority includes support for one statewide workshop and one "round robin" training project per year or station volunteers and staffs, if and when funds become available. Assistance to successful applicants for women's and minority training grants is assigned third priority. Fourth priority is given to contracts for "intern positions" at stations, as funds become available. Lowest priority is response to other training proposals.

The APBC views programming as its greatest opportunity and as an area to be approached with the greatest caution. State support for programming must be structured so as to avoid even a hint of state control. Approaching programming with both opportunity and caution in mind, the APBC has sought to expand its support to allow for additional funds for program production by all stations. Through a program fund, the Commission could provide funds for program innovation resulting in productions which would have audience interest beyond the local level. Unfortunately, recent state budget restraints have caused the Commission to postpone implementation of this idea.

The APBC is only one of several state agencies with interest in and responsibility for telecommunications. Other agency concerns include planning and coordination of state telecommunications uses, the installation and maintenance of state-owned systems for state agencies; and the provision of instructional telecommunications services from pre-school through adulthood. The APBC has responsibility for the support and encouragement of general audience noncommercial programming.

The APBC monitors the activities of several national organizations dealing in telecommunications, and, when appropriate, files comments with and participates in discussions with such agencies. The APBC also alerts Alaska public stations to any important developments on the national scene.

Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

Introduction - Summary

The APBC Long-Range Plan is detailed in Chapters III through VII of this document. All items in the plan are based on the Commission's enabling legislation, and its own rules and regulations.

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission's mission statement:

> The goals of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission are to provide the citizens of Alaska with an integrated public broadcasting system which will provide them with the opportunity to: a) make informed decisions as participants in local, state and national government; b) understand complex issues in both private and public sectors; c) further their general education, welfare, health and safety, cultural enrichment, and entertainment; d) understand in detail the problems, needs, and strengths of their local communities and to encourage them to participate in solving those problems, meeting those needs and celebrating those strengths; and, e) have access to public broadcast media.

An Overview of Public Broadcasting in Alaska

Public broadcasting in Alaska is locally owned and operated. That sort of ownership arrangement has the advantage of freedom from State or other governmental control. There are no State or local government officials in positions of direct control over any of the public stations in Alaska. Each station, through this ownership arrangement, is responsive to the needs of its service area. There are no absentee owners of public stations.

Because they are locally owned and controlled, the salaries and other expenses paid by Alaska public stations reflect community standards - not State salary schedules or expenses. Community standards also are the governing factor in the selection of program schedules for the stations, and in any judgements about the ethical or moral standards adhered to by station programs. It is important to point out that local control of public broadcasting in Alaska is real. Each station is governed by a locally-elected board of directors composed of citizens who receive no pay for their work on behalf of the stations. Those local boards have full managerial and policy-making powers with regard to each of the stations. Of the twenty full-service stations in Alaska, only three do not precisely conform to the above description.

The two stations owned and operated by the University of Alaska in Fairbanks are controlled by the Board of Regents, and the radio station in Dillingham, is owned by the local school district. These stations utilize local citizens advisory boards to reflect community standards. Public broadcasting now covers most of the State of Alaska. Public television stations exist in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel, and Juneau. Through a combination of translator and microwave technology, those stations serve the surrounding area (sometimes up to a distance of 200 or more miles) with public television programming. Full service public radio now exists in sixteen locations. Through translators, communities located in fringe areas surrounding those sixteen stations are also served. Figures 1 and 2 indicate the location and coverage areas of the existing public television and radio stations in the State.

Through satellite technology, signals of existing public radio stations are being relayed to areas not presently served by a local station. Low-power originating stations(1) are being built in those areas to repeat signals originating elsewhere and to provide for minimum local coverage of community events and emergency announcements. It is planned that, through the use of translators and repeaters, the growth-rate of full-service public radio stations will decrease without any corresponding decrease in

(1)KIYU, Galena; KSDP, Sand Point; KUHB, St. Paul; KNSA, Unalakleet; KIAL, Unalaska; KCUK, Chevak

public radio service. There is currently no public television repeater system comparable to the public radio repeater system. Although the State relays commercial television signals and instructional television signals to Alaska's rural areas, there is a need to devise a plan for the distribution of general audience public television, which is seldom seen in rural areas.

What is Public Broadcasting?

In order to establish a solid base of information about public broadcasting, it is useful to explore the distinctions between public broadcasting and commercial broadcasting. The fundamental difference, stated simply, is how the stations raise their money.

Commercial Broadcasting

Commercial broadcasters sell audiences to advertisers. A commercial program is designed to accumulate the maximum mass audience, or, in the case of radio or cable television, a whole station or channel may be designed to appeal to a particular audience segment. Examples of mass audience programs designed to appeal to large audience segments include The Cosby Show, top forty radio stations, easy listening radio stations, and all news radio stations. The "bottom line" for a commercial broadcaster must be CPM (an advertising term meaning cost-per-thousand viewers, listeners or readers). Advertisers will sponsor the programs that best reach the greatest number of potential buyers of their products or services. The manufacturer of a headache remedy, for instance, would seek sponsorship of programs reaching a mass audience, since all of us, no matter what our age, sex, race, etc., get headaches. The makers of shaving products, on the other hand, would seek programs that appeal to males, like professional football games, such as Monday Night Football. Manufacturers of acne remedies tend to advertise on top forty radio stations, in order to reach the teen market.

Given the above set of circumstances, it is difficult for commercial broadcasters to try new program ideas, to deal with controversy, or to provide needed but low-audience

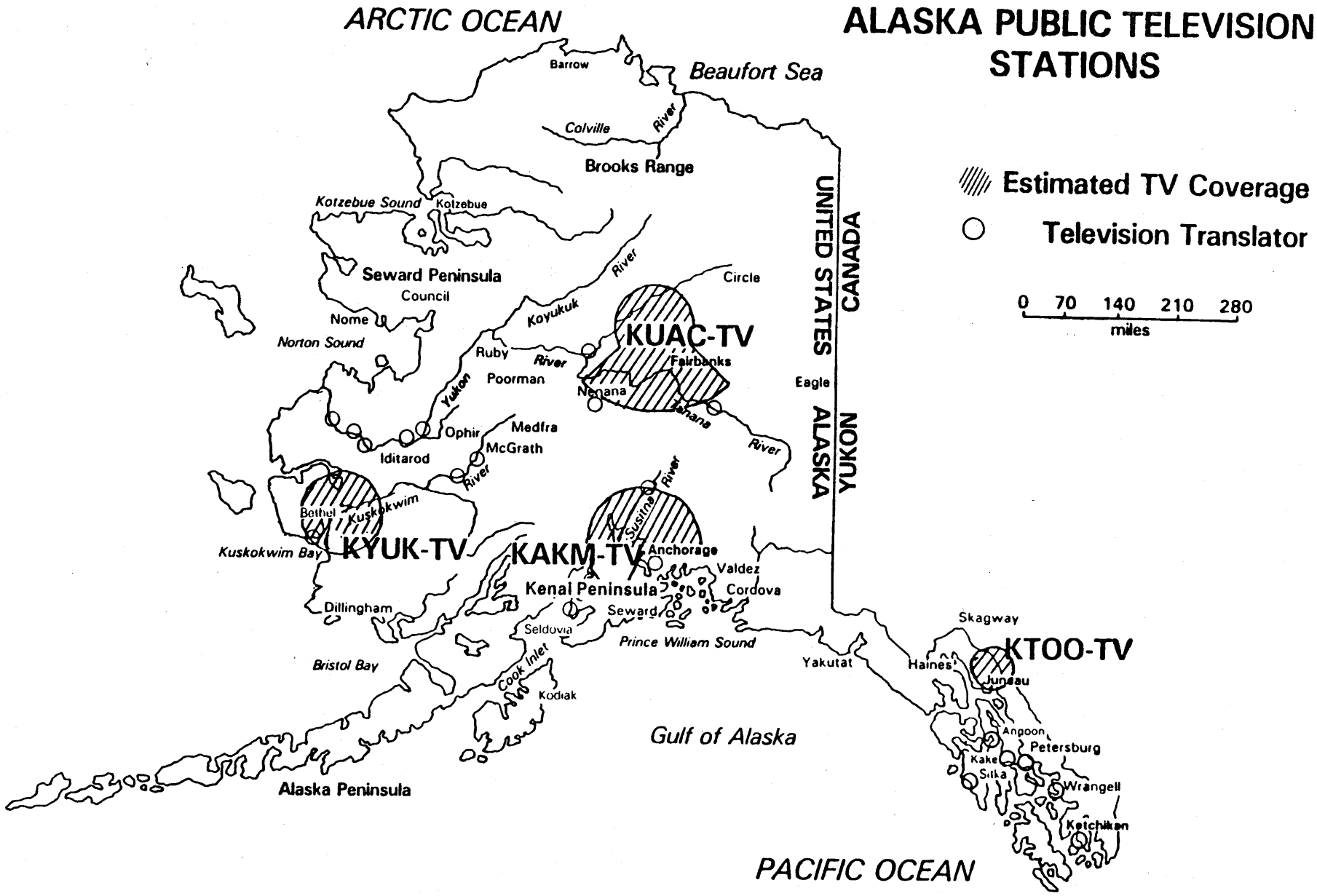
programs, such as those discussed below. Even if a commercial broadcaster's income is large enough to allow him to offer unsponsored programs to meet some of the needs just outlined, the threat of low audiences as lead-ins to the next program (which would have sponsorship) serves as a deterrent. It is not unusual, then, for commercial broadcasters to schedule public service programming in low audience areas (Sunday morning on television, late at night on radio).

Public Broadcasting

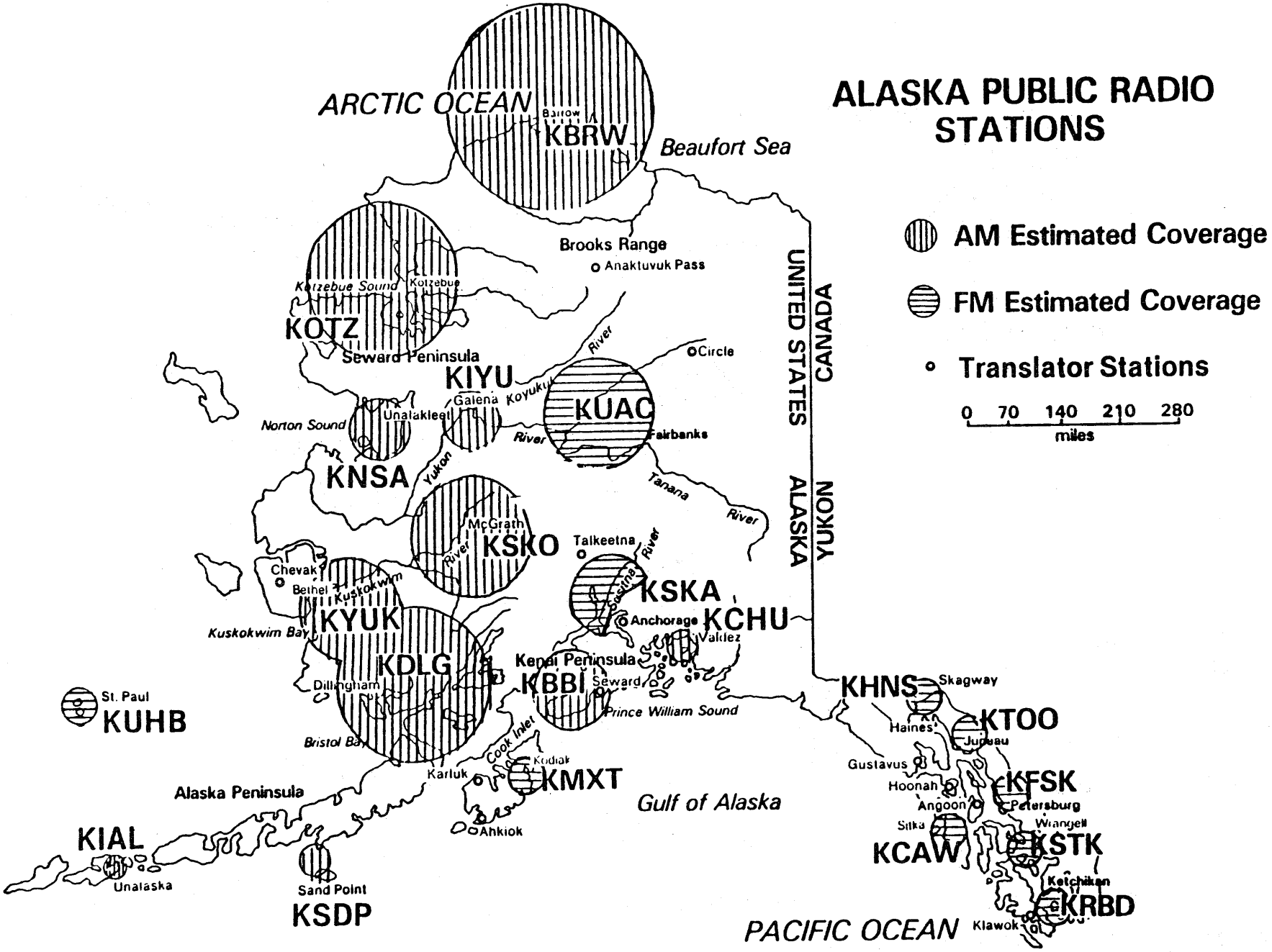
Public broadcasters provide programs to audiences. Public broadcasting selects and schedules programs to various audiences. Many of those audiences are not large enough to provide a profit to commercial broadcasters. Programs on home repair, programs dedicated to children or senior citizens, programs which examine scientific phenomena, programs on the arts, or instructional programs are all examples of programs which may have audiences too small to attract advertisers.

Public broadcasting also can afford to take the time to explore issues in depth. Instead of a news item on Explorer II's pass-by of the planet Saturn, public broadcasting might provide a full-hour program on the event through its showcase science program Nova. Instead of quick, weekly situation comedies, which attract mass audiences, public broadcasting provides hour or longer dramatic events written by internationally-acclaimed authors (both contemporary and historical). Instead of quick, five-minute radio newscasts every hour, public broadcasting provides ninety minutes a day of All Things Considered, probably the most thorough public affairs program on radio today. Instead of quick reports from borough assemblies and city councils, public radio often provides gavel-to-gavel coverage of many assembly and school board meetings. Public broadcasting provided full coverage of the State's appeal of the Zobel decision before the Alaska Supreme Court, and it has provided full coverage of many joint sessions of the Legislature and other important governmental events.

ALASKA PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS



ALASKA PUBLIC RADIO STATIONS



Public broadcasting also takes chances with new program forms. Since large advertising dollars are not at risk, public broadcasting can occasionally "afford to fail" with a new idea. Such experimentation has led to the adoption of many new program ideas by commercial broadcasting. The concept of short "docu-dramas", as demonstrated on television with the Roots series, was pioneered on public television. Sesame Street has inspired many commercial imitators, to the benefit of the children of the nation. Here in Alaska, a late-night radio call-in show, pioneered by a public station, resulted in the idea being taken over by a local commercial station, even to the point of hiring away the public station's volunteer host. The commercial station placed the program in a late afternoon time slot, on a daily basis, and attracted a large audience.

Additionally, among public broadcasting's list of distinctives, stations sometimes provide the only broadcast service to remote areas of Alaska, where even minimal commercial audiences do not exist. In these locations, public stations may well provide a full gamut of communications services rather than some of the alternative uses discussed above.

Public broadcasters do not argue for the abolition of commercial broadcasting. The public broadcasting view is that both systems serve different, sometimes mutually exclusive, purposes. While noncommercial systems have historically come first throughout the world, including the U. S., most countries have commercial systems coexisting alongside noncommercial systems, which is the case in the United States. The duties and responsibilities of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission are set forth in its enabling legislation passed by the 1970 Legislature, and in subsequent amendments to that legislation. The Commission is charged with encouraging and supervising the development of an integrated public broadcast system for the State and with the coordination of all public broadcasting stations. It is charged with providing operating and capital grants to locally-controlled non-profit broadcasting stations, or telecommunications entities, in support of the delivery, by those entities, of noncommercial programs intended for a general audience. The APBC is to provide that support which will enable Alaska citizens to have the opportunity to:

A. make informed decisions as participants in local, State, and national government;

B. understand complex issues in both private and public sectors;

C. further their general education, welfare, health and safety, cultural enrichment, and entertainment;

D. understand in detail the problems, needs, and strengths of their local communities, and encourage them to participate in solving those problems, meeting those needs, and celebrating those strengths; and,

E. have access to public broadcast media.

The APBC functions within the Department of Administration, which includes the Division of Information Services, supervised by a Director.

It should be noted that the Division of Information Services operates the Television Demonstration Program and the Satellite Tape Delay Center. The APBC retains a separate identity within the Department of Administration, as it is actually headed by a nine-member citizen Commission, appointed by the Governor. A prime reason for the Commission's retaining its separate identity and not being a direct part of the State hierarchical organization is to avoid even the appearance of State control over any program efforts. In support of that principle, both the Deputy Commissioner of Administration and the Commission are directed by statute to report any attempt by government officials to influence programming.

It is important to remember that public stations, even though they are funded in part by the State through the APBC, are neither owned nor controlled by the State. The APBC does publish regulations that stations must obey in order to receive State funds, but those regulations do not concern themselves with program content. In order for a station to receive APBC support, it must (a) abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, as must all other stations throughout the U. S.; (b) provide a minimal amount of free time for instructional programming; (c) have locally-elected boards of directors, which are representative of the cultural,

educational and other interests and groups in the community; and, (d) those boards must abide by the State of Alaska's Open Meeting Laws.

Actual State support to public broadcasting ranges from a low of 23% to a high of 60%. The lower levels of State support are provided in the urban areas where other sources of income are more readily available. Greater State support is required in the rural areas where the population base for ambitious community fund-raising does not exist to the same degree.

The Objectives of the APBC

The objectives of the Commission are as follows:

1. Provide public radio and television service to all communities of 25 or more citizens, based on criteria established by the APBC.

2. Assure that a minimum of 10 hours per week for radio and five hours per week for television of scheduled programming on Alaska full-service public broad- casting stations can be locally produced, excluding what is commonly referred to as record programs on radio.

3. Enable stations to reduce statewide staff turnover to 10% or less per year; enable stations to meet FCC standards on female and minority hire.

4. Assure that all full-service public stations meet qualifications or Corporation for Public Broadcasting support.

5. Provide 60-90% of funds required for equipment replacement at public broadcast stations, depending upon station capacity for generating other support.

6. Provide funding, not to exceed 25% of local station program support, to stations for production of regional or statewide programs; increase Alaska public station contributions to National program distributors by 300%.

Chapter II

HISTORY OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING IN ALASKA

Noncommercial broadcasting in the United States is able to trace its origins to the earliest turn-of-the-century experimentation with radio. Alaska public broadcasting by comparison is a fairly recent development. Alaska commercial broadcasting pioneers operated stations during territorial days. The first public station, however, did not begin service until three years after Statehood.

KUAC, an FM station licensed to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, signed on for the first time on September 29, 1962. The station was a joint effort of the University's Departments of Speech and Drama and Electrical Engineering. KUAC led a lonely existence as Alaska's only public station throughout the 1960's. During that time, the station increased its power and converted to stereo. It was also among the first 65 stations in the United States which, in 1969, qualified to receive support from the new Corporation for Public Broadcasting. It was also a charter member of National Public Radio.

Interest in public broadcasting on a Statewide level was sparked in 1962 by the passage of the first Federal assistance program for public television: the Educational Television Facilities Act. Governor William A. Egan appointed a committee, consisting of a University official and several commercial broadcasters to investigate how Alaska might take advantage of the new Federal program. The committee reported that the funds were available only on a 50% matching basis and could only be used for equipment, leaving building costs and annual operating costs to the State. As a result of the report, the Governor determined not to pursue the matter, due to Alaska's then meager revenues and pressing needs in other areas.

In 1967, a committee, appointed by Commissioner of Education Cliff Hartman, drafted proposed language for an Act to create an Alaska Educational Broadcasting

Commission. The proposed Act was introduced in the Alaska Legislature by Governor Wally Hickel. The Legislation did not pass in either session of the fifth Legislature.

During the Hickel administration, much attention was focused on the potential of satellite communications to solve problems created by Alaska's vast distances and rugged terrain. A Satellite Communications Task Force, chaired by A. G. Hiebert of Northern Television, Inc., was instrumental in the decision by Comsat to establish Alaska's first satellite earth station at Talkeetna. The Satellite Task Force later became a subcommittee of the Alaska Educational Broadcasting Commission, called the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

The obvious possibilities of satellite distribution of educational material generated a proposal in 1969 by U.S. Senator Mike Gravel for a minimum of three additional earth stations to receive and transmit educational material. Governor Keith Miller assigned the exploration of that idea to a new educational broadcasting committee he had appointed, when the proposed Act creating the Educational Broadcasting Commission failed to pass the Legislature. Even though Gravel's proposal never came to fruition, the satellite issue provided a much higher level of visibility for the committee's efforts and Legislation virtually identical to that which failed in 1967 and 1968, passed the Legislature in 1970.

The Miller-appointed committee began meeting in the Spring of 1969. It was chaired by Education's Commissioner Hartman and had four additional members: A. G. Hiebert, Lee H. Salisbury, Flore Lekanof, and Don Fridley. In the summer of 1969, the group appointed Charles M. Northrip as its first Executive Director. Northrip had been general manager of KUAC (FM) in Fairbanks. The new group had no budget or office space. The University of Alaska, Fairbanks offered free office space and the Department of Education made short-term funding available. The Rockefeller Foundation also provided funds to support the Committee in its first year of operation. When the Commission's authorizing legislation passed the 1970 legislature, State funding was assured, beginning in July of 1970.

The need for radio service in Alaska's rural areas was apparent to the new Committee. In December of 1969, it began discussion of an idea for a public radio station in Bethel, to serve the vast and sparsely populated area of Southwest Alaska. By April of 1970, a nonprofit corporation had been formed in the Bethel area to act as licensee for the new station, the Miller Administration had requested State funds for a portion of the equipment costs, and Northrip had submitted an application to the FCC for an AM radio station construction permit and an application to the new broadened Educational Broadcasting Facilities Program (EBFP) for Federal assistance in the purchase of equipment for the station. (The Educational Television Facilities Act had been amended to include funds for radio facilities and to allow the Federal share to be as high as 75%.)

The creation of a nonprofit corporation to serve as the licensee for the Bethel station set an important precedent for the way in which State support for public broadcasting would be accomplished in Alaska. State funds for equipping and operating stations were to be appropriated to the new Alaska Educational Broadcasting Commission (AEBC). The creating legislation, however, prohibited the AEBC from being the owner, operator, or licensee of any station or production facility unless "no other competent contracting agency exists." The formation of the community nonprofit corporation at Bethel created an entity which could receive funds for the station from the state. More importantly, such a corporation, formed solely to operate a public station and governed by a board of local people, set a pattern for similar developments in other communities and provided the solid community-oriented base that is now one of the outstanding features of public broadcasting in Alaska.

KYUK in Bethel went on the air on May 13, 1971. The station used an AM frequency which allowed the station to cover the many villages within a 100 mile radius of the transmitter. News and other programs both in the Yupik Eskimo dialect and in English were among the unique aspects of its program schedule. Since no other radio signals could be reliably received, KYUK provided a wide variety of music and other programming, some of which is usually heard on commercial stations. The State supported the concept of a Bethel public station, since the population to be served

was far too small and widely separated to make a commercial operation viable. In 1985 KYUK-AM increased its power from 5 to 10 KW and constructed a more efficient antenna system: this greatly increased the signal strength and coverage area of the station throughout the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta.

During the same period that KYUK was being constructed, the University of Alaska was proceeding with applications to the FCC and the EBFP for authority and equipment funds for Alaska's first public television station. The EBFP grant was awarded in January 1971 and KUAC-TV, Channel 9, signed on for the first time on December 22, 1971. The first EBFP grant to an Alaska station was awarded to KUAC (FM) in May of 1970 for production and control room improvements.

During the summer of 1970, KUAC (FM) moved into its present location, the new Fine Arts Complex on the University campus, which also houses the Library, Drama Theater, Concert Hall, the Art and Music departments. Space was designed into the facility to include the radio station and a future television station.

Meanwhile, with the passage of its creating legislation, the new nine-member Educational Broadcasting Commission was appointed by Governor Miller in September of 1970. Two members of the original committee were appointed to the Commission: Cliff Hartman and A. G. Hiebert. The additional members were Charles L. Buck of Juneau; John C. Hughes, Stowell R. Johnstone, Frank M. Reed, Sr., Larry L. Motz, all of Anchorage; Donald L. Nelson of North Pole; and, Arthur S. Buswell of Fairbanks. Johnstone was elected Chairman of the Commission at its first meeting on October 22, 1970. He was reelected to that post each year through 1983.

The Commission affirmed the original Committee's initiatives related to the creation of an AM station in the Bethel area and support for the University's radio and television efforts. It also affirmed Northrip as its Executive Director and gave approval to his suggestion of an experiment to use low-power VHF transmission as a means of providing television service to Alaska's hundreds of small villages.

The new Commission's membership was substantially changed following the election of William A. Egan to the Governorship in November of 1970. Since the Miller appointees had not yet been confirmed by the Legislature, Egan withdrew the names as soon as he took office in January, 1971. The slate which he submitted to the Legislature contained only two members from the first nine-member group: Johnstone and Hiebert. The new Egan appointees included one member of the original five-member committee, Lee H. Salisbury of Fairbanks, and six new names: Dennis W. Egan of Juneau, Marshall L. Lind of Kodiak, Katherine W. Fanning and Patricia Soll of Anchorage, William B. Zahradnicek of Bethel, and Tim N. Wallis of Fairbanks. Subsequent Commissioners have served five-year terms, with no more than three seats falling vacant in any one year. A chart showing all Commission members and their terms of service can be found on Table IIA, at the end of this chapter.

The new Egan-appointed Commission held its first meeting on April 29, 1971. At that time it accepted the resignation of Northrip as Executive Director and appointed Robert D. Arnold of Anchorage. The group also voted to move the Commission offices to Anchorage, where they remained until being moved to Juneau in 1981. Table IIB, at the end of this chapter, lists all APBC executive directors and their terms of service.

During the early part of 1971, plans began for additional public broadcasting stations. In January, a meeting arranged by the AEBC in Kotzebue resulted in the formation of a local committee to explore ways to bring public radio, and perhaps television, to that area. In Anchorage, the AEBC began coordinating efforts by the school districts in the Anchorage area, the University of Alaska, Alaska Methodist University, arts groups and others interested in constructing a public television station to serve the area. In addition, individuals in Bethel were already making plans to add public television to the KYUK radio operation. From this point, Alaska's public broadcasting history can best be told through the circumstances surrounding the various stations and other Commission initiatives. A chart of station development can be found on Table IIC, at the end of this chapter.

KUAC (FM)-TV

In 1974, KUAC-TV, Fairbanks, began expanding its coverage through the use of translators. KUAC received grants from HEW and the AEBC to construct translator stations at Delta Junction, Healy and Nenana. Delta began full service January 23, 1975. KUAC-FM began translating to the Healy area November 19, 1976, funded by a grant from AEBC. In November of 1979, KUAC-TV began serving Manley Hot Springs through a translator owned and installed by that community. Late in 1981, a new religious station, KJNP-TV, began transmitting on channel 4 in Fairbanks, requiring all channel 4 translators in the interior to change frequencies. KUAC-TV's CH. 4 translator serving Nenana changed to channel 5 on May 18, 1982.

The Wrangell Mt. Radio and TV Club put an FM translator on the air in April of 1984, bringing KUAC-FM to the communities in the Glennallen area. The translator operates with an output of 20 watts.

On September 19, 1985, KUAC-FM began serving Nenana through a translator purchased through funds raised primarily from the community. Through a special grant from the Alaska Legislature and KUAC, a solar powered FM translator station was constructed during the summer of 1985. This station went on the air November 6, of that year, bringing KUAC-FM to Central, Circle Hot Springs and Circle City. Through another state grant, the City of Delta Junction installed a translator bringing KUAC-FM to that community on November 8, 1985.

KOTZ (AM)

The formation of Kotzebue Broadcasting, Inc. as the licensee group for KOTZ was patterned after the KYUK development. Following the January, 1971, meeting arranged by the AEBC, a local group of interested citizens continued to pursue the possibilities of a public radio station. The group included Mabel Walsh, Mayor of Kotzebue; Charles Perry, Principal of the BIA School; June Nelson and Martha Shield, both School Board members; and some teachers at the school.

Kotzebue Broadcasting, Inc. was incorporated on November 19, 1971. Its first board meeting was held on November 26, 1971, with June Nelson serving as chair. The new group, with help from the AEBC, applied for equipment funds from the Federal EBFP and for a construction permit from the FCC. The EBFP grant was awarded in 1972, and the group's first funding from the AEBC was received in the same year. David Moore, former manager of KYUK was employed as manager. The Kotzebue radio station signed on for the first time in March of 1973 as KICE. An unfortunate accident led to the burning of the station's transmitter shortly thereafter. After reconstructing its transmitter building and installing a new transmitter, the station returned to the air in July of the same year.

It then signed on as KOTZ, the originally requested call letters. The call sign KOTZ had been assigned to a mothballed Coast Guard cutter. During the time the station was off the air the transfer of the KOTZ call sign was made. Alex Hills replaced Moore as station manager during the off-the-air period. KOTZ operated at a power of 5,000 watts until 1987, when its power was increased to 10,000 watts. The station became CPB qualified and a member of NPR in 1974.

KYUK - TV

In 1971, RCA Alascom proposed to the Governor that it could provide television by microwave to 12 locations in southwest Alaska. The proposal envisioned TV transmitters owned by the State at each of the 12 locations. The RCA charges were estimated to be $667,000 per year for 10 years.

The Governor suggested to Representative George Hohman, then Chairman of the House Finance Committee, that alternate means be found to provide educational television for southwest Alaska. The Legislature then added $627,000 to the AEBC's FY'72 budget for a Lower Kuskokwim educational television network. That appropriation eventually led to grants to Bethel Broadcasting, Inc., the licensee of KYUK (radio), for the construction and operation of KYUK-TV. The station first went on the air on a low-power basis in September of 1972. Its channel 4, 4.68 kw signal

began operating in August of 1973. In 1985 KYUK-TV received a grant from NTIA/PTFP to replace and update its studio and transmitter facilities: the station has become the major producer and distributor for productions dealing with the Yupik Eskimo culture.

KTOO (FM) - TV

A local Juneau group incorporated as Capital Community Broadcasting in 1972, with Elaine Mitchell as President. The new group first sought membership subscriptions from the local community, before going to the AEBC for State support. That practice has been followed by several subsequent applicants for AEBC assistance. The 1973 Legislature provided a $25,000 grant for equipment for a 10 watt FM station to be operated by CCBI. The grant was made through the AEBC and was released at the beginning of FY'74 (July, 1973).

KTOO (FM) signed on the air on January 27, 1974. The station was housed in the Juneau Douglas High School and operated at 104.3 mhz. First AEBC operating support for KTOO came in FY'75. In August of 1976, the CCBI Board decided to attempt to activate a public television station to serve the Juneau area. It hired Charles Northrip as general manager of both radio and television activities at that time.

In February of 1977, the radio station's studios moved to larger quarters in downtown Juneau and it became an NPR member and qualified to receive CPB support.

In the fall of 1976, the CCBI Board had applied to the AEBC to provide television coverage of the 1977 legislature. The approval of the application by the Commission resulted in the construction of television facilities at CCBI's new downtown location. Using matching contributions of TV equipment donated to it by the Legislature and the AEBC, CCBI applied to EBFP for funds to activate a television station to serve the Juneau area. At the same time, the radio station applied for an EBFP grant to upgrade its production facilities and increase its power. Both grants were awarded. KTOO-TV signed on the air on October 1, 1978. The radio station's power increase became effective on October 18, 1978. In 1979, both stations moved to the studio and office

spaces they now occupy. In the spring of 1983, KTOO-TV's broadcast service was expanded via a southeast microwave system to provide public television programming to Ketchikan, Sitka, Wrangell, Petersburg, Angoon, Metlakatla, and Kake. During 1986, with a NTIA/PTFP grant, KTOO-FM installed translators to provide radio service to the communities of Hoonah, Gustavus, and Excursion Inlet.

In July of 1988, funds to cover the cost of leasing the southeast microwave were transferred from the Division of Telecommunications to the APBC. The Commission then granted to CCBI funds to cover the lease payments as a separate grant. Also, in 1988 KTOO-TV received a grant from the NTIA/PTFP to replace its studio cameras, 2-two inch video tape recorders, computer editing system, and purchase new 1/2 inch field and studio BETA video recorders. This is the first phase of a major project by both the radio and television stations to replace outdated and unserviceable broadcast equipment.

KAKM (TV)

Even though plans were underway for a PTV station to serve the Anchorage area in early 1971, the station did not become a reality until 1975. A combination of factors caused the delay.

Planning for Anchorage PTV was first undertaken by the Southcentral Alaska Educational Broadcasting Association (SCAEBA), a group composed of the universities and school districts in the Anchorage area. Headed by William McCaughn, the group requested assistance from the AEBC and directly from the Legislature for funds to activate a PTV station. The 1972 Legislature appropriated $556,000 for Southcentral Alaska ITV to the AEBC. The appropriation specified, however, that the funds could not be spent unless a Federal grant totalling at least 35% of that amount was received for Southcentral PTV.

By this time, EBFP priority guidelines had been changed to favor improving existing stations rather than creating new ones. A federal grant to assist in activating the station was not likely. The AEBC sought unsuccessfully to have the Federal match

requirement dropped during the interim period following 1972 Legislature. It also requested $125,000 for FY'74 to begin design work for the station.

In response to criticism that SCAEBA was an organization too closely connected to educational interests, particularly the University of Alaska, the group changed its Articles of Incorporation and its name in November of 1973. SCAEBA became Alaska Public Television, Inc. (APT), and began accepting individual memberships, and placed public members on its Board of Directors.

During the second half of 1974, the matching requirement on the State appropriation was dropped, thereby making the funds available to the station. Ironically, the group also received a $571,439 federal grant during the same period.

KAKM signed on for the first time on May 7, 1975. During its first full year of operation it distinguished itself as the station with the second highest per capita local support in the Nation. No station in its first year had ever before secured that amount of local support so early in its history. All Alaska public stations which solicit local membership support now boast per capita giving figures that are consistently among the highest in the U.S. Regular operating support for KAKM by the AEBC began in FY'76.

KDLG (AM)

In 1971 Dillingham High School teacher Bob Cherry began teaching his students how to use tape recorders to produce radio programs. In 1972 he decided it would be a good idea to build a radio station and broadcast the programs to everyone. He applied to the State Department of Education and the Federal Government for money to fund project "SERVE" (Student Educational Radio -- Village Extension). In 1973 the Dillingham City School District received a federal grant (Elementary/Secondary Education Act) to construct and operate a five kilowatt AM educational radio station. The AEBC provided advisory support.

By early 1975, the students at the high school had selected their call letters: KDLG. On May 22, 1975, with the aid of Federal, local and AEBC funds, the station signed on the air with two paid employees, and a number of high school students. The first two months of broadcasting were achieved with an antenna consisting of a piece of wire on top of the Dillingham High School. In the fall of 1975 a three hundred fifty-foot tower was erected. A year later, due to demands for an increased broadcast day, a staff of five full-time employees was added, and in 1977 the Corporation for Public Broadcasting qualified KDLG to receive Community Service Grants.

In order to provide service to a sprawling election district, KDLG has begun to supply its programs by satellite to repeater stations. In November of 1982, KIAL in Unalaska began repeating programs from Dillingham. KSDP in Sand Point followed in March 1983, and KUHB in St. Paul began rebroadcasting programs in July of 1985. In July of 1987, KDLG increased its operating power from 5,000 watts to 10,000 watts.

In addition to providing Bristol Bay with its only radio signal, and full-time broadcasting services, KDLG continues to play an active role in the training of youth from many villages, and in regular classroom training for Dillingham students. Bob Cherry continues to teach in Dillingham and is a regular listener.

KBRW (AM)

The AEBC set aside $10,000 for a radio station in Barrow in July, 1974. That same month, Silakkuagvik Communications, Inc. filed its incorporation documents. $180,000 was made available in FY'75 for construction and KBRW signed on the air on December 22, 1975, with $94,500 in annual operating support from the AEBC.

After ten years' operation in less than 1,000 square feet, KBRW moved to built-to-order facilities made possible by a capital grant from the APBC. KBRW was CPB qualified in 1984 and joined NPR and American Public Radio in July, 1985.

KBRW serves eight villages across the North Slope. It broadcasts in both English and Inupiat with ten thousand watts on 680 AM from Barrow. With financial assistance

from the North Slope Borough, it translates via satellite to Anaktuvuk Pass and Point Hope.

KMXT (FM)

AEBC funds for public radio service in Kodiak were allocated at the same time start-up activities in Barrow were approved by the Commission. During July of 1974, Kodiak Public Broadcasting, Inc. was incorporated. Initial funds for both the Kodiak and Barrow stations were appropriated on the Legislature's own initiative. The AEBC, however, welcomed the appropriations, since its plans called for stations in both locations.

Unlike KBRW, the Kodiak station did not receive full capital funding from the State and an application was submitted to EBFP for an equipment grant. The Kodiak application called for an FM rather than an AM grant.

The AEBC provided $94,500 to the Kodiak station effort in FY'76. The station received a construction permit in late 1975, and went on the air on June 1, 1976.

KRBD (FM)

In FY'75 a "mini-grant' of $1,500 was made by the AEBC to assist startup activities for a public radio station in Ketchikan. The grant was made to Rainbird Community Broadcasting, Inc., a group formed in Ketchikan with Tom Shackle as President.

The Commission continued to support Rainbird's efforts with a $32,000 grant for FY'76. The Ketchikan station's FCC application was granted in early 1976. Like KTOO in Juneau, KRBD in Ketchikan began as a ten-watt operation. May 22, 1976, was the first on-air date. In 1979, the station increased its power to 7,000 watts.

In early 1981, KRBD relocated its studio facilities to a more accessible downtown location. The station was able to expand its production and office space considerably at the new site. In September of 1983, KRBD moved its transmitter and antenna

to a more central downtown location. Unfortunately, the new location resulted in unacceptable interference to the Alaska Court System, so the equipment was moved, yet again, this time to a permanent site, out of town. That relocation, coupled with the installation of two new translators, provided reliable coverage to Craig and other communities on Prince of Wales Island and to North Ketchikan. In 1984 and 1985, additional translators were added, extending service to South Ketchikan and the Prince of Wales Island communities of Klawock, Hydaburg, Thorne Bay, and Hollis.

In all, KRBD now serves 10 communities and is the only radio service for the over 2,000 residents of Prince Wales Island. In a first of its kind waiver, the FCC, at the APBC's request, also granted permission for 2 hours a day of local origination in Klawock. That program is being coordinated by the Klawock Schools. In 1988, state funds were provided to add service to Hyder. The new translator should be on the air by the end of the year.

KSTK (FM)

In FY'77, the AEBC began supporting the Wrangell Radio group, a non-profit membership corporation created in January of 1975, in its efforts to activate a ten-watt FM station to serve the Community of Wrangell. Phil Wayne was president of the new corporation.

Like Ketchikan, the Wrangell station began with relatively small amounts of AEBC funding and depended heavily on volunteers. Its original production equipment was of marginal quality, some of it more appropriate for home use than for long hours of daily professional use. KTOO (FM), KRBD, KSTK, and KFSK (discussed below) all found that their original equipment required replacement or additions quite early in the history of each station. KSTK signed on the air July 2, 1977. Also, like Ketchikan and Juneau, the Wrangell station increased its power to 3,000 watts in 1979.

KFSK (FM)

Narrows Broadcasting, Inc. in Petersburg began activity toward establishing a ten-watt public radio station in late 1975. Original discussions about such a station occurred in

the local little theater group, Mitkof Mummers, led by Sandy Slack and others. AEBC support began in July of 1976. Even though interest in a station for Petersburg and AEBC funding were about a year later than the same activity in Wrangell, the Petersburg station began broadcasting only two months later than KSTK. KFSK in Petersburg went on the air in September of 1977. Actual construction of the station was carried out by and under the supervision of Al Champagne, a volunteer, member of the original station board, and an Alascom technician.

In 1982, KFSK moved from its original quarters in a loft over the old Petersburg High School gym to a 3000-square foot former church building. At the same time, the station added much-needed production facilities and increased its power. In 1984, KFSK built a new 150-foot tower and increased its power to 2000 watts, assuring reception of public radio service in the Petersburg region. In the fall of 1986, Alascom donated an emergency generator to KFSK, enabling the station to continue to serve the area despite local power outages. The installation of a translator to the south of the City extended coverage to areas which previously were not or could not be served by the existing tower.

AEBC Becomes APBC

The 1976 Legislature approved amendments to the AEBC-enabling legislation which encouraged the Commission to take a more active role in coordinating statewide public broadcasting efforts. The amendments also gave the Commission responsibility for a statewide network. The most obvious result of the amendments was the change in the Commission's name. Beginning in FY'77, the agency was named the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC).

KSKA (FM)

In December of 1974, the University of Alaska in Anchorage proposed that the AEBC recognize it as the licensee of an FM public station in Anchorage and allow UAA to be the recipient of grant funds. Bill McCaughn of the Anchorage Community College staff

pointed out that the University had been seeking to begin such a station for several years.

Representatives of KAKM, the soon-to-be-on-the-air public TV station in Anchorage, also expressed interest in serving as the licensee for an Anchorage FM station. Since members of the AEBC felt that there might be other groups wishing to serve as licensee, no action was taken on the University proposal. In an action new to Commission procedures, the AEBC appointed a committee chaired by Carolyn Guess to publicize the possibility of a public station in Anchorage and to evaluate any proposals that might be submitted by groups wishing to serve as licensee.

By September of 1975, the committee had received four expressions of interest. Its recommendation to the full Commission was that a new membership-based nonprofit corporation, Aurora Community Broadcasting, Inc., be designated by the AEBC as the recipient of State support for an Anchorage FM station. The Commission adopted the recommendation.

Petitioning the FCC for an FM channel assignment before applying for a construction permit delayed the activation of the Anchorage station. KSKA (FM) began broadcasting on August 15, 1978.

In 1983, the station renovated 3,200 square feet of the Student Center at Alaska Pacific University for use as new studios and offices. The project cost $150,000 and was completed in mid-December.

On March 1, 1983, KSKA changed frequencies from 103 to 91 FM, and boosted power from 3,000 to 36,000 watts. The same month, the station's signal began being received in Kenai/Soldotna via translator. That translator has now been upgraded to repeater station KCZP, licensed to Pickle Hill Public Broadcasting, Inc., which continues to rebroadcast KSKA. In 1985 KSKA began translating in Girdwood and Palmer. Early in 1986 a third translator was added in Talkeetna. Also in 1986, Puffin Public Broadcasting, in Seward, began translating KSKA, as did KIYU, Galena. In September,

1987, KSKA added a new translator in Eagle River and in 1988, began being carried on a translator system at Prudhoe Bay by ARCO, Alaska, Inc. Also in 1988, KSKA began being carried by a translator serving the Unalaska/Dutch Harbor area. In August of 1989, KSDP in Sand Point began repeating KSKA on a part-time basis.

In October, 1986, KSKA constructed its own satellite earth station on the campus of Alaska Pacific University, replacing a shared use arrangement with KAKM-TV for an earth station in Eagle River. In 1987, the station increased its tower height by approximately 80 feet, to provide better coverage in the Anchorage area.

KBBI (AM)

Kachemak Bay Broadcasting Inc., the prospective licensee for a public radio station in Homer, incorporated in 1976. The group received start-up funds from the APBC in FY'77.

Bev Monroe and Kevin Hogan played leading roles in the development of the Homer station. After a year's delay, due to lack of appropriation from the Legislature, KBBI signed on in August of 1979.

The station would have signed-on about a month earlier had it not a rather unique freight delivery problem. The last necessary crate arrived and should have contained an antenna tuning unit. Instead the station engineer found a corn grinder! He was almost as frustrated as the midwestern farmer who was trying to discover how to grind corn with an antenna tuning unit. KBBI became CPB qualified on January 1, 1982. In October of 1986, KBBI changed frequency to 890 Khz and doubled the broadcast power to 10,000 watts. This improved service to the Lower Kenai Peninsula also qualified the station for extra interference protection under the FCC 1-N ruling.

KHNS (FM)

In early 1978, Lynn Canal Broadcasting, Inc. filed its Articles of Incorporation. The group, including Harold Hopper, Debra Schnabel, and Ray Menaker, was formed to

activate an FM station to serve the Haines/ Skagway area of southeast Alaska. APBC staff visited the area during the winter of 1978.

The APBC provided funds in FY'80 that allowed Lynn Canal Broadcasting to accomplish planning and design work and set aside an amount for matching purposes, since the group planned to seek an equipment grant from the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP - the Educational Broadcasting Facilities Program now had a new name). The grant was awarded and KHNS went on the air at a power of 3,000 watts on October 4, 1980, in make-shift quarters. In April of 1981, the station moved to its permanent home in the Chilkat Center for the Arts.

KHNS became CPB-qualified in March, 1982, and was accepted for NPR membership October 29, 1982. A local news and production studio was built in Skagway in early 1983; news and public affairs programming is fed daily from Skagway to the KHNS Control room in Haines where the signal is broadcast throughout the Lynn Canal area.

KSKO (AM)

Michael Harrington of McGrath first approached the APBC on June 29, 1977, with a request for support of a public radio station in McGrath. An APBC staff visit to McGrath was made in January of 1978.

The Kuskokwim Public Broadcasting Corporation was legally incorporated January 2, 1979, and $40,000 in capital funds was provided to the corporation in FY'79. Additional grants of $33,000 in FY'80 and $100,000 in FY'81 followed. An NTIA construction grant was secured, and construction began in 1980.

KSKO began operations on July 1, 1981, on 870 KHz, with a daytime power of 5,000 watts and nighttime power of 1,000 watts, using the McGrath FAA Non-Direction Beacon antenna and tower. Nighttime power was raised to 5,000 watts in 1983. The station's transmitter building was destroyed by fire in December of 1986. It was off the air less than a week due to cooperative efforts among other public stations coordinated by the APBC. In 1988, KSKO, as a result of a Federal grant, matched by

an APBC capital grant, increased its power to 10,000 watts full time and constructed its own transmitting tower.

KSKO achieved CPB Qualified status in August, 1982. The station joined National Public Radio in 1983, but dropped the network in 1986, due to budget constraints. KSKO maintains affiliation with American Public Radio, the Associated Press, and the National Federation of Community Broadcasters.

KCAW (FM)

Raven Radio Foundation in Sitka was incorporated in February of 1978. Its purpose was to activate a public radio station to serve the Sitka area. Todd Davis, the motivating force behind Raven Radio, was killed in a climbing accident in the spring of 1978, and the group became inactive.

In early 1979, a new board for the corporation was formed with J. W. Steffen as chair and Marika Partridge as President. Amended Articles of Incorporation were filed and the group began working with the APBC staff toward the activation of a station. Necessary FCC and PTFP applications were filed in late 1979.

In July of 1980, the APBC awarded operating and capital grants to the Sitka group. The Capital grant was used as matching for a PTFP grant which the station received in the fall of 1980. Staff for the station began to be hired in the fall of 1980 as construction of the facility began. KCAW signed on in February of 1982. A modification of the station's FCC construction permit caused about a six-month delay in sign-on, but resulted in substantial monetary savings and a more complete installation. In 1985, KCAW began translating in Kake and in 1986, Angoon. Tenakee Springs and Pelican translators went on the air in 1987.

KCHU (AM)

On October 12, 1980, Prince William Sound Broadcasting, Inc. was incorporated. The original Board of Incorporation was composed mainly of personnel from the Prince William Sound Community College which was replaced in 1981 by a Board of

Directors led by Eric Nielsen, who formerly had been President of Narrows Broadcasting, Inc. in Petersburg. In 1982, the Corporation changed its name to Terminal Radio, Inc. and began receiving planning funds from the APBC.

In 1984, the President of Northern Television, Inc., Augie Hiebert, abandoned an effort to establish a commercial radio station in Valdez. Northern Television donated its construction permit and frequency allocation (770 KHz) to Terminal Radio, Inc.

Capital funds became available in FY'85 and were used as matching funds for an NTIA equipment grant. General construction began with transmitter site preparation in September of 1985. KCHU signed on the air August 2, 1986. The station began operations as a repeater of KSKA-FM, but completed installation of its own downlink facilities in October of 1986. After some months of transition, an independent broadcast schedule was begun in January of 1987.

KCHU became CPB qualified in July of 1988, and started FY'89 as a full member of NPR. A legislative capital grant allowed construction of a translator to serve Cordova; FM service to Cordova began on September 24, 1988. In 1989, a Cordova office was opened for news reporting and fund raising in that community.

Current Activity

The APBC has begun a type of public radio service called "repeater" radio stations. The first of this type went on the air in Sand Point and Unalaska in FY'83. See Chapter III for a description of a repeater station. Other repeater sites on the air since then include Galena ('86), St. Paul ('85), Unalakleet ('89), and Chevak ('89). Independent translator facilities were also begun in Seward and Kenai/Soldotna. Several of these operations suffer from a lack of adequate funding due to recent state revenue reductions. New repeater or translator facilities will require additional funding.

Mini-TV/Satellite System

The APBC no longer has any responsibility for the satellite system which delivers television to low-power TV transmitters in rural Alaska, but the Commission played a major role in establishing the system.

It was through an APBC experimental project, conducted by former Executive Director Charles Northrip in 1971, that the feasibility of using 10-watt VHF TV transmitters to provide rural television was established. Grants to the Commission by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting led to the construction of the first mini-TV stations in St. Paul, Unalaska, and Fort Yukon. These stations were supplied with videotaped programs by mail, since satellite delivery was not yet possible.

When the 1975 Legislature provided funds for full-time leasing of a satellite transponder, the existing mini-stations were able to convert from taped to "live" satellite delivery. The APBC was instrumental in working out arrangements with Anchorage Network affiliates to make taped off-air recordings of their programs available to the rural TV system.

The delay center in Anchorage which transmitted the recorded programs to the satellite and then on to rural locations was operated by the APBC until June 30, 1981. Executive Director Michael Porcaro was instrumental in the creation of the Alaska Mini-TV Association, which later became the Rural Alaska Television Network (RATNET) and which made program selections for rural viewers.

Alaska Public Radio Network

Efforts at sharing programs among the public stations in Alaska began almost as soon as there was more than one station. In October and November of 1973, Frederick Hoskinson, Dennis Harris and Elaine Mitchell provided daily telephone reports on the activities of a special session of the Legislature to KUAC, KYUK, and KOTZ. Hoskinson, Harris, and Mitchell were all involved in the founding of KTOO in Juneau.

The AEBC provided the funds for the daily telephone calls from Juneau to the stations. The three stations paid $500 for the reports, which was donated by the reporters to KTOO.

Elaine Mitchell continued the Legislative reporting effort during the regular session of 1974. She provided a daily 15-minute report to the public radio stations then in existence. She collected fees for her work directly from the using stations. The AEBC again paid the phone bill.

During the 1975 session, under the leadership of new AEBC Executive Director Marvin Weatherly, regular broadcast circuits were leased for a daily 10-minute report from the Legislature. Mitchell again served as reporter. Funds were available for only a one-month trial of the system. Weatherly utilized the trial as a demonstration that Alaskans would listen to news reports over a standard telephone company voice-grade circuit. Up to that time, NPR had refused to allow its programs to be distributed in Alaska unless the line quality was 5 kHz or better. Thanks to that experiment and other work by the AEBC and Alaska stations, NPR programs were made available to non- NPR member public stations over APBC-financed telephone circuits beginning in 1977. When the one-month trial was completed, Mitchell continued to provide daily reports by placing individual phone calls to stations.

Prior to the 1976 session, Elaine Mitchell was appointed to membership on the AEBC and withdrew from legislative reporting activity. During that session, KTOO provided daily reports to all stations through a contract with the AEBC. The Commission, under Executive Director Jim Croll, established a Code-A-Phone in its Anchorage office on which KTOO reporter Bill Woolf recorded his report each day. Using stations simply called a special number and the report was played back to them.

In 1977, under contract to the APBC, KTOO provided live coverage of legislative hearings and sessions to all stations over dedicated Alaska Public Radio Network lines. KTOO's Marcia Alvar hosted the first interactive legislative hearing in the State's

history, when House Commerce Committee hearings on the "Bottle Bill" were broadcast state-wide and citizens could testify by telephone over a toll-free line.

Regular daily coverage of the 1977 Legislature was provided on television by KTOO's Capital '77. The audio portion of the program was provided to all public radio stations. The audio half of the TV program didn't make for very descriptive radio, particularly when the program featured 10 minutes of a mime entertaining legislators and radio listeners got 10 minutes of dead air! By this time, the APRN line was used to provide NPR programs to all stations.

The Alaska Public Radio Network expanded its service in FY'78 when it began providing year-round programming. KTOO, with contract support from the APBC and additional personnel through the CETA program, began a daily actuality service to all stations and created Capital Connection, a daily 15-minute report on Legislative activity. Dennis Harris served as first Director of the Network and Betsy Brenneman produced the daily legislative program.

During the summer of 1978, all the public radio stations created a corporate identity for APRN, with station managers serving as members of its Board of Directors. Bill Weeks, then manager of KBRW (AM), Barrow, was elected as the first president. The headquarters of the Network were moved from Juneau to Anchorage and housed in the APBC offices. Theda S. Pittman was named Executive Director of APRN in the fall of 1978. The Network continued to be funded by grants from the APBC. Capital Connection continued during the 1979 session from a separate Juneau studio, the program continued in the 1980 and '81 sessions, as well.

Alaska News Nightly, a daily 30-minute news and public affairs program featuring reports from all Alaska public stations became APRN's flagship program on September 4, 1979. New Executive Director Don Byron and Reporter Marcia Alvar produced the program. Alvar succeeded Byron as APRN Executive Director in March of 1980. Diane Kaplan became Executive Director in April of 1983.

In addition to "Alaska News Nightly", APRN provides public radio stations with special news and feature services and programs including the weekly "Alaskanarts" program which was among those awarded public radio's highest award, the CPB Award, in 1988, and a monthly call-in with the Governor. In 1987, APRN began producing "National Native News", which is currently carried on over 100 stations throughout the U.S. In 1988, NPR began distributing "National Native News" as part of its National Program Service. In January 1989, APRN began producing a daily morning news program and economic report for use by its member stations. The network also provides coverage of special events such as the Inuit Circumpolar Conference; the Governor's State of The State Address and the Budget Address; and primary and general election returns coverage. In 1984, APRN conducted the first ever, live, two-way call-in program with candidates for statewide office.

Between 1980 and 1989, APRN coordinated 28 workshops, conferences and seminars for Alaska public radio stations, with training ranging from news reporting and production skills, to employment law, personnel management, engineering, volunteer coordination, announcing techniques and radio drama. Funding for the various training events was provided by the APBC, CPB, APRN member stations, Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium, Alaska State Council on the Arts, National Federation of Community Broadcasters, National Public Radio, National Association of Educational Broadcasters, National Endowment for the Arts, and through private corporate donations. The network also initiated an Alaska Native Broadcasting Fellowship Program with funds from the Minnesota-based Grotto Foundation.

In 1986, APRN was awarded a contract from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) to provide intermediate news reporting and production training to public radio stations on a national level.

In FY'82, the APBC stopped making direct grants for APRN support. The Network is funded by member station dues, corporate underwriting, foundations, grants, contracts and fees. By the beginning of FY'83, APRN had installed satellite receiving stations at all non-CPB supported radio stations. Those receivers, when combined

with receivers already at all CPB-supported stations and a satellite uplink provided by State and Federal funds at Network headquarters made the APRN the first state network utilizing high-quality satellite distribution.

APRN's affiliates include 16 member radio stations and 8 associate members, making it one of the largest statewide radio networks in the country.

Public Television Network of Alaska (PTvNA)

In May of 1982, the four public television stations in Alaska, KUAC-TV, KYUK-TV, KAKM, and KTOO-TV, agreed to form the Public Television Network of Alaska. While Alaska PTV stations had cooperated in program exchanges in the past, the formation of PTvNA formalized those arrangements and set up a regular schedule of Alaska-produced programming each week. That programming began prior to the August, 1982 primary election with campaign and ballot issue debates and interviews. PTvNA, since that time has provided live coverage of the State's first impeachment inquiry and regular weekly video interactive discussion/documentary programs on various important State issues.

Table II A

Terms of Office for APBC Members

APBC MEMBERS

(Years and months of beginning and ending service)

Cliff R. Hartman	Spring 1969 - March 1970
(Chair, original Committee)	
A. G. Hiebert	Spring 1969 - August 1974
(Vice Chair, original Committee)	
Lee H. Salisbury	Spring 1969 - September 1970; March 1971 - August 1979
(Original Committee-then AEBC)	
Flore Lekanof	Spring 1969 - September 1970
(Original Committee only)	
Don Fridley	Spring 1969 - September 1970
(Original Committee only)	
Stowell R. Johnstone	September 1969 - September 1983
(Chair: Sept.'70-Sept.'83)	
Charles L. Buck	September 1969 - March 1970
Arthur S. Buswell	September 1969 - March 1970
John C. Hughes	September 1969 - March 1970
Larry L. Motz	September 1969 - March 1970
Donald L. Nelson	September 1969 - March 1970
Frank M. Reed	September 1970 (only)
R. D. Jensen	October 1969 - March1970
Jean P. Soll	March 1970 - February 1974
Marshall L. Lind	March 1970 - August 1975
William B. Zahradnicek	March 1970 - April 1975
Katherine W. Fanning	March 1970 - February 1975
Tim N. Wallis	March 1970 - July 1973
Dennis W. Egan	March 1971 - February 1974
Sam Kito, Jr.	July 1973 - April 1975
Carolyn S. Guess	February 1974 - September 1975
(Vice Chair: Dec.'74-Sept.'75)	
June M. Nelson	February 1974 - August 1978
Ralph V. Fondell	March 1975 - April 1984
Louise Collins	May 1975 - March 1981
Anita McGrath	October 1975 - August 1981
(Vice Chair: Dec.'75-Aug.'80)	
Elaine B. Mitchell	October 1975 - November 1976; March 1980 - August 1987
(Vice Chair: Sept.'83-Sept.'84; Aug.'85-Aug.'86)	
Susan H. Taylor	October 1975 - August 1977
Erick Eckholm	October 1975 - July 1976
Marco A. Pignalberi	August 1976 - June 1979
Shirley Nielson	November 1977 - August 1979
Melba (Sandy) Slack	September 1977 - February 1978
James A. McMillan	March 1978 - September 1981
(Vice Chair: Aug.'80-Sept.'81)	

Ron Castle	September 1978 - September 1983
Patsy Aamodt	December 1979 - September 1983
Henry H. Hove	December 1979 - August 1985
(Chair: Sept.'84-Aug.'85)	
Cathie Ulmer	March 1980 - September 1984
(Vice Chair: Feb.'83-Sept.'83; Chair:	Sept.'83-Sept.'84)
Caroline Wohlforth	September 1980 - November 1982
(Vice Chair: Sept.'81-Nov.'82)	
Florence Esmailka	January 1982 - November 1985
Merle Snider	May 1983 - January 1987
(Vice Chair: Sept.'84-Aug.'85; Chair:	Aug.'85-Jan.'87)
Thomas Behan	April 1984 - November 1984
Andy Edge	April 1984 - November 1984
Daisy May Isaac	April 1984 - August 1987
Lloyd Morris	April 1984 --
(Vice Chair: Aug.'86-March'87; Chair:	March'87--)
Alice Longworth	November 1984 - August 1989
John C. Shackelford	November 1984 - April 1988
Gordon A. Parker, Jr.	April 1985 - October 1986
B.G. Olson	October 1985 --
(Vice Chair: March'87-August 1989-)	
Beverly J. Huhndorf	March 1986 - May 1987
Barbara Karl	November 1986 - March 1989
Steven R. Strait	May 1987 --
Marie Adams	October 1987 --
Jean Rogers	March 1988 --
(Vice Chair: Aug'89-)	
Lucy Crow	July 1988 --
Patricia Branson	August 1988 --
Patty Kastelic	March 1989 --
Sharon Gaiptman	October 1989 --

Table II B

Terms of Office for APBC Executive Directors

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS:	
Charles M. Northrip	Spring 1969 - April 1971;
(Interim P/T:March-June'81)	June 1981 --
Robert Arnold	May 1971 - June 1974
Marvin R. Weatherly	July 1974 - September 1975
James Croll	September 1975 - June 1976
Michael F. Porcaro	June 1976 - March 1981

Table II C

Chronology of Full-Service Public Station Development

STATION	LOCATION	ON-AIR	1ST STATE GRANT
KUAC-FM	Fairbanks	09-29-62	FY 1963
KYUK-AM	Bethel	05-13-71	FY 1970
KUAC-TV	Fairbanks	12-22-71	FY 1970
KYUK-TV	Bethel	09-02-72	FY 1972
KOTZ-AM	Kotzebue	03-15-73	FY 1972
KTOO-FM	Juneau	01-27-74	FY 1973
KAKM-TV	Anchorage	05-07-75	FY 1974
KDLG-AM	Dillingham	05-22-75	FY 1974
KBRW-AM	Barrow	01-22-75	FY 1976
KMXT-FM	Kodiak	06-01-76	FY 1976
KRBD-FM	Ketchikan	05-22-76	FY 1975
KSTK-FM	Wrangell	07-02-77	FY 1977
KFSK-FM	Petersburg	09-15-77	FY 1976
KSKA-FM	Anchorage	08-15-78	FY 1977
KTOO-TV	Juneau	10-01-78	FY 1978
KBBI-AM	Homer	08-15-79	FY 1978
KHNS-FM	Haines	10-04-80	FY 1980
KSKO-AM	McGrath	07-01-81	FY 1979
KCAW-FM	Sitka	02-15-82	FY 1980
KCHU-AM	Valdez	08-02-86	FY 1981

Important Notes:

1. 80% of station activations occurred prior to major infusions of oil revenue into the State's budget.
2. Growth of new public stations has slowed dramatically in the last seven years.

Chapter III

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

System Development -- Summary

The APBC's first priority must be to maintain ESL operating support for already existing facilities. It would be counterproductive to bring new facilities into existence if on-going support does not increase proportionately. Hence any new developments proposed by the APBC will be contingent on increased funding as approved by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature.

It is possible that some funds used in support of existing facilities might be reapportioned in order to increase public broadcasting service to Alaska citizens, and the APBC will examine such possibilities as the need arises. The Commission feels, at present, that such reapportionment will result in little or no additional service. The APBC is confident that the ESL system is providing essential services in the various communities presently served, although recent budget reductions have reduced services drastically. The APBC's system development priorities begin with continued support for existing facilities. Second priority is given to extending the reach of existing stations to unserved areas by translator. New radio services through local access repeaters are the APBC's final system development priority.

In carrying out its mandate to support and encourage the development of an integrated public broadcasting system for Alaska, the APBC has devised varying types of public broadcasting installations. These various types of installations are explained to each community requesting service by APBC staff on a site visit to the area. After consultation with local concerned citizens, APBC staff develops a recommendation for full Commission action. The following is a listing of the basic types of installations. It

is possible, however, that some combination of types might best suit the needs of the area to be served. Flexibility, based on providing the most appropriate service to each community, is the Commission's intent.

Full-Service Stations -- Radio

In general, full-service stations exist in communities which are considered to be regional centers for each particular part of the state. KYUK, in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region is a good example. KRBD, serving the Ketchikan area, and KBBI, serving the lower Kenai peninsula also fall into this category, as do the stations in the larger urban areas of Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. A list of full service stations can be found at the beginning of this document.

The APBC has chosen the qualification criteria used by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) as a means of describing an Alaska full-service station. When CPB was created in 1967, over 1,000 noncommercial radio stations were already in existence throughout the nation. Faced with the reality of limited funding, CPB determined that to simply give equal grant support to each existing station would result in minuscule amounts that would have no positive effect on any station's service to its community. CPB, therefore, devised a set of standards that public radio stations had to meet before any station could receive funding support. The standards selected allowed a station to demonstrate that it possessed the capability to reach its community with an adequate signal; that it had sufficient staff, space, and equipment to produce a minimum amount of local programming; and, that it had enough local budget support to operate at least eighteen hours per day, 365 days a year.

The APBC has chosen the CPB standards as its goal for support of Alaska stations, not just to qualify each full-service station for CPB support, but in order to assure that each Alaska full-service station can reach its community, provide significant local programming,

and operate at least eighteen hours a day, each day of the year. It would be unwise to fund stations at a level that results in a weak, unlistenable signal, or in a station that operates only a few hours a day. Most importantly, however, the standards assure the production of programs that address local and statewide problems, needs, and strengths. Such programs are not available from commercial or public national services and, as was pointed out in Chapter I, are the most vital part of what public broadcasting provides to Alaska Citizens.

The CPB standards are listed in Table III A and are considered by the APBC as minimum standards for Alaska stations. The APBC's support program, based on those standards, is called Essential Service Level (ESL). It should be noted that no Alaska full-service station can expect to receive State funds totaling 100% of the amount needed to meet the ESL standard. The current percentage of APBC support for the various stations runs from 23% to 60%. Stations in urban areas, where other sources of support are more readily available require less support, while stations in rural areas rely more heavily on APBC funds. In any event, the APBC feels that some local support is required for any installation. Consequently no station will receive ESL funding from the APBC unless a minimum of 15% of its total support is from non-State sources. The Commission will, of course, continue to require higher percentages of non-State support where, in the APBC's judgement, a station has the potential for raising such funds. Non-APBC support can take the form of local memberships and contributions, fees for services, CPB support, auctions, volunteer and in-kind contributions, and grants from other institutions or groups.

It should be noted that the actual dollar amount of a station's operating grant from the APBC will not be reduced as a direct result of successful local fund-raising. The APBC's goal is to encourage local fund-raising, not to discourage such initiative on the part of stations.

Table III A

Radio Qualification Standards

1. The station must be licensed by the FCC as a noncommercial, educational radio station.

2. The station must have transmitter power sufficient to provide a primary signal (1 mv/m for FM; 0.5 mv/m for AM) to the community of license.

3. A minimum of five full-time professional radio station staff must be employed on an annual (12 month) basis. At least three full-time staff members should be employed in a managerial and/or programming position.

4. A station must have sufficient, professionally equipped on-air and production facilities to allow for broadcast of programming of high technical quality including the capability for simultaneous local production and origination. In addition, sufficient office space must be provided.

5. The station's minimum operational schedule must be 18 hours per day, 365 days per year.

6. The station's daily broadcast schedule must be devoted primarily to programming of good quality which serves demonstrated community needs of an educational, informational, and cultural nature, within its primary signal area. Such programming should be intended for a general audience.

   A program schedule designed to further the principles of a particular religious philosophy does not meet the definition of this criterion.

   A program schedule designed primarily for in-school or professional in-service audiences does not meet the definition of this criterion.

   Stations licensed to political organizations do not meet the definition of this criterion.

7. The station must originate a significant, locally produced program service designed to serve its community of license.

8. The station must have a minimum non-Federal annual income of $150,000.

9. Each station must maintain financial books and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Due to a lack of planning in prior years on the APBC's part, or in most cases, due to Legislative initiative, some existing full-service stations might have been more appropriately designated in another category. While the APBC has the authority to reduce state funding support for any station, it is safe to say that all current full service stations provide vital and necessary service to their communities, and the Commission feels it would be unfair to reduce the level of service already being provided.

Full-Service Stations - Space Standards - Radio

The Commission has adopted a policy setting the average space required for a full service public radio station. The standard is 3,000 square feet, plus or minus 10%. The total square footage figure was determined by taking into account the following spaces needed in a public radio facility: on-air control, news, and production control rooms; sound locks; two studios; transmitter and engineering shop area; newsroom; record/tape library; reception/waiting area; and work areas for volunteers, staff, and office equipment. No comparable standard has been developed for PTV stations.

Translators -- Radio

Many communities located near full-service stations can be served by translator. If a community receives no or only marginal coverage from a nearby full-service station, a high-quality receiver can be installed in a location where a strong signal is received. The translator then converts the incoming signal to a new frequency and retransmits it to the unserved community. Translators supported by the APBC may be owned by the originating station or by a nonprofit agency in the area being serviced. Operating expenses for a translator consists only of maintenance for the device, which is quite inexpensive, except for translators in remote locations reached only by helicopter, etc. The APBC will, as is the case with full-service stations, provide up to 85% of the operating support of the facility.

There are two disadvantages to the translator class of public broadcast service. First, the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) rules do not currently allow translation of AM radio signals. Several Alaska full-service stations use AM technology. Two AM public stations, however, with the APBC's assistance, have received a waiver of the rules on a case-by-case basis to allow for such installations. Secondly, the FCC currently allows only 30 seconds of local origination from a translator per hour. Such a restriction effectively prohibits the use of translators where communities desire even the most basic local access to the translator for local meeting announcements, emergency messages, etc. Where adequate telephone service exists, such messages can be called from the translator communities to the full-service station and the messages can be broadcast to the translator community in that fashion. Such an arrangement is adequate for small communities or suburban areas of larger cities. The APBC was successful, however, in securing an FCC rule waiver in 1985 to allow two hours per day of local origination for a public radio translator serving Klawock. More waiver applications will be prepared, as needed.

The advantages of translator class facilities include a capital cost approximately 1/10 that of a full-service station. Operating costs are even less. The translator requires no full-time staff and can be maintained on a contract basis. Such an arrangement allows translator-served communities to receive full-service signals without attendant FCC licensing and reporting efforts and without the necessity of raising substantial local funds for a full-service operation. Maximum local annual operating funds could be under $1,000.

Local-Access Repeaters -- Radio

For communities which require some unique local programming, a local-access repeater provides a compromise approach between full-service and translator facilities. A local-access repeater is actually licensed an AM or FM station. The facility, however, is little

more than the transmitter and some basic program origination equipment (two or three microphones, a mixer, a cassette recorder, etc.). Instead of attempting to establish a full-service station, the licensee group secures permission to rebroadcast the signals(s) of one or more full-service stations. The full service signal is delivered by microwave or satellite and rebroadcast locally by the repeater. When local needs dictate, the signal can be interrupted and local programming can be put on the air. The signals available to repeater-type public stations will be from existing full-service stations. From the sixteen such stations, some will be selected to have portions of their broadcast schedule uplinked to a satellite.

On March 23, 1988, the Commission adopted the following policy with regard to new repeater and translator applications.

1. Require all new repeater applicants to seek service through an existing full-service station.

    a. That full-service station would apply for APBC funds, FCC licenses, etc.

    b. That full-service station would be the owner of and be responsible for the operation (staffing, etc.) of the repeater operation.

2. Require all new translator applicants to seek service through an existing full-service station.

    a. That full-service station would apply for APBC funds, FCC licenses, etc.

b. That full-service station would be the owner of and be responsible for the operation (staffing, etc.) of the translator operation.

3. Should a repeater or translator applicant be refused reasonable service or representation to the Commission by one or more existing full-service stations, the APBC would deal with such applications on a case by case basis.

4. Existing repeater/translators are not, by this policy, prohibited from exploring mergers and/or license transfers with full-service stations.

Since every rural location now has or soon will have a satellite earth station, the full-service signals can be available at each such location.

The advantages of repeater facilities, aside from the obvious ability to generate an adequate amount of local programming, are primarily financial. The capital cost of such a facility is 25% to 50% of that of a full-service station. Operating costs are approximately 25% of that of a full-service operation. The APBC will seek to provide funding for a staffing level of two full-time equivalents at independently licensed repeaters. Such a policy would result in operating costs at those installations of approximately 40% of a full-service operation.

One unique advantage of the repeater concept is the ability of the local repeater licensee to pick and choose from among the full service signals available. Such a selection of signals might allow for different types of programming at different times of day (classical, country, news, discussion, pop, etc.), without the expense of an extensive record library or program purchase budget. APBC support, as in other types of service, will not exceed 85%.

Full-Service Stations - Television

The full service concept, when applied to public television, results in stations located in regional centers, as in the case of radio. Due to the high cost of creating and maintaining a full-service television operation, the regions are considerably larger. Full-service stations now exist in Anchorage (Southcentral); Bethel (Southwest); Fairbanks (Interior); and Juneau (Southeast). As in radio, the APBC uses as its guide to support for full-service public TV stations, the qualification standards of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. CPB's standards for television are not as detailed as they are for radio, since the mere act of constructing a standard TV station calls for such a large expenditure. CPB can be reasonably sure that the licensee of such a station has the financial, equipment, and staff capability to provide adequate service to its area.

CPB television qualification criteria are listed in Table III B and are considered by the APBC as minimum standards for Alaska stations. Because of the lack of specificity in the CPB criteria, the APBC has chosen to develop, in cooperation with each full-service PTV station, the level of APBC support required to allow each station to provide a daily broadcast schedule and a quantity (and quality) of locally-produced programs equivalent to the radio ESL standard. Since there are only four Alaska PTV stations, this individual approach to funding levels is possible.

Because the existing PTV stations are expected to serve large regional areas of the State, the APBC will seek to support regional production capability at each one. The Commission expects proposals from each full-service PTV station that will request capital and operating funds sufficient to allow for remote production throughout each region.

Table III B

CPB Television Qualification Standards

1. The station must have a noncommercial educational license granted by the FCC.

2. Each station must have a manager who has the responsibility and authority to determine when and what material shall be broadcast over the station and to administer disbursements under a budget authorized by the governing board of the licensee.

3. Each station must have no less than five full-time staff, one of which is the manager or chief executive officer, and the equivalent of five additional full-time personnel, paid no less than the minimum federal hourly wage plus regular benefits. Minimum staff cannot be paid with CPB funds.

4. Each station must have a minimum non-federal annual income of $300,000.

5. Each station must have studio and production facilities and regularly produce and broadcast locally originated programming.

6. During its first full year of on-air operation, the station must broadcast a minimum of six days per week, fifty-two weeks per year, for a total of at least 2,500 hours; and during subsequent years of operation, broadcast on a schedule of seven days per week, fifty-two weeks per year, for a total of at least 3,000 hours.
   receive at least the PTV cable channel at no cost, the APBC will consider attempting to provide PTV signals for cable system use.

7. The station's daily broadcast schedule must be devoted primarily to programming of good quality that serves demonstrated community needs of an educational, informational and cultural nature, within its primary signal area.

   A program schedule designed to further the principles of particular religious philosophies does not meet the definition of this criterion. Stations licensed to political organizations do not meet the definition of this criterion.

8. Each station must maintain financial books and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Translators -- Television

As with radio, public television stations reach beyond the communities of license through translator systems. As was pointed out in Chapter II, extensive translator systems serve areas surrounding PTV stations in Anchorage, Bethel, Fairbanks, and Juneau.

It is the APBC's intention to serve as many communities as possible via translator, since the capital cost of such service is less than 3% of the amount needed to provide a full-service station (two million dollars). Operating costs are even lower. The need for local access to the media for emergency and community messages can be accomplished at far less cost by using a local public radio station, repeater, or translator (assuming FCC rules are modified).

In many parts of Alaska, communities without PTV service are out of the reach of a main station signal and, therefore, cannot be served by traditional translator technology. In such cases, the APBC will seek to deliver a translatable signal through satellite or microwave systems.

If PTV translator communities desire local access to the translator for the broadcast of community events or other program types, the APBC will assist by providing legal and technical assistance to gain the necessary FCC approvals for such programming. The APBC will not, however, provide funds for local production equipment or staffing. Such activities will be considered a local option and should, therefore, be supported by community funding sources.

Local-Access Repeaters -- Television

Due to the decision not to support local PTV production for translator facilities, the APBC does not anticipate supporting a service similar to local-access repeaters in radio. It is possible, however, that Alaska communities may apply for and receive licenses from the FCC for a class of TV service called "low-power television." These installations will operate at powers of less than 1,000 watts and will have authority from the FCC to originate local programming. The APBC will consider support at levels similar to translator installations for low-power stations, if such stations request Commission funding.

Cable Distribution -- Television

Many Alaska communities are served by local cable television companies. If a full-service public television station exists in the same community, the cable system is required by the FCC to carry the PTV signal on one of its cable channels.

Cable operators in communities not served by PTV stations often argue that separate translator or low-power installations for the distribution of PTV are not necessary, since they would carry an imported PTV signal on their systems, if the importation cost were borne by the State or a PTV licensee. Such an approach has merit, since carriage by a cable system would eliminate the capital cost of a translator or low-power TV transmitter and subsequent maintenance costs of either type of installation.

The problem of such an arrangement is that citizens must pay at least a basic monthly charge in order to receive cable service. The APBC does not feel it would be equitable to provide "free" over-the-air service to some communities and at the same time condone a situation in other communities that would require citizens to pay for the same service. If an arrangement could be made which would allow any citizen to

Second Services -- Radio and Television

From time to time the Commission has been approached about the possibility of APBC funds being provided for a second public radio or TV service in a community. The idea usually centers around the need to tailor the second station to needs not met or inadequately met by the first public station in the community. A full-time classical music station might be proposed, for instance, for a community where the initial station provides a wide variety of music types and, therefore, spends little or no time on classical music. The proposers of the second service may be the same corporation which serves as the licensee of the first service or it might be a totally new group. If the same licensee is proposing the second service, various cost savings are pointed out, such as shared studio and transmitter space, an automated program service for the second station, and shared personnel.

While such second stations obviously would provide additional services to the various communities, the Commission will not consider such requests at this time. Until the APBC determines first service from public radio and TV is substantially in place statewide, there will be no consideration of APBC funds for second services. Local licensees are, of course, free to pursue such projects using non-State resources. No additional APBC funds are to be used to substitute for non-State monies previously used in the support of the primary service.

New Technologies -- Radio and Television

The APBC will remain informed about new technological developments which have application for public broadcasting. It could be, for instance, that direct satellite broadcast technology (satellite-to-home TV) will replace conventional TV translators, where local access is not necessary.

There are those who would argue that new multi-channel cable systems, delivering 30, 40, 50 or 100 TV channels will make local stations obsolete. The APBC does not agree. Localism is the heart of public radio. The Commission feels that strong local stations, serving local needs, which cannot be met by canned or live national sources, will continue to be required throughout the State. It should also be noted that radio receivers are rarely attached to cable. Radio's strong point is its portability, and a local broadcast signal is key to that portability.

Public television may well have to change in response to new multi-channel services. In Alaska, however, public television already provides distinct local services. The APBC anticipates that PTV stations will increasingly become involved in providing unique instructional, local and regional public affairs, and other such programming as the need for them to serve as distributors of national general interest material decreases.

The key to the APBC's approach to new technologies will be flexibility. New techniques will be adopted where costs can be reduced, where services can be expanded, and where coverage can be increased. The creation, by the Commission, of the local-access repeater station for radio is a case in point. Without such an innovation, many Alaska communities would not be able to receive public radio service, except at much greater expense, via the full-service route.

Table III C summarizes the APBC's system development priorities.

Table III C

Priority Listing of APBC System Development Plans

Long Range Objective	Priority No.	Method	Schedule of Accomplishment	Conditions/ Limitations
Maintain ESL Formula Assure that all full-service public stations meet CPB qualifications and continue at least minimum levels of local programming	1	Broaden ESL to include Equipment	Continuous Continuous	Continuation of non-State support at stations; ESL level funding for APBC from State sources
Provide Public Radio and Television service to all communities of 25 or more citizens, based on criteria established by APBC	2	Translators (conventional) of existing stations Deliver translatable TV signals to communities out of conventional translator reach	FY'91 FY'91/92	Capital funds to APBC by State; Appropriate sharing of costs by stations
Provide Public Radio and Television service to all communities of 25 or more citizens, based on criteria established by APBC	3	New local-access radio repeaters Construct maximum of 4 Operate one Operate remainder	 FY'91 FY'91 FY'92 and beyond	Site and building space provided by local communities; minimum 15% local contribution to operating support; State funds to APBC for capital and operating costs

Chapter IV

FUNDING AND SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY

Funding and System Accountability -- Summary

APBC funds provide only a portion of support for Alaska public stations. Stations receive funds from a variety of other sources. The APBC's rules and regulations set up guidelines for station use of State funds, but no State control over programming is permissible. All stations must use the same accounting system to allow the Commission to easily compare expenditures from one station to another. The APBC's priorities in this area begin with the desire to maintain a uniform accounting system for all Commission grantees. Inclusion of regular and recurring capital replacement costs in the APBC's funding mechanism is assigned second priority. The third priority is an exploration of alternate funding mechanisms. Fourth priority is assigned to assure that the system provides for accrual financial reporting, valuation of in-kind services and donations, and conformance to CPB accounting standards.

Multiple Funding Sources for Public Broadcasting

As outlined in Chapter I, public stations receive funding from a variety of sources other than the APBC. The Commission encourages multiple income sources for every station it supports for three reasons: (1) funds from other sources lessen the amount of State dollars needed through the APBC's ESL formula to assure a viable public broadcasting presence in Alaska; (2) a broad base of support, coming from several sources assures that the survival of the enterprise will be less threatened if one source is eliminated; (3) multiple funding sources allow stations to produce and/or air controversial programming when such programming may offend one such source.

Brief descriptions of the various funding sources follow. Many stations conduct local membership drives encouraging citizens to pay a minimum or higher fee to assist the station during the coming year. Stations may also conduct separate local fund drives to accumulate funds for capital purposes or simply to solicit contributions over and above membership fees contributed by individuals. Other local fund-raising events include auctions, where donated items are sold to the highest bidder; concerts; various dinners; Bingo games; raffles; sales of station-produced video and audio tapes; and other fund-raisers.

Public stations also receive underwriting grants for specific programs or larger segments of their schedule. Such underwriting may occur at the national level, such as Mobil's underwriting of Masterpiece Theatre on public television, or at the local level, when an interested business may contribute funds to allow a local station to purchase or air a particular program or series of programs. The underwriter receives identification of services and products. No commercial messages are permitted.

Stations may also produce programs or other materials for other agencies or allow their facilities to be used by others. Such materials may or may not be seen or heard on the public station's air. One of the main reasons for public stations to produce such programs is to generate additional income. As a general rule, the APBC does not allow such productions to be done for commercial or political organizations, leaving that field to commercial production agencies. There are instances, however, where public stations are the only possible local source for such material, therefore, the Commission's prohibition is not an absolute one. Actions by the U. S. Congress and the Reagan Administration have resulted in a lessening of Federal support for public broadcasting. At the same time, the Congress has relaxed prohibitions against commercial production by public stations and the APBC recognizes the need for Alaska stations to remain "good citizens" of the public broadcasting community. The Commission recognizes, however, the difficulties and possible conflicts with commercial

operations and will reassess its position on these matters in future editions of this plan.

The Commission is pleased to have public stations produce materials for other State agencies, particularly if such production can be provided at lower than normal cost, as a result of the station receiving sizeable amounts of State support. The APBC feels that such arrangements allow other agencies to benefit from the State support provided to public stations through lower production costs at those stations.

A major source of income, for those stations which qualify, is support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. This support takes the form of Community Service Grants and other assistance, such as minority and women's training grants and internships. Support from CPB to qualified stations amounts to between 16% and 34% of each station's total annual support. As was pointed out in Chapter III, stations must meet rather stringent qualifications with regard to transmission power, staffing, and physical facilities in order to receive such support.

Various Federal agencies make program production funds available to stations in specific subject matter areas. Instructional production is often funded by the U. S. Department of Education. Programs in the arts and humanities have been funded by either the Arts or the Humanities Endowment. Support is seldom of a continuing nature and is usually limited to the production of one program or series of programs. Challenge grants from the Arts or Humanities Endowments are exceptions to the rule. Those awards provide matching dollars for funds raised locally for major projects, such as a new building or the funding of completely new areas of service.

The major Federal program which benefits public broadcasting is the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP), within the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA). That program, which was referred to in Chapter II under various titles, provides up to 75% of the cost of certain items of broadcast

equipment for public stations. Many Alaska stations have been assisted by that Program. The Program has also provided funds for increased production capability and for extension of station service through translators and satellite systems. In an effort to assist stations in raising non-government funds, PTFP regulations were relaxed in 1981 with regard to the use of PTFP provided equipment by public stations for commercial purposes as long as such use does not "interfere with the provision... [of] public telecommunications services..."[1] The agency has issued a guideline in response to the 1981 amendments that if a grantee uses its PTFP funded equipment for standard public broadcast operation 51% or more of the time, it may use the equipment for any other sort of fund-raising activity the remainder of the time.[2] The APBC has not approved similar uses of state-funded public broadcast equipment.

Other sources of support for stations include grants from their municipal governments and grants from various nonprofit foundations. Most stations also make extensive use of volunteers to perform a variety of tasks at each station. At many Alaska stations, volunteers perform highly responsible tasks, such as on-air programming, directing, writing, producing and performing.

All the various grantors of funds require that stations conform to the specific reporting requirements attached to each grant. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Federal government, and other government sources have the most stringent requirements in that regard. Such multiplicity of financial reporting requirements places public stations in the position of requiring considerably more clerical and administrative support than might otherwise be necessary. Amounts received vary widely from station to station -- some don't use all of the sources.

[1] Section 392 (a)(4) Communications Act of 1934, 48 Stat. 1082.
[2] Federal Communications Commission, BC Docket No. 82-441.

Funds from the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission

The APBC provides between 23% and 60% of the total operating support of Alaska public stations and provides grants to stations for capital expenditures. Capital grants are restricted to the use specified. Stations may use in-kind contributions and their own planning and design efforts as their share (15% or more) of capital projects funded by the APBC. Stations are also required to submit six-year capital plans to the APBC, so that the Commission's six-year capital requests to the State reflect station needs. The APBC modifies the station six-year requests in accordance with its own plans and in response to State budget guidelines.

APBC grantees may use operating funds from the Commission for any aspect of station operations. Since operating funds are used to produce and schedule programs, the APBC exercises no control over that process. Stations are required to show how they anticipate spending APBC operating funds in each year's grant application. Once a grant amount is approved by the Commission, a station must get APBC approval for transfers of funds between major budget categories.

The APBC requires all grantees to use the same computerized accounting system, with identical account codes, in order to monitor the use of grant funds. Such a system allows for direct station-to-station comparisons of proposed expenditures at grant application time. The Commission can compare, for example, what all stations spend, or propose to spend, for electrical power or production supplies.

The Commission also uses the computerized system as part of an incentive program to assure that grantees submit monthly financial information in a timely fashion. If monthly submissions are on time, stations receive their annual operating grants in two six-month

installments: one in July, the other in January. If a station is not current in its financial reporting, its grant payments are made in 12 equal monthly installments. This method was instituted by the Commission in July 1980 and was reinforced by the Division of Legislative Audit in recommendations to the APBC in May, 1981.

In an effort to make the computerized system more useful to both the grantees and the Commission, it was modified during FY'82. The system was modified to allow for year-end conversion from a cash to accrual reporting basis for all stations. Accrual reporting is a requirement of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and is also a way for the APBC to have an accurate record of the current value of all station capital assets.

The system also was modified to allow for the assignment of values for in-kind services and donations to stations. Many stations utilize literally hundreds of volunteers and receive large donations. This aspect of each station's financial status must be documented in order to give an accurate picture of the total support received and expended by each grantee. In addition, each station receives incentive funds from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for such items, if they can be documented.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting has established a set of standardized accounting procedures for public stations. The APBC computerized system was devised prior to the new CPB standards. To save the effort required by stations to prepare financial reports in two formats, one for the APBC and another for CPB, the Commission, also in 1982, made its system conform, as much as possible, to the CPB standards. The CPB standards are also in accord with generally accepted accounting procedures for all nonprofit organizations.

In order for APBC grantees to continue to use the Commission's uniform accounting system, the APBC will seek to provide annual training in the use of and modifications to the system.

Equipment Replacement

One of the major elements to be included in any funding plan is the inclusion of capital equipment replacement costs at Alaska public stations. The practice of sporadic lump-sum capital grants to construct or improve stations is neither predictable nor reliable. The APBC keeps up-to-date capital equipment inventories from all stations and combines that inventory information with industry-wide life cycle costing techniques. The Commission then generates a regular and predictable amount of equipment replacement funds to be requested for each station in each fiscal year. Unfortunately, the Commission has received appropriated replacement funds for only a few stations in any given fiscal year, rendering the program sporadic, at best.

Exploration of Alternate Funding Mechanisms

The APBC's ESL funding formula (discussed in Chapter III) is a great improvement over previous approaches to State support of public broadcasting. The possibility, however, of indirect control of various program policies through reductions or other adjustments in the grant section of the APBC's annual appropriation calls for the examination of alternative funding mechanisms. The Commission, therefore, will consider further refinements in its funding process.

One such alternative would be a "foundation model." This model would be patterned after the Alaska School Foundation Program. The formula used to devise grants to stations might include population served, geographic area served, and non-State funds raised by each station. Another possible alternative is a "CPB model." This approach

would call for advanced-year appropriations from the Legislature: FY'92 funds might be appropriated in FY'90, for example. Such advanced-year funding provides public broadcasters with the ability to know what budget they can expect in at least the next couple of years in order to facilitate long-range program plans. Such long-range funding also makes it less likely that state-provided funds could be interrupted precipitously due to political dissatisfaction with a particular program. The "CPB model" would also base the amount granted to each station on the station's actual non-State income received in the last auditable year prior to the appropriation year. The amount of APBC support would be a set percentage of the non-APBC funds raised in that auditable year. The percentage rate for each station would be set by the APBC, based on each station's potential for raising non-APBC funds. Yet another alternative is a "Trust" concept, based on accumulating sufficient funds to allow the APBC to finance all or part of its grant programs from the income of the Trust.

The APBC is exploring the above alternatives and others. Subsequent editions of the APBC Long-range Plan may select a new funding mechanism from the above or other possibilities and set a date for its implementation.

Table IV A summarizes the APBC's funding and system accountability priorities.

Table IV A

Priority Listing of APBC Funding and System Accountability Plans

Long Range Objective	Priority No.	Method	Schedule of Accomplishments	Conditions/ Limitations
Provide public radio and television service to all communities of 25 or more citizens, based on criteria established by the APBC.	1	Maintain an accounting system which requires stations to report all income and expenditures to APBC.	Continuous	Continuation funds to APBC.
Provide up to 85% of funds required for equipment replacement at public broadcast stations; depending on station capacity to generate other support.	2	Broaden existing funding mechanism to include replacement funds based on life-cycle costing of station equipment inventories.	FY'91	Regular flow of funds to APBC; station cost-sharing.
Provide public radio and television service to all communities of 25 or more citizens, based on criteria established by the APBC.	3	Assure that the APBC's accounting system provides for accrual financial reporting; valuation of in-kind services and donations; and conformance to CPB accounting standards.	Continuous	Continuation of training funds to APBC.
Provide public radio and television service to all communities of 25 or more citizens, based on criteria established by the APBC.	4	Explore alternate funding mechanisms.	FY'90 and '91	Appropriate participation by APBC and stations citizens, based on criteria established by the APBC.

Chapter V

TRAINING

Training - Summary

Recent system-wide reductions in state appropriations have resulted in cutting back or outright elimination of APBC sponsored training programs. These priorities, none-the-less, reflect the system's needs as viewed by the APBC. The APBC's highest training priority is board member training. The second priority includes support for one statewide workshop and one "round robin" training project per year. Assistance to successful applicants for women's and minority training grants is assigned third priority. Fourth priority is given to contracts for "fellowship positions" at stations, as funds become available. Lowest priority is response to other training proposals.

All APBC training support calls for some sort of contribution on the part of the stations or other grantees, with the exception of training for station board members. This partnership approach assures that all parties concerned share in determining what training will take place. It also assures that serious consideration will be given to the task of selecting and supporting training projects, since both station funds, and APBC funds will be committed.

While the APBC does not own or directly control any public broadcasting stations or facilities, and while it does not compel employees or board members of such operations to participate in training activities, the Commission does require, through its rules and regulations, that public stations comply with certain standards in order to receive funds from the Commission.

Board Member Training

Since each local board is ultimately responsible for the total policy direction and operation of the station in its community, the APBC places a high priority on making board member training available, and, to that end, the APBC Executive Director

attempts to meet with each station's board of directors at least once every two years. If funding again becomes available to support such a schedule of visits, these meetings would allow a discussion of basic principles of board/staff relationships and allow board members to clarify their station's relationship to the APBC.

The APBC will utilize materials, specifically designed for public broadcasting boards of directors, in workshops at various station locations. The development of such materials began some years ago. That work is completed and has resulted in a manual for station board members. When the Commission is again adequately funded to support training opportunities, the APBC staff and/or consultants will conduct workshops each year.

In-Service Training of Station Staffs

The growth of public broadcasting stations in Alaska (and throughout the U. S.) has created a need for many more qualified professionals in the field than are available. A station must often resort to on-the-job training to assure itself of a full complement of competent staff.

On-the-job training is a costly process. Not only does the station suffer a reduction in productive output while an individual is being trained, but the work of the staff members who conduct the training suffers as well. To compound the problem, once a staff member has been trained and is performing competently, she/he may often leave the station for better pay in a University, State or private industry position calling for similar skills.

This problem is reaching crisis proportions due to the recent drastic increases in station turnover. Reduction in state support of individual stations has had the effect of freezing or actually reducing salaries. Layoffs attendant to budget cuts have simultaneously increased work loads on remaining staff members. Many stations have suffered turnover of 50% or greater since FY'87. As a result, on-the-job-training has become a constant activity, with stations often training more than one new employee at a time. Cuts in the APBC's training funds could not have come at a worse time.

At precisely the time when stations must depend more than ever on local support, station staffs are less and less able to concentrate on the development and production of local programming. Senior staff members are burdened by excessive work loads and the necessity of constantly training new, entry level employees.

In the past, the APBC has relied on the ESL (see Chapter III) funding support formula to assist stations in paying wages competitive with local job markets. Current funding levels do not permit such pay scales. The availability of training and professional development opportunities help to offset the inability of stations to pay competitive wages. The APBC continues to target in-service training assistance as a means of improving the work-place environment at Alaska stations. As state support increases, the APBC hopes that availability of in-service training and its attendant possibility of higher paying, more responsible jobs at each station, will allow staff members to make and sustain longer career commitments to public broadcasting. More competent staff members remaining at stations for longer periods of time will result in higher levels of performance at all public stations, which result in more programs, at higher quality levels, delivered to Alaska citizens.

If funding becomes available, the Commission will assist in the support of one statewide training workshop each year. These workshops, similar to the broadcast engineering management held in Anchorage in the winter of 1988, will emphasize one or two aspects of public broadcasting and will feature experts in the areas of emphasis. Workshop topics could include programming, supervisory management, music scheduling and commentary, technical developments, journalism, production, use of volunteers, fund-raising, or many other such topics.

The APBC may conduct the workshops, but as was the case with the management conference, the APBC may also respond to proposals for such training opportunities from a station or group of stations. Using this method, the Commission can provide training support which is desired by stations. At the same time, by careful examination of each proposal, the Commission can be assured that the proposed training will do what it proposes and is worthy of State support.

The APBC will consider assisting in providing resource persons who will visit several stations, providing instruction to various members of each staff. This effort should decrease the need for statewide workshops which are expensive, due to the travel involved for even two staff members from each station to meet at a central location. By using resource persons, more station staff can be trained in a familiar setting. In addition, local station volunteers, who often become successful applicants for full-time station positions, can also participate in the training program. The APBC will seek to provide support for one such "round robin" training project each year.

The Commission will consider any proposal for in-service training submitted by an eligible grantee. Regional workshops or more limited statewide seminars would fall into this category. The APBC will give priority, however, to the efforts listed above.

Women and Minorities on Station Staffs

Public stations should generate local programming which reflects the various interests, needs, and strengths of communities they serve. Such programming is difficult if the people producing the programs have no first-hand knowledge or interest in the subject matter. For this reason, Alaska public stations should attempt to have their staffs reflect the sexual and ethnic make-up of their local communities. In addition, current FCC regulations for stations set up target percentages of women and minority involvement on station staffs, based on the proportion of women and minorities in the total work force of the area. As funding permits, the Commission will attempt to assist in placing new women or minority representatives on station staffs each year.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting and some other granting agencies offer matching grants to assist stations in hiring women or minorities. The grants cover a portion of salary, benefits, and training costs. The station must provide the rest. The APBC, in order to encourage stations to apply for such grants, has provided up to one third of the required station match, if the station was successful and received a grant, provided the grant was for at least 35% of the total project cost and that the grant was from an entity that as a matter of policy provided grants for minority or women's training. Budget cuts in FY'87, '88, and '90 have virtually eliminated the

program. The APBC will seek to provide two such grants in FY'91, budget permitting. Other training activities, outlined below, will also contribute toward the APBC's goal of increasing minority and female representation on station staffs.

One project which the Commission has not been able to afford up to now has considerable merit. It is the creation of Alaska Native Fellowship positions at several stations. The idea would be for positions to be established in a particular area of interest at certain stations (for example: volunteer coordination in Ketchikan). The fellows would be in addition to the station's permanent full-time staff. The fellows would be recruited statewide with special consideration being given to Alaska Native candidates. The successful candidates would be informed that the fellowships would last for only a set period of time. At the conclusion of the prescribed period, the fellows would seek other employment, and, it is hoped, become staff members at one of Alaska's public stations. The fellowship positions, meanwhile, could be filled by new successful applicants, or other stations could apply for funds for fellowships within their staff. In exchange for the training provided by the host station, the APBC would assist the stations in the costs of recruitment, moving expense, and salary for the fellows. The APBC is seeking additional funding in its grants account to establish at least three such positions over the next two years (FY'91 and '92).

Table V A summarizes the APBC training priorities.

Table V A

Priority Listing of APBC Training Plans

Long Range Objective	Priority No.	Method	Schedule of Accomplishments	Conditions/ Limitations
Make local boards aware of APBC mission for public broadcasting and of the role each station must play in achieving that mission	1	Executive Director visits every station board	At least once every two years	Adequate APBC travel funds
"	1	APBC-sponsored work-shops for board members, by station locations	Four workshops per year	Adequate APBC contractual and travel funds
Enable stations to reduce Statewide staff turnover to 10% or less per year; enable stations to meet FCC standards on female and minority hire.	2	Assist in supporting Statewide training workshops	At least one per year	Adequate APBC contractual funds; station cost-sharing
	2	Assist in supporting "round robin" training by resource person	At least one "round robin" per year	Adequate APBC "round robin"contractual and travel funds; station cost-sharing
"	3	Up to one-third support of station share of successful minority/ women's training grant recipients	Two per year	Adequate APBC contractual funds; successful station grantees
"	4	Grants for Alaska Native Fellowship positions at stations	Three by FY'91	Adequate APBC grant funds; cooper-ative host stations
"	5	Respond to other training proposals	On demand	Available undesignated funds

Chapter VI

PROGRAMMING

Programming Summary

The APBC views programming as its greatest opportunity and as an area to be approached with the greatest caution. State support for programming must be structured so as to avoid even a hint of State control over programming.

Approaching programming with both opportunity and caution in mind, the APBC has sought to expand its ESL support to allow for additional funds for program production by all stations. Through a program fund, the Commission could provide funds for program innovation resulting in productions which would have audience interest beyond the local level.

Programming is the heart of public broadcasting. As was stated in Chapter I, public broadcasting exists to deliver programs to audiences. The APBC's goal is to assure that a maximum of high quality programs are made available to the greatest number of Alaska's citizens through the public stations the Commission helps support.

Program Support Via the ESL Formula

The APBC's statute prohibits direct involvement by the State in programming, except where a State agency is involved in producing an informational program or message, such as the Department of Fish and Game's announcements of opening and closings. The APBC's ESL approach to the funding of programming and other station operations without direct State involvement has been highlighted in earlier chapters. That approach has already produced notable examples of Alaska-originated programming. Bilingual programming at several rural stations provides news and public affairs information in regional native languages and in English. A local Anchorage production of Alaska weather information has received statewide attention.

Several rural radio stations cooperatively produce and broadcast a call-in program that can be heard simultaneously in Barrow, Kotzebue, Dillingham, Bethel, and McGrath. Discussion of issues common to all of rural Alaska is the goal of the program. The public television stations in the state cooperate in the production and statewide broadcast of several programs, among them: The **Running** series, produced by KAKM, Anchorage, which features in-depth coverage of statewide political races; **Alaska-On-Line**, produced by KTOO, Juneau (and others), which provides exploration of various statewide issues and allows for citizen call-in participation; and **Ask an Alaskan**, a popular Alaska trivia quiz program produced by KYUK, Bethel. The most pervasive and ambitious cooperative effort is **Alaska News Nightly**, produced by The Alaska Public Radio Network, which is owned and operated by all the public radio stations in the state. The nightly half-hour of news from every corner of the state is Alaska's only statewide radio news-gathering and reporting effort. Many more examples could be mentioned.

In addition to the programs cited above, Alaska stations, through outside funding, extraordinary economy and the setting of strict priorities have managed to produce Alaska-based programs that have been and are being accepted for national distribution by the public broadcasting networks (PBS, NPR, APR) and other national distributors. The most recent and notable example is **Make Prayers to the Raven**, produced by KUAC-TV, Fairbanks. A winner of several national awards, the series, which documents life among the Athabascan peoples along the Koyukuk River in the Interior, has been broadcast nationally by PBS and now is being distributed in Britain by the BBC.

More Alaska programming is possible by the APBC's provision of resources without direct State involvement. The ideas, and the ability to execute them, already exist at public stations throughout the State. Up to now, the APBC's station support, when combined with all other sources of funding, has allowed stations to be on the air every day for reasonable periods of time, with staff and other resources which allow for a minimum amount of local production. In every community, unmet local program needs continue to exist. The Commission's goal is to allow for a minimum of ten hours per week for radio and five hours per week for TV of locally produced

programming on Alaska full-service stations. In order for that goal to be realized more State support will be required as well as increases in other sources of station funds.

The APBC Program Fund

More funds for program production are necessary in order to stimulate truly innovative programming. Stations are often too tied up in day-to-day operations to spend the time creative programming requires. The task of filling eighteen hours or more per day with programming of any sort occupies most of the time and other resources available. Available programming funds are simply too scarce to risk on untried ideas.

Yet, if public broadcasting is to function as a clearinghouse and experimental setting for new program ideas, the proper atmosphere for such experimentation must be established. APBC funds devoted to this area must be reasonably free of any conditions that would limit programming freedom. Program producers should be able to "fail" without severe consequences. Producers should be ready to abandon ideas that do not prove their worth in the public and/or station marketplace, but the benefit of experimentation with new ideas is worth such risk.

To provide a greater opportunity for such experimentation, the APBC has proposed, in addition to more support for program production through its ESL formula, a program development fund. This fund, which would concentrate on supporting productions that would be appropriate for a more-than-local audience (statewide, regional, or national), would exist separately from ESL operating support and its monies would be dispensed to producers who have made successful applications for such grants.

The APBC views such a fund as a great step forward. Both the national distribution systems of public television and public radio <u>already</u> use satellite technology to connect all their stations throughout the country, including Alaska. Both the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR) encourage local stations to submit programs for use on the national systems. Any Alaska PBS or NPR station can use the

satellite system to send Alaska-produced programs to all other stations in the country. The Governor has often stated the need to explain Alaska's lifestyles and methods of managing its own resources to the rest of the country. All Alaska citizens would benefit from a better understanding of Alaska's unique problems and opportunities on the part of those in the other forty-nine States. With that in mind, the APBC has sought to create a program production fund, which would provide to Alaska public stations, upon application and approval, money for the production of programs of sufficient interest and quality to be used on the national systems. The Commission envisioned the use of peer-review panels for selecting successful applicants so there would be no direct State involvement in the program selection process.

There is a large cost advantage to the method proposed by the APBC. Since the Commission would only pay for incremental increases to bring programs up to national standards, and since overhead and other such costs would already be covered through regular station funds, the cost of such programs would be far less than what one might ordinarily expect.

In addition, public broadcasters enjoy favorable rates for talent and copyright clearances from the major unions and licensing organizations. Since the above programs would be produced by independent Alaska public stations and endorsed by the national public systems, the programs would be considered highly credible.

While, as noted above, peer review panels would be used to help select successful applicants to the program fund, the APBC would also consider retaining, on a consultancy basis, a programming expert with no vested interest in State government or Alaska stations to make final decisions on successful applicants. Committees rarely produce innovation. Their forte is caution and "safe" approaches. This "one person in charge" theory of program selection is currently being used by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and first saw use at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) under Sir John Reith.

Unfortunately, recent State budget restraints have caused the Commission to postpone implementation of this idea.

Table VI A summarizes the APBC's programming objectives.

Table VI A

Priority Listing of APBC Programming Plans

Long-range Objective	Priority No.	Method	Schedule of Accomplishment	Conditions/ Limitations
Assure that a minimum of 10 hours per week for radio and 5 hours per week for TV is locally produced by Alaska full-service public stations, excluding what is commonly referred to as record programs on radio.	1	Expand ESL formula to provide more funds for local production	Begin: FY'91 Complete: FY'92	Increased State funds for APBC; increased funds from other sources to Alaska Public Stations
Provide funding, not to exceed 25% of local station program support, to stations for production of regional or statewide programs; increase Alaska contributions to National Program Distributors by 300%.	2	Create regional, state-wide, and National Program Fund	Begin: FY'91	Increased State funds to APBC; Production ideas from stations or other applicants

Chapter VII

COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Cooperation with Other Agencies -- Summary

The APBC is one of several State agencies with interest in and responsibility for telecommunications. Other agency concerns include planning and coordination of State telecommunications uses, the installation and maintenance of state-owned systems for state agencies; and the provision of instructional telecommunications services from preschool through adulthood. The APBC has responsibility for the support and encouragement of general audience noncommercial programming.

The APBC interacts with other agencies in providing grants for instructional broadcasting and in distributing public radio and television programs beyond the reach of current full-service stations. The APBC also hopes to explore the possibility of joint funding with the University of Alaska and the Department of Education for major Alaska productions which would have both general audience and instructional use.

The APBC monitors the activities of several national organizations dealing in telecommunications, and when appropriate, files comments with and participates in discussions with such agencies. The APBC also alerts Alaska public stations to any important developments on the national scene.

Other State Telecommunications Agencies

As pointed out elsewhere in this document, the APBC is one of several agencies with interest in and responsibility for telecommunications activity. Within the Department of Administration, they are: the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission, whose goals, objectives and responsibilities are set out in Chapter I of this document and the Division of Information Services. Agencies elsewhere in the State hierarchy whose telecommunications concerns relate to the APBC are: the Office of Instructional Technology and Support in the Division of Educational Program Support, of the State

Department of Education, and the University of Alaska Instructional Teleconferencing/Television. Each of these agencies is described below.

Division of Information Services (written by the Division)

The Division of Telecommunications, located in the Department of Administration, was created in July, 1981, as a result of a change in AS 44.21.300-330 to streamline the management and coordination of all State of Alaska telecommunications activities, except public broadcasting and data processing. On July 25, 1989, Telecommunications was merged with the Information Resource Management functions within the new Division of Information Services. Three sections comprise the Division; Telecommunications Section, Computer Services Section and Policy Planning and Management Section.

Primarily, the Telecommunications Section is responsible for short and long-range planning, technical assistance to other State agencies, and coordination, ranging from agency telephone procurement to rural TV distribution. Assistance is offered to agencies and other groups which have needs and questions but do not quite know how to find answers. The Telecommunications Section is available to provide help, suggest options, and develop cost figures.

The Telecommunications Section designs, supervises, installs, and maintains communications devices and systems for Alaska State governmental entities. These far-ranging activities include two-way VHF radios for the State Troopers, single-sideband radios for Fish and Game field camps, radar and radios for State users and a switched network for voice and data transmission. The Telecommunications Section provides the necessary liaison with the FCC, as well as securing land use permits from State and Federal agencies when necessary for site construction. The Telecommunications Section is often called upon to advise other State agencies how best to meet their communication needs -- whether this involves construction of a new system or leasing service from a

common carrier. In order to provide prompt maintenance of communications devices, six regional service centers have been established with trained personnel and equipment.

In addition to providing for State government communications, the Telecommunications Section has been given responsibility for television delivery in many rural areas of Alaska. A combination of terrestrial and satellite technology is used in television delivery. Translators and microwave systems are used in the more accessible regions of the State, while satellite delivery is used in the remote villages. Satellite capacity is leased from a common carrier, and the Telecommunications Section operates a tape delay center where television programs, selected by a representative committee of rural citizens, are sent to the common carrier for transmission to the rest of the State.

Office of Instructional Technology and Support -- Department of Education (written by DOE)

The Office of Instructional Technology and Support is a unit within the Division of Educational Program Support in the Department of Education. The programs provided by this office include educational technology, in-service training of teachers, distance education, education program evaluation and other instructional services and resources. One of the primary goals of the office is to promote the appropriate use of technology in all aspects of Alaskan education.

To reach that goal, the Office of Instructional Technology and Support promotes the use of existing Alaska and other technological systems for instructional computing, instructional television, audio conferencing, distance education and emerging educational technology applications.

Currently, instructional television programs purchased or produced by DOE are being broadcast on the Rural Alaska Television Network, and

on public television stations. Research is being conducted on the feasibility of distance delivered high school courses using existing satellite, broadcast, and electronic mail technology. A member of the OITS staff is the Department's representative on the Rural Alaska Television Network (RATNET) council, and is a member of the Division of Learning Services Council of the Pacific Mountain Network. Those relationships assist in enhancing the delivery of instructional programs via RATNET and the public television stations.

University of Alaska -- Instructional Teleconferencing/Television (written by UA)

Prior to FY'87, instructional teleconferencing and television were jointly administered by the University of Alaska (UA) and the Department of Education (DOE) and called the LearnAlaska Network.

Due to Budget constraints and related factors, the Network has been reorganized.

Instructional Teleconferencing

Under the auspices of the University of Alaska and managed by the Alaska Teleconferencing Network (ATN), audio conferencing services are provided statewide to DOE, University, and non-profit state agencies.

Relying on a system of centrally coordinated teleconferencing bridges in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Southeast, ATN relies on 350 statewide audio conferencing sites, staffed by volunteer personnel.

In addition to this centrally coordinated statewide teleconferencing network, regionally placed and operated bridges have been placed in Nome, Bethel, and Kotzebue for regional University use.

Instructional Television

Currently managed by the University of Alaska Anchorage, the instructional television service (formerly the ACC Telcom Center) that was one time a part of the LearnAlaska Network, currently focuses primarily on teleconference delivery in Southcentral Alaska and limited regional television production, managed through UAA.

Services include telecourse distribution (via cable and non-cable), tape duplication, production support, and limited tape feeds relying on the Rural Alaska Television Network (RATNET). Limited local television production capabilities are also available through the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the University of Alaska Southeast.

Areas of Cooperation between the APBC and Other State Agencies

Grants for Instructional Broadcasting

Alaska Statutes permit the APBC to make grants for instructional purposes, but the Law makes it clear that the support of instructional activity is not the APBC's main responsibility. Primary responsibility for instructional telecommunications activity is assigned by the Statutes to the Department of Education, the University of Alaska, and the Division of Information Services. The Law assigns primary responsibility to the APBC for general audience, noncommercial program support. In order to set limits on its own activity, the APBC has adopted the following definition of <u>instructional</u> broadcasting:

> The use of any telecommunications device to provide programs intended to be integral or supplemental to a plan of instruction, and meeting identified instructional objectives for a learner group whether inside or outside the traditional classroom.

Distribution of Public Radio Beyond Full-Service Stations

Chapter III of this document indicates that the APBC plans to use repeaters and translators to extend the reach of existing full-service public radio stations. Satellite and microwave interconnection will be used to deliver full-service signals to rural repeaters or translators.

The APBC looks forward to participation in joint buys of audio capacity on such microwave or satellite systems by the Telecommunications Section. The Section is already making such purchases for other State purposes. Rather than creating its own separate satellite or microwave network, the APBC prefers to cooperate with the Section in assembling "bulk buys" of such capacity.

As the use of translators to extend public radio signals has grown, an inequity in the State's policy with regard to funding such operations has become apparent. Currently, the Telecommunications Section purchases, installs and maintains many translators which provide commercial television to certain areas of the State. In most cases, public radio and TV stations' translators are only partially funded by the State and stations must maintain the translators themselves. This arrangement lacks consistency and creates situations where public station signals are not as easily available to the public as commercial signals.

It does not appear likely that the State's support of commercial translator systems will decrease or disappear, as State-supported commercial systems have been authorized in several Legislative sessions. The APBC will, therefore, seek to effect a new policy with regard to the funding of translators (commercial and public; radio and television). That policy would call for additional State grant funds to any public station, so that purchase, installation and maintenance of all such translators would be paid for by State or a combination of State and Federal funds.

Obviously, additional budgetary and personnel support will be required to accomplish the new duties proposed above. The APBC has supported those additions beginning with the FY'86 budget request.

The University of Alaska or the Department of Education may wish to utilize public radio stations to distribute instructional audio materials. The APBC would welcome such activity. The Commission's rules and regulations require all stations receiving funds from the APBC to have a policy for providing transmission time for local instructional purposes. Since the APBC plays no direct role in the programming process, however, such instructional distribution would have to be accomplished through contact with individual public radio stations or with the Alaska Public Radio Network, which is owned and operated jointly by all public radio stations.

Distribution of Public Television Beyond Full-service Stations

The APBC's plans for distribution of public television beyond existing full-service stations, as set out in Chapter III, closely parallels the Commission's plans for distribution of public radio. The APBC will therefore, call on the Telecommunications Section for participation in existing and future satellite transponder capacity in order to deliver public television signals to translator or cable distribution centers. This activity, like the public radio distribution activity mentioned above, will also require the involvement of the Telecommunications Section for planning and coordination purposes.

Unlike public radio, which already reaches over 97% of Alaska's citizens, general audience public television does not reach many rural areas. Currently, little transponder capacity or local distribution capability is devoted to public television delivery by the RATNET Council (see Chapter II) on the State-funded commercial/entertainment rural TV channel.

The APBC believes that the delivery of general audience public television programs to all citizens, regardless of location, is a legitimate and necessary function of the State. The Commission recognizes, however, that great caution must be exercised in providing general audience programs through a State-operated system. Even a hint of State control in the program selection process can destroy the credibility of what is offered. Previous governors and Legislatures have recognized that danger and have set out, in the statutes, several prohibitions against any governmental

involvement in program content. More importantly, the statutes leave to the APBC and the independent and locally-controlled public stations the responsibility for support of general audience noncommercial programming.

The Commission's nine citizen-members, none of whom are paid by the state to serve in that capacity, and the boards of directors of the public stations, who are not part of the State's telecommunications hierarchy, or employees of the stations, are the best safeguard against government interference in the programming process. For these reasons, general audience PTV programming should be provided to all citizens, but with responsibility for program delivery assigned to the APBC and the public stations concerned.

The same problems set out above with regard to State support of public radio translators pertain to TV translator policy, as well. As indicated in the radio translator section, the APBC will seek to have a uniform policy developed regarding the purchase, installation, and maintenance of all translators.

The University of Alaska and the Department of Education already expressed interest in using certain general audience public television programs in a formal instructional setting. Previous negotiations between the now defunct LEARN/Alaska Network and KUAC, a member of PBS, the national distribution agency for public television, resulted in a decision by LEARN/Alaska not to carry any such programs, at present, other than some instructional offerings. The Commission offers its coordinating services to the University of Alaska and the Department of Education in helping to make such programs available. As was the case in the above discussion of instructional radio, independent arrangements can be made with each public television station for the airing of instructional material.

Joint Funding of Productions

Many programs intended for a general audience have value as instructional material. Conversely, some instructional programming has high general audience value. Alaska's rich historical heritage and its dramatic geology and geography offer highly attractive

subjects for large scale program production that could be used both in instructional and in general audience settings. The use of dramatic forms, as in the PBS series, The Adams Chronicles, provided highly interesting general audience material and exciting instruction as well. The APBC will propose to the Department of Education and the University of Alaska consideration of joint funding of major production projects on Alaska topics that could result in outstanding instructional and general audience programs. An example of such cooperative effort was the joint funding by the Department of Education and the Alaska Public Radio Network of radio coverage of the 1981 Legislature. The program was available to the general public through public radio stations and DOE provided additional classroom material which allowed the use of the series as an instructional supplement to Alaska government studies. In addition to providing instructional programs on Alaska topics and general audience programming for Alaska audiences, such programs might well be of interest to a national audience and therefore contribute to a better national understanding of Alaska traditions and lifestyles.

Interaction with National Telecommunications Agencies

The APBC relates in various ways to a number of agencies involved in telecommunications on the national scene. Those various relationships are discussed below.

Federal Communications Commission

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is the Federal agency which regulates all telecommunications activity involving interstate commerce. The FCC grants construction permits and licenses for all public and commercial radio and television stations. All Alaska statutes or regulations having to do with telecommunications must be subservient to the FCC's rules and regulations and its enabling statutes.

The APBC assists Alaska public stations with applications and reports which must be filed with the FCC. The Commission also monitors any FCC regulatory activities which may affect public broadcasting in Alaska. The APBC files comments on

proposed FCC actions and petitions for FCC action in matters that would benefit public broadcasting.

Public Telecommunications Facilities Program

The Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP) is a part of the U. S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Agency. The PTFP provides Federal equipment grants for the construction and extension of service by public radio and television stations. PTFP's enabling legislation requires that all applications submitted to it also be sent to the State agency responsible for the coordination of public broadcasting in each state. The APBC is that agency for the State of Alaska. It, therefore, receives copies of all Alaska public station applications to PTFP. The Commission, at PTFP's request, provides comments and recommendations on the various Alaska applications. As indicated in Chapter II, many Alaska stations have received construction or improvement grants from PTFP.

Corporation for Public Broadcasting

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) is a private, nonprofit corporation created by an Act of Congress in 1967. CPB is responsible for the encouragement and support of public broadcasting throughout the nation. As a part of its activities, it provides community service grants to all public stations which qualify. The community service grants are used by stations to support on-going, day-to-day operations. CPB also conducts research in new technologies and in the instructional use of telecommunications and provides incentive grants to stations to encourage the employment of minorities and women.

The APBC's primary relationship with CPB is one of information exchange. The Commission monitors CPB activity and assists Alaska stations in qualifying for as much CPB support as possible. The APBC also avoids activities which would duplicate activities already available from CPB. As was stated in Chapter III, the APBC uses CPB community service grant qualification standards for its ESL program as the minimum goal of APBC support to full-service public radio and television stations.

National Association of Public Television Stations

The National Association of Public Television Stations (NAPTS) represents the interests of all public television stations before the congress, the FCC and CPB. The APBC monitors NAPTS activity, and uses its newsletters and publications as an "early warning system" to alert the Commission to Congressional, FCC, or CPB developments which may require comment or action from either Alaska public stations or the Commission itself.

National Public Radio

National Public Radio (NPR) is primarily the national program distribution service for public radio stations throughout the nation. The APBC has little direct contact with that portion of NPR's activity, since program decisions are left to the individual public radio stations. A portion of the NPR organization, however, is concerned with representing the views of the public radio stations throughout the nation before Congress, the FCC, and CPB, a function similar to that provided by NAPTS for public television stations. The APBC keeps abreast of NPR's activities in that regard and takes appropriate action on behalf of Alaska public broadcasting, when necessary.

Public Broadcasting Service

The Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) is the program distribution service for public television stations throughout the nation. It has no representational function, and therefore, the APBC's interaction with PBS is slight. Program matters are decided by the individual public television stations in Alaska. PBS, through its legal staff, keeps abreast of national copyright issues as they relate to the granting of broadcast and/or cable rights to various public television programs. The APBC monitors that activity and takes action on behalf of Alaska public broadcasting when appropriate.

National Federation of Community Broadcasters

The National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB) is an organization primarily made up of community-based noncommercial radio stations, dedicated to a high degree of localism in station program schedules. Several Alaska public radio stations are members of NFCB. NFCB represents the interests of its member stations before Congress, the FCC, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The APBC monitors NFCB activity in the manner described above for NAPTS and NPR and takes action, or files comments, as appropriate.

APPENDIX A

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission's Enabling Statute

Article 5. Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission.

Cross references. — For findings and purpose of the 1981 order amending several provisions of this article, see § 1, E.O. No. 50 (1981) in the Executive Orders pamphlet.

Sec. 44.21.256. Creation of Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. There is created within the Department of Administration the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970; am § 1 ch 87 SLA 1976; am E.O. No. 50, § 2 (1981))

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.010. Renumbered in 1981.

Sec. 44.21.258. Membership and term of office. (a) The commission consists of nine members appointed by the governor, without regard to political affiliation, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. In making appointments to the commission, the governor shall give due consideration to representation from such fields as higher education, elementary and secondary education, communications, commercial broadcasting, public health, public works, labor, commerce and the professions. Members may be removed only for cause.

(b) The members of the commission shall serve staggered terms of five years, with the initial terms determined by lot. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970; am § 2 ch 87 SLA 1976)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.020. Renumbered in 1981.

Sec. 44.21.260. Compensation and expenses. Members of the commission receive no salary, but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for other commissions. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS. 14.58.030. Renumbered in 1981.

Cross references. — For per diem and travel expenses, see AS 39.20.180.

Sec. 44.21.262. Chairman. At the first meeting, the commission shall elect a chairman from among its members to serve for one year. A chairman may be elected and serve for more than one consecutive term. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.040. Renumbered in 1981.

Sec. 44.21.264. Purpose of the commission. The commission is created to encourage and supervise the development of an integrated public broadcasting system for the state and for the coordination of all public broadcasting stations. The primary purpose of the commission 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. The commission may support stations and entities which also engage in the delivery of instructional, for-credit programs, and the commission may provide funds for those purposes, but the primary purpose of commission funds is the support of activities that result in the delivery of general audience, noncommercial material. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970; am § 2 ch 87 SLA 1976; am E.O. No. 50, § 3 (1981))

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.050. Renumbered in 1981.

Sec. 44.21.266. Duties of the commission. The commission shall

(1) apply for federal and private funds for public broadcasting purposes and receive all federal, state, or private funds, property or assistance that may be appropriated, granted or otherwise made available to the commission for public broadcasting purposes, and use and disburse funds and property for purposes consistent with the terms of AS 44.21.256 — 44.21.290, subject to reasonable limitations imposed by the grantor;

(2) provide consultative services in all aspects of public broadcasting to all public or private agencies in the state which request them;

(3) serve as a library and clearinghouse for public broadcasting information;

(4) through grants to qualified entities, develop an integrated public broadcasting network for the state;

(5) through grants to qualified entities, develop and distribute public broadcasting programming in the state;

(6) prepare and submit to the governor and the legislature, in compliance with the state information systems plan adopted by the Telecommunications Information Council in the Office of the Governor, a long term plan for the development of public broadcasting stations and systems in the state, and annually update the plan; and

(7) perform all other functions necessary to ensure the orderly and coordinated development of public broadcasting in the state. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970; am §§ 4, 7 ch 87 SLA 1976; am E.O. No. 50, § 4 (1981); am § 8 ch 53 SLA 1987)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.060. Renumbered in 1981.

Effect of amendments. — The 1987 amendment deleted the paragraph repeal lines and renumbered the current paragraphs, and in paragraph (6) substituted "compliance with the state information systems plan adopted by" for "consultation with" and "Telecommunications Information Council in the Office of the Governor" for "Telecommunications divisions in the Department of Administration" and added "and" at the end of the paragraph.

Sec. 44.21.268. Powers of the commission. (a) The commission may

(1) employ all consultative, technical and clerical personnel necessary for the implementation of AS 44.21.256 — 44.21.290, within the limits of available funds;

(2) employ a director, who shall be directly responsible to the commission in financial and administrative matters;

(3) provide grants to locally controlled non-profit telecommunications entities which lease, purchase, construct, own, operate and manage and are the licensees of public broadcasting stations, production centers, and other related equipment and facilities for the production and transmission of open circuit, closed circuit, 2,500 megahertz, and other transmission means necessary to provide fully effective public broadcasting in the state;

(4) appoint unpaid advisory committees to assist in development of programs for public television broadcasts;

(5) provide assistance to licensed commercial broadcasting stations for the broadcast of public affairs programming.

(b) In performing its duties and exercising its authority under AS 44.21.256 — 44.21.290, the commission may not exercise control over the specific content or airing of any program material. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970; am § 5 ch 87 SLA 1976; am E.O. No. 50, § 5 (1981))

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.070. Renumbered in 1981.

Sec. 44.21.270. Commercial broadcasting. Nothing in AS 44.21.256 — 44.21.290 may be construed to restrict or control commercial broadcast stations or companies operating or licensed in the state. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.080. Renumbered in 1981.

Sec. 44.21.290. Definitions. In AS 44.21.256 — 44.21.290, unless the context otherwise requires

(1) "commission" means the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission;

(2) "public broadcasting" includes, but is not limited to, television and radio transmission by 2,500 megahertz, closed circuit or microwave video and audio programming, slow-scan television programming, programming via satellite, teletype or facsimile transmission, and distribution methods, when the transmission, programming and distribution are intended to serve a noncommercial public purpose. (§ 1 ch 153 SLA 1970; am § 6 ch 87 SLA 1976; am E.O. No. 50, § 6 (1981))

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 14.58.090. Renumbered in 1981.

APPENDIX B

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission's Regulations

CHAPTER 55.
PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMMISSION

Editor's Note: In light of the Executive Order No. 50 (1981) relocation of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission from the Department of Education to the Department of Administration, the commission's regulations have been relocated from 4 AAC 63 to 2 AAC 55, as of Register 84 (January 1983). The history notes under each section in the new location carry forward the history from the old location.

Section

2 AAC 55.010. COMMISSION GOALS. The goals of the commission are to

(1) assist in the establishment and support of public broadcasting facilities in the state in order to provide the people of Alaska with the opportunity to

(A) make informed decisions as participants in local, state, and national governments;

(B) understand complex issues in both the private and public sectors;

(C) further their general education, welfare, health, safety, cultural enrichment, and entertainment;

(D) understand in detail the problems, needs, and strengths of their local communities and encourage them to participate in solving those problems, meeting those needs, and celebrating those strengths; and

(E) have access to public broadcast media.

(2) provide Alaskans with the goals and objectives of public broadcasting as defined in the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967 (47 USC § 396) and the Carnegie Commission Report. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 6/24/79, Reg. 70; am 7/10/83, Reg. 87)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.266
AS 44.21.268

2 AAC 55.020. FINANCIAL SUPPORT. The commission will, in its discretion, make grants of funds and property to nonprofit corporations which use the funds or property to establish and operate public broadcasting stations in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, and with the understanding that all property purchased with commission-granted money reverts to the commission if the nonprofit corporation is dissolved, or if the broadcast facility declares a surplus. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 6/24/79, Reg. 70)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.266

2 AAC 55.030. QUALIFIED CORPORATIONS. A corporation is qualified to receive funds and properties from the commission and to establish and operate public broadcasting facilities in this state if

(1) the corporation is organized as a nonprofit organization under AS 10.20 and is qualified as tax exempt by the United States Internal Revenue Service; and

(2) the corporation's articles of incorporation provide for

(A) a board of directors consisting of a minimum of five members representative of the geographic area and population served by the facility;

(B) a plan for rotation of membership on the board of directors among the people served by the facility;

(C) an agent of the commission to be a nonvoting, ex-officio member of the board of directors;

(D) all meetings of the board of directors to be open to the public;

(E) the giving of reasonable notice to the public of board of directors meetings;

(F) board of directors meetings to be held at least quarterly on a specified day of specified months;

(G) a prohibition against the use of proxies at board of directors meetings, however proxies may be used to establish a quorum at membership meetings of the corporation;

(H) any action taken at a board of directors meeting which is not a public meeting to be void;

(I) all meetings to be consistent with the provisions of AS 44.62.310 and 44.62.312 regarding public meetings, as if the qualified corporation where a governmental entity subject to AS 44.62.310 and 44.62.312; and

(J) a prohibition against allowing any employee of the corporation to be a board member. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 6/24/79, Reg. 70; am 7/10/83, Reg. 87)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.266
AS 44.21.268

2 AAC 55.040. REQUIREMENTS OF QUALIFIED CORPORATIONS. If a corporation qualifies under 2 AAC 55.030, it shall then

(1) provide the commission, for its review and comment,

(A) a statement of objectives responsive to the needs of the area served by the facility;

(B) a schedule of proposed programs that would meet identified objectives as descfibed in (A) of this paragraph;

(C) proposed position descriptions, staff chart, personnel policies, and salary schedules; and

(D) a proposed budget showing all anticipated sources of income and objects of expenditures;

(2) agree to

(A) submit to the executive director of the commission, for review and comment, the resumes of the finalist candidates for the position of chief executive officer of the public broadcasting facility;

(B) have a policy for the provision of free transmission of instructional programs provided by local public educational institutions;

(C) exercise caution in the airing of free programs from suppliers other than recognized educational/public broadcasting sources, especially those which advocate a commercial product or a religious or political viewpoint;

(D) provide the commission or its agent for its review, if requested to do so by the commission, station operational records, the corporate book or records or both, accounts, expenditures, and minutes of corporate meetings;

(E) supply the commission with a copy of its annual proof of performance report and other reports and forms prepared in compliance with regulations of the Federal Communications Commission;

(F) advise the commission of approaching meetings of the board of directors of the corporation, and send to the commission the minutes of each meeting within 30 days after the approval of the minutes by the board;

(G) abide by budgets approved by the commission, except that transfers of funds from one budget function to another will, in the commission's discretion, be approved;

(H) furnish to the commission an accounting of grant money which is in accordance with the accounting practices approved by the commission;

(I) identify, on the air at least twice daily and on the stationery used by the corporation, that the public broadcasting facility operated by the corporation received funding from the commission;

(J) supply the commission with a true copy of the corporation's proposed budget for the next fiscal year, showing all sources

of anticipated income and objects of expenditure, at a time each year determined by the commission;

(K) submit reports on the following topics if requested to do so by the commission:

(i) objectives of the broadcasting facility and a description of how they have been met;

(ii) significant events of the previous year for the corporation;

(iii) names of major programs produced during the year;

(iv) repealed 7/10/83;

(v) repealed 7/10/83;

(vi) names and positions of all broadcasting facility employees;

(vii) a complete financial accounting for the previous year; and

(viii) repealed 7/10/83;

(L) provide a statement designating any new objectives or directions anticipated by the corporation for the coming year. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 6/24/79, Reg. 70; am 7/10/83, Reg. 87)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.266
AS 44.21.268

2 AAC 55.050. NONCOMPLIANCE. Violation of 2 AAC 55 or regulations of the Federal Communications Commission by a qualified corporation is cause for the commission to withhold funds from that corporation. A finding of violation will only be made by a majority of the commission's membership and only after notice and opportunity to be heard is afforded the corporation. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 7/10/83, Reg. 87)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.266
AS 44.21.268

2 AAC 55.060. REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTITUTIONAL LICENSEES TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT. Notwithstanding any other provision of 2 AAC 55.010 – 2 AAC 55.080, a state-supported public broadcasting station operated by a school, college, or university may receive support from the commission if it

(1) causes the establishment of a public board broadly representative of the ethnic population and area to be served; the board shall provide continuing advice to the station manager;

(2) develops objectives responsive to the needs of the populations and area served;

(3) has a policy for the provision of free transmission of instructional programs as provided by local public educational institutions; and

(4) provides the commission with budgets and reports prepared for other institutions, and an annual report as described in 2 AAC 55.040 (2)(K). (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 7/10/83, Reg. 87)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.266
AS 44.21.268

2 AAC 55.070. COMMISSION DESIGNEE. From time to time the commission may reasonably delegate authority to a qualified individual to perform duties of the commission not inconsistent with these regulations. Such authority shall be subject to direction and revocation by the commission at all times and in no case shall such authority be superior to the authority of the commission. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47)

Authority: AS 44.21.264 AS 44.21.268
AS 44.21.266 AS 44.21.290

2 AAC 55.080. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, "commission" means the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission or its designee. (Eff. 9/1/73, Reg. 47; am 6/24/79, Reg. 70)

Authority: AS 44.21.264
AS 44.21.290

APPENDIX C

Alaska's Open Meeting Statutes

Article 6. Agency Meetings Public.

Section

Sec. 44.62.310. Agency meetings public. (a) All meetings of a legislative body, of a board of regents, or of an administrative body, board, commission, committee, subcommittee, authority, council, agency, or other organization, including subordinate units of the above groups, of the state or any of its political subdivisions, including but not limited to municipalities, boroughs, school boards, and all other boards, agencies, assemblies, councils, departments, divisions, bureaus, commissions or organizations, advisory or otherwise, of the state or local government supported in whole or in part by public money or authorized to spend public money, are open to the public except as otherwise provided by this section. Except for meetings of a house of the legislature, attendance and participation at meetings by members of the public or by members of a body may be by teleconferencing. Agency materials that are to be considered at the meeting shall be made available at teleconference locations. Except when voice votes are authorized, the vote shall be conducted in such a manner that the public may know the vote of each person entitled to vote. The vote at a meeting held by teleconference shall be taken by roll call. This section does not apply to any votes required to be taken to organize a public body described in this subsection.

(b) If excepted subjects are to be discussed at a meeting, the meeting must first be convened as a public meeting and the question of holding an executive session to discuss matters that come within the exceptions contained in (c) of this section shall be determined by a majority vote of the body. No subjects may be considered at the executive session except those mentioned in the motion calling for the executive session unless auxiliary to the main question. No action may be taken at the executive session.

(c) The following excepted subjects may be discussed in an executive session:

(1) matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government unit;

(2) subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion;

(3) matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential.

(d) This section does not apply to

(1) judicial or quasi-judicial bodies when holding a meeting solely to make a decision in an adjudicatory proceeding;

(2) juries;

(3) parole or pardon boards;

(4) meetings of a hospital medical staff; or

(5) meetings of the governing body or any committee of a hospital when holding a meeting solely to act upon matters of professional qualifications, privileges or discipline.

(e) Reasonable public notice shall be given for all meetings required to be open under this section. The notice must include the date, time, and place of the meeting, and if the meeting is by teleconference the location of any teleconferencing facilities that will be used.

(f) Action taken contrary to this section is void. (§ 1 art VI (ch 1) ch 143 SLA 1959; am § 1 ch 48 SLA 1966; am § 1 ch 78 SLA 1968; am § 1 ch 7 SLA 1969; am §§ 1, 2 ch 98 SLA 1972; am § 2 ch 100 SLA 1972; am § 1 ch 189 SLA 1976; am §§ 2, 3 ch 54 SLA 1985)

Effect of amendments. — The 1985 amendment in subsection (a) added the second, third, and next-to-last sentences and in the last sentence substituted "a public body described" for "the bodies specified" and added the last sentence of subsection (e).

Sec. 44.62.312. State policy regarding meetings. (a) It is the policy of the state that

(1) the governmental units mentioned in AS 44.62.310(a) exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business;

(2) it is the intent of the law that actions of those units be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly;

(3) the people of this state do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them;

(4) the people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know;

(5) the people's right to remain informed shall be protected so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created;

(6) the use of teleconferencing under this chapter is for the convenience of the parties, the public, and the governmental units conducting the meetings.

(b) AS 44.62.310(c)(1) shall be construed narrowly in order to effectuate the policy stated in (a) of this section and avoid unnecessary executive sessions. (§ 3 ch 98 SLA 1972; am § 4 ch 54 SLA 1985)

Effect of amendments. — The 1985 amendment added paragraph (6) of subsection (a).