

October 25, 2009

AIRWAVES

Here is a quick update on the recent goings on at your radio station:

- The station submitted a Round V Alaska Public Broadcasting Capital Grant application asking for almost thirty thousand dollars to renovate the radio station's studios. If successful, the grant money will afford the station an overhaul of both the production and on-air studios. Furniture in the on-air studio will be reconfigured in order to accommodate three people on-mike. Currently, two people struggle to be on mike in the on-air studio. The grant application requests funding for the production studio for a new radio console (there is currently not one there) and new studio furniture. The capital grant also includes a request for funds to re-snake the computer network in order to eliminate wires in the outer office, add additional Ethernet ports, repair others and streamline the network.
- On October 27, 2009, the Eastern Wind will arrive in Sand Point with concrete, rebar and nuts & bolts for the SIP and AP satellite dish installations. The base plate for the new SIP dish arrived on Saturday. The base plate is needed in order to pour the concrete and create the foundation. The satellite dish has also been purchased and will be sent to the station in the near future. The AP dish is at the radio station. The dish arrived on the ferry with Virgil and his pick-up truck in early October.
- The radio station spent the last three days airing the 2009 Alaska Federation of Natives Anchorage conference. The live broadcast was hosted by member station KNBA in Anchorage. We were able to receive the live feed through NPR's ContentDepot site. Certain programs are streamed live through the online distribution platform. Unfortunately, the Alaska Public Radio Network doesn't take advantage of this distribution method as it would eliminate the need for the SIP dish installation.
- The King Cove translator remains off the air. Chuck Lakaytis, the Alaska Public Broadcasting Engineer going out to make the repairs, had an emergency that forced him to delay his King Cove trip. The public radio station in Chevak, Alaska went off the air and Chuck's assistance was needed. Chuck is scheduled to be in King Cove on Thursday, or Friday of this week. Chuck is also preparing an itemized equipment list for me to pass along to the

City of King Cove. He has some thoughts as to how to improve the sound quality of our radio station in King Cove.

- The number of volunteers continues to increase. In addition to Kelli Ann Dumas who will be hosting a new music program, as well as continuing to co-host *The Full Body Physical* special program series on *Meet the People*, Kathleen Harper and Robert Lanham are also volunteering. Kathleen is interviewing people in Sand Point with the station's recording equipment. She will use the interviews to produce short pieces that will run at random times throughout the day. Kathleen is using the StoryCorps model as a guide. StoryCorps is an NPR program that recently spent time in Alaska producing two to three minute segments about individual Alaskans. Robert Lanham, the pastor in King Cove, is doing a morning devotional weekday mornings at 11AM.

- During the month of October, three of my news reports aired on the statewide, APRN newscast, *Alaska News Nightly*. The reports were on the King Cove 60th Celebration, the Aleutians East Borough's work toward a comprehensive plan and the grounding of the *FV Sea Dancer*. Following the installation of the SIP dish, Sand Point and King Cove will hear the statewide newscast too.

The next Board meeting will be in early December.

Sincerely yours,

Kells Hetherington
830AM KSDP Radio / Aleutian Peninsula Broadcasting, Inc., General Manager