

MCPB General Manager's Report

John Coate, February 2015

Operations

For the past couple of weeks we have experienced increasing audio problems from the STL (Studio-Transmitter-Link) radios that send the signal from the Philo studio up to the 90.7 transmitter. We put our backup STL units into service and one of them failed completely on January 29. We went off the air with only the web stream functioning. That same day our dear friend and radio engineer Brian Henry found in his considerable stash of old gear, a Moseley STL transmitter that he configured to match up with the receiver in place. We met him in Healdsburg to get it, brought it back and it worked. We were back on the air sounding fine by 3:30 PM. We really dodged a bullet on this because otherwise we would have had to either buy new STLs or wait until the broken ones were fixed. Now we can have them rebuilt without being off the air.

Thanks to a generous grant from a private foundation, we purchased and installed a new "Production Studio" control console in Philo to replace the very old and largely broken unit we had there for years. The Production Studio is our "Studio B" which we use for recording, editing and sometimes live broadcast.

In December we bought and installed new UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply) units for the mission-critical radio, server, and streamer equipment. These UPS units are much more sophisticated than consumer-grade units because they interact intelligently with both the electrical grid and a backup generator when it goes on and off. Consumer-grade UPS units often cannot tell when grid power is restored and they continue to run on their batteries until they drain. That won't happen now. And in fact we had just such a failure on January 31 when a PG&E transformer blew up, putting the entire Philo operation out of power. There was a problem with our own backup generator and the new UPS kept the station on the air while the generator got repaired and then the grid power came back on.

We repaired and upgraded the NPR "squawk channel" which allows us to accurately cut over to special events such as Presidential press conferences without guessing the start time.

Programming

The KZYX News Team saw the departure of Michael Kisslinger in December and the addition of Valerie Kim. Thanks for your service, Michael! The team of Lorraine Dechter, Sheri Quinn and Valerie Kim produce reports during Morning Edition as well as a ten-minute segment that Valerie hosts at 6 PM. We are all excited that we are now producing an increasing amount of quality local news.

Bill Moyers and his Moyers & Company retired from broadcast. TUC Radio now airs Thursday at 1 PM and Radio Curious follows at 1:30.

We will begin a new show, “Reveal”, from PRX and the Center for Investigative Reporting. It will air monthly through June then goes weekly in July.

Cal Winslow is about to launch a 4 part series call “Black Lives Matter: Race and Law Enforcement.”

Starting February 7, we will air “Invisibilia”, a six-part series from NPR that explores human behavior from a scientific perspective.

Val Muchowshi retired from Women’s Voices after 25 yrs. Sarah Reith has replaced her. Recently Sarah has been doing a series on Iraqi and Afghani women which has received attention such as a feature on the Pacifica website.

Greg Krouse stepped down as a host of Ecology Hour.

Kim Rodrigues, Director of the Hopland UC Research and Extension Center will start as Ecology Hour co-host March 3.

Tom Wodetzki stepped down as co-host of Corporations and Democracy.

Finances

The recently completed FY2014 audit shows that we completed our second good year in a row with income of \$574,367 against expenses of \$549,984 and a year-end profit of \$24,383. The full audit is posted at kzyx.org

This fiscal year is strong through the first two quarters. We are ahead at this point after a good fall pledge drive, the larger share of our CPB grants deposited in November, and a tremendous end-of-year campaign that brought in about \$28K. The following “vital signs” show our position as of December 31.

FISCAL YEAR 2015 THROUGH Dec. 31, 2014

Total Income:	\$300,246.62
Income from donations:	\$169,176.76
Expenses:	<u>\$254,057.06</u>
Net Gain/Loss:	\$46,189.56
Total Accounts Payable	\$45,545.40
Accounts payable from prior years	\$17,176.04
Accounts payable current year	\$28,369.36
Line of Credit Balance (Payable)	\$0.00
Accounts receivable (pledges-underwriting-grants)	\$79,297.88
Available line of credit	\$75,000.00
Checking account balance	\$62,665.49

License renewal

At the time of this writing our KZYZ license is still not renewed. The KZYZ license was renewed. We believe it will be renewed soon, now that the FCC has picked through the many objections – most of them false – to our renewal. Most recently the FCC asked us to respond with more detail to the allegation that David Brooksher and Paul Lambert had been illegally hired in violation of EEO rules. These claims are demonstrably false and we provided evidence that proves it.

Winter Pledge Drive

The drive starts Monday Feb 16 and runs through the following Sunday. Our goal is \$70K. This drive should help us compensate for the reduced CPB funding. If we hit our goal we will be well positioned for this spring.

Online Auction

KZYX will team up with KNPR (Public Radio in Nevada) for the 2015 Western Regional Public Radio Online Auction. Our listeners will be able to browse through auction lots of gifts, books, travel, dining, and more offered by participating stations. The income from the sale of all auction items presented by KZYX comes back to KZYX to support our programming. Last time we offered more than 30 items, and this year we'll offer even more. Some of the participating auction donors are Little River Inn, Gallery Bookshop, Beachcomber Motel, Goldeneye Winery, The Skunk Train, Patrona Restaurant, and MacCallum House. Auction opens on Thursday February 5th and ends at 1:00pm on Saturday February 14th. A link to browse and bid will be on the KZYX website.

Donor Database

Our current database, Donor perfect, no longer serves our needs as well as other products. We plan to change to a different platform, probably in March.