
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

April 10, 2019



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IOWA PUBLIC BROADCASTING BOARD MEETING — APRIL 2019

Meeting. The Iowa Public Broadcasting Board (IPBB) met on April 9, 2019, in Johnston. The meeting opened with the approval of minutes. Financial reports were presented to the Board, including reporting of State appropriations, Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) grant funding, capital expenditures, and programming production expenses.

Fundraising. Festival 2019, a pledge drive fundraising event, was completed in March. Details were provided on the decrease in individual pledges, but the continuing increase in sustaining gifts. There was discussion about the causes for the decrease in individual pledges including changes in viewership, the increase in sustaining membership, and the reduced emphasis by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) to provide pledge programming. It was agreed upon that the pledge drive fundraising event continues to be valuable because of the pledges that are brought in and because the event is the best opportunity for gaining new members.

Science Phenomena Project. There was a presentation given on the new science phenomena website being developed to be used by educators in Iowa. The website will provide content related to everyday science phenomena and allow Iowa science teachers and their students to upload additional content related to science phenomena in their parts of the State. Multiple partners are involved in the project and the website is scheduled to be fully operational in fall 2019.

Move to Include Initiative. Iowa Public Television (IPTV) was chosen as one of six stations to receive grant funding awarded by CPB as part of the Move to Include Initiative. The Initiative is designed to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in local programming content provided by public television stations. The funding will be used to produce an extended programming series titled The Life Autistic. The series will document 12 people, ages 4 to 72, who are living with autism. The series will air beginning November 2019 and ending April 2020.

Executive Director's Report. The meeting closed with a report on network activities from Executive Director Molly Phillips.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the IPBB is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2019.

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