
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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IOWA PBS MEETING — AUGUST 2026

Meeting. The Iowa Public Broadcasting Board (Iowa PBS) met for a regular meeting on August 26, 2026, at the PBS Headquarters in Johnston.

Elections. Iowa PBS re-elected Kevin Krause as president and Jason Giles as vice president of the Board for the next year.

Closed Session. Iowa PBS held a closed session to discuss the performance review of Executive Director and General Manager Andrew Batt. Iowa PBS found that he exceeded expectations and publicly voted to align his compensation with State guidelines, retroactive to July 3, 2026.

FY 2028 State Appropriations Budget Request. Iowa PBS will be requesting a \$100,000 increase from the General Fund for FY 2028 to cover anticipated increases in general operating expenses including insurance and utilities. This is a 1.2% increase compared to its FY 2027 General Fund appropriation.

Iowa PBS will be requesting \$7.4 million in capital funding for FY 2028 for the replacement of UHF transmitters serving KRIN (Waterloo), KSIN (Sioux City), KHIN (Red Oak), KYIN (Mason City), and KTIN (Fort Dodge). The funding would also be used for infrastructure upgrades at the broadcast network operations center in Johnston. Iowa PBS currently has \$196,000 in capital funding from the Technology Reinvestment Fund (TRF) for their Digital Asset Management System remaining from FY 2025, which will carry forward through FY 2027. Any remaining funding will revert to the TRF.

Corporation for Public Broadcasting Report. Michelle Wendel, Director of Administration and Finance, presented the quarterly report for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). Prior to CPB's dissolution in January of 2026, Iowa PBS received federal funding through the corporation. The remainder of the funding received will be fully expended as of September 30, 2026.

Market to Market Grant. Iowa PBS received the [Market to Market Grant](#), which will cover the next two fiscal years. The grant will be used to produce the show in the Western Bureau, partnering with the Idaho Public Broadcasting Service. It will also be used to fund an additional producing position to cover the Midwest and an engagement position.

Ready to Learn Grant. Iowa PBS applied for the [Ready to Learn Grant](#) from the United States Department of Education. The grant would be used for the development of a future PBS children's show.

Iowa State Fair Coverage. A review of Iowa State Fair coverage, including viewing data and social media results, was provided to the Board.

Next Meeting. Iowa PBS's next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the PBS headquarters in Johnston. Iowa PBS and the Iowa PBS Foundation Board will have a joint meeting on December 9, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the PBS headquarters.

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