

June 27, 2011

PEG Channel Capital Equipment Funding, FY10-FY11, Lane County, Oregon

1) Applicant Organization

The Coalition To Rebuild Community Television
dba Community Television of Lane County (CTV29)

2) Applicant Contact Information

Larry Dobberstein, President
Community Television of Lane County
1430 Willamette St. #321, Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 790-6616
info@ctv29.org

Tom Cleveland
CTV29 Board of Advisors
Community Television of Lane County
1430 Willamette St. #321, Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 729-4855
info@ctv29.org (or) ctv29@thinkvideo.com

3) Access To PEG Channel

CTV29 provides 24/365 television programming on PEG Public Access Channel 29 on Comcast Cable under a contract with LCOG.

4) Total Amount of Grant Request

\$20,000

5) Capital Equipment Requested

CTV29 needs Capital Equipment funding to upgrade our facilities to fulfill our mandate to serve our members and the community with the best possible opportunities to produce and deliver locally produced programming on Public Access Channel 29.

Date of purchase for all requested equipment would be as soon as practical. In particular, the TriCaster (see below), which will serve as our new field unit (replacing the SVHS-based field system) and as the backup to the Studio's Video Toaster (VT5), is needed now. The existing VT5 switcher has an audio problem that could be fixed under warranty at the factory. However, we have postponed making this repair because sending the VT5 to Texas would take the studio offline for what could likely be several weeks.

Joe Tyndall, our primary engineer, provided the information below. The skill to complete the projects described below resides within the CTV29 volunteer base. By adding sweat equity to this effort, we believe we can achieve a better result for less money. Our goal is to deliver a higher quality broadcast signal while providing tools for a diverse set of community producers.

This grant application requests the following items (cost of shipping is not included):

Item	Use	Cost
TriCaster Broadcast	Field Production, VT5 backup	9,880
Sony HDR-FX7	Fourth Studio Camera, backup for 3-camera system	1,998
AJA HA5	HDMI to SDI converter box	490
AJA DWP supply	The AJA HA5 requires a separate power supply	40
Marshall BC-0301-08	SDI to Composite and S-Video Converter	230
(to be specified)	10" Focusing Monitor for Studio Camera	350
Mac Mini	Video Editing Classes, etc.	700
Monitor, Kybd, Mouse, Dock	For the Mini Mac	250
Final Cut Pro X	Four copies for video training on Macs	1196
Premiere Elements 9	Four copies for video editing and training on Macs	396
Higher power PC	For Vegas and Premiere training and use	1500
Premiere Elements 9	Three copies for video editing and training on PCs	297
Sony Vegas Studio 11	Three copies for video editing and training on PCs	390
Sony HDR-CX160/B	Three for checkout (tapeless, SD, with mic input)	1496
MLX Studio Mic Kit	Two (total four mics plus to preamps)	260
Audio Technica ATR288W	Two wireless microphones for field use	260
Audio Technica AT8035	A second shotgun mic for the studio	240
	Total	19,973

--- TriCaster Broadcast

\$9,880

This unit would be used both for field production and as a backup for the Video Toaster (VT5) switcher in the studio. The TriCaster is essentially a VT5 with computer packaged into a single box. Newtek makes four versions of the TriCaster. We should qualify for an educational discount pricing. Safe Harbor (sharbor.com) is discounting the price further. Over the years, I have purchased numerous Newtek products through Safe Harbor.

Version	List Price	sharbor	Resolution	Cameras	Type
TCXD850	\$24,495		HD, SD	8	SDI, Analog
TCXD300	\$14,495	\$11,995	HD, SD	3	SDI, Analog
Broadcast	\$11,495	\$9,880	SD	6	SDI, Analog
Studio	\$4,995		SD	6	Analog

While it would be great to have HD (high definition) production capability, CTV's channel on Comcast is SD (standard definition) and is likely to remain SD for at least the next five years. Currently we take the HDMI output (the consumer digital video standard) from the studio cameras and convert it to SDI (the industrial digital video standard) for input to the VT5. This keeps the studio signal path digital and uncompressed (and thus at the highest possible quality)

from the camera sensor to our fiber link to Comcast. The least expensive TriCaster does not support SDI cameras. Thus, the TriCaster Broadcast model (highlighted above) is requested.

Our current field editing system (Videonix) is SVHS (analog) and does not allow us to mix in computer files or to save titling information. We still have ten SVHS recorders, mostly from the older broadcast headend system, but these are dying at a rate of roughly one per month. The cost of repair is prohibitive, given that we have moved to digital for the bulk of our production.

--- Sony HDR-FX7 \$1,998

The CTV studio now has three Sony HDR-FX7 cameras. We are requesting a fourth, both for use in the studio and for backup to maintain a three-camera studio in the event one of the cameras has problems. The FX7 was introduced in September 2006. It has a 20x zoom lens, uses three 1/4" CMOS sensors, has a LANC connector to provide wired zoom and focus and an HDMI output that can be converted to SDI for digital input to the VT5 switcher. While the camera normally records High Definition (HD-1080i), it can be downgraded for SD (480i) use. There are newer cameras in this price range with a better quality HD image; however, when downgraded to SD, the image from the FX7 is excellent. A fourth camera that matches the other three is preferred and our users do not need to master another set of camera controls.

--- AJA HA5 HDMI to SDI Converter (and power supply) \$490 + \$40

Used to convert the HDMI signal from the Sony HDR-FX7 to SDI for use with the VT5 switcher. For the last grant, we tried several similar converter boxes that had problems. This one works like a champ. The power supply (extra cost) has a weird connector.

--- Marshall BC-0301-08 SDI to Composite and S-Video Converter \$230

This box converts SDI to two SD video signals. The Composite output is used for preview in the control room. The S-Video output drives the on-tripod focusing monitor. Unfortunately, when the Sony HDR-FX7 puts out an HDMI signal, it disables the analog outputs. CTV purchased three of these boxes from plasma.com to complete the studio setup from the last grant.

--- 10" Focusing Monitor \$350

The remaining component for the fourth studio camera is a monitor for focusing a framing. For the last grant, we purchased three units from earthlcd.com for \$247 each. Unfortunately, these have been discontinued. I will search for a suitable alternative.

We will construct a set of wheels for the tripod and use one of the existing larger tripods we have. We will also need to duplicate the mounting hardware and cabling for the systems. CTV will do this using our funds.

--- Apple Mac Mini \$700

There are currently three Mac Mini computers at CTV in use for video editing, animation, file conversion and Final Cut Classes. We have needed to limit the number of Final Cut students

because there were not enough machines. The new version of the Mini Mac is due out soon and likely will be here by the time the grant is available.

--- Monitor, Keyboard, Mouse and SATA Dock for the Mini-Mac \$300

The Mini Mac does not come with keyboard, monitor or mouse. In addition, we will want to add an external SATA dock. With the exception of Final Cut Pro X and Premiere Elements (below), CTV will pay for additional hardware and software (e.g. speakers and NTFSmac).

--- Final Cut Pro X (four copies) \$1196

Final Cut Pro X has finally been released (\$299 to download from the Apple App Store). There has been controversy with the product for two main reasons: 1) you cannot import existing Final Cut projects and 2) the user interface is radically changed. The product user interface is much like the newer iMovie (version 7 and above). I have purchased it and played a bit. It is very fast. You can do what you need to do. It is the direction Apple is taking Final Cut. I (and others) will get used to it, find our way around the user interface and stop grumbling.

The main alternatives to Final Cut are Adobe Premiere and Sony Vegas. Premiere runs on both Mac and PC. Vegas runs only on PC. Currently, we also teach Sony Vegas.

--- Adobe Premiere Elements 9 (for Mac, four copies) \$396

Released in September 2010, this is a scaled down version of Adobe Premiere CS5. Although Final Cut enjoys a cult-like following, among higher end video editing products, there are more sets of Premiere (Elements and the full version) in the world than all other products combined. CTV needs to begin offering Premiere classes. Now that Elements 9 runs on the Mac (version 8 did not) it is time to offer these classes.

--- A PC for Teaching and Editing with Sony Vegas \$1500

Currently, CTV has two PCs for use with Sony Vegas. Video editing requires a more powerful computer as compared with word processing and Internet activities. These machines can also be used for Adobe Premiere editing.

--- Adobe Premiere Elements 9 (for PC, three copies) \$297

--- Sony Vegas Studio HD Platinum 11 (three copies) \$390

Released in May 2011, this junior version of the full Vegas product costs \$130 as opposed to \$700. The user interface is identical, but not all of the functions of the full version are present. We need to update our existing copies and add another station for training.

--- Sony HDR-CX160/B (three at \$498 each) \$1494

The main requirement here is tapeless (flash memory), SD resolution and a microphone input. After an extensive search, the Sony HDR-CX160/B was the only camera I found that has both a SD (standard definition) setting and a microphone input.

--- Audio Technica ATR288W (two at \$130) \$260

We are requesting two of the Audio Technica ATR288W as an inexpensive wireless microphone system for field use.

--- MLX Studio Microphone Kits (two sets at \$130 each) \$260

For recording music in the studio, the M-Audio MXL 990/991 and Audio Buddy package offered by Guitar Center is unbeatable. I have these mics and am very pleased with their performance. The Audio Buddy is a two-channel preamp with phantom power that is very quiet. The studio does have a mixer, but the Audio Buddy can be sent out with the field cameras to get better sound.

--- Audio Technica AT8035 Shotgun Microphone \$240

CTV already has one shotgun mic. I have used this with my own AT8035 mic to create a stereo image of bands playing in the studio. The studio echoes a great deal. The shotgun rejects echo from the sides producing a noticeably improved audio signal.

6) Equipment Priorities

- #1. TriCaster for field use and for backup to Studio NewTek Video Toaster
- #2. Studio Camera
- #3. Studio Microphones
- #4. Field Cameras & Microphones
- #5. Digital Video Editing Training Equipment & Software

7) Equipment Availability To Other PEG Users

It is not an issue for CTV29 if other PEG users need access to our capital equipment. We would encourage such access as it might only increase the amount and variety of programming we could provide on Channel 29.

8) Preservation and Protection of Capital Equipment

CTV29 is required by our contract and by common sense to maintain insurance on all our equipment including capital equipment, and have done so since start of operations in 1999.

We receive a contribution from the Eugene 4J School District of \$3,400 annually for maintenance and/or replacement of shared-use equipment in the Studio. However, this funding may not be available in future years due to 4J budget cuts.

We have two volunteer degreed electrical engineers as active members of our organization who regularly monitor, analyze, repair and maintain our equipment. We have additional engineering resource people who as needed contribute to these efforts.

Broadcast, Studio and Training operations are all organized, performed, and monitored by our active volunteer staff and by the Board of Directors. We believe that our existing equipment use

practices have been responsible, safe and legal. We expect the same to be true of any equipment made available to us under this grant request.

9) Shelf Life and Replacement of The Equipment

We expect the equipment requested in this application will last at least five years (and likely longer). Funding for future replacement (and upgrades) of the equipment will come from a combination of our ongoing fundraising efforts, donations from local and other businesses and individuals, the quarterly contract payments made to CTV by the City of Eugene, and applications for PEG Capital Equipment Funding in future fiscal years.

10) If Funds Are Not Allocated

If the funding requested in this application were not allocated, we would be limited in our ability to serve the increased requests from new and existing producers for both studio and field equipment. Our now-digital Studio Production Facility and editing workstations have resulted in an increase in Studio use, the demand for training, and the variety of programming on Channel 29. Although we do receive donations, it is unlikely we would be able to raise funds sufficient to purchase all the capital equipment in this request.

Thank you for considering our application.

Tom Cleveland, for the All-Volunteer CTV29 Board & Staff
CTV29 Past President and current Board of Advisors
Community Television of Lane County