

January 14, 2026

ITEM 222-2003-R0126

Request for Authorization for Montana PBS/Montana State University to Purchase 465 Kelly Creek Road, Miles City, MT; Montana State University

THAT

Consistent with the Board's authority to manage and control the Montana University System and in accordance with Board of Regents Policy 1003.6, the Board of Regents of the Montana State University system authorizes Montana State University to purchase the property located at 465 Kelly Creek Road, Miles City, MT, including the existing broadcast tower and building, for the purpose of supporting Montana PBS transmission and relay operations. The maximum purchase price will be \$52,000.

EXPLANATION

1. MSU/PBS has been offered an opportunity to acquire a property that includes a 150-foot tower, a 30x60 ft block building designed for communications equipment, and secure fencing, making it ideal for broadcast operations and signal relay to Glendive.
2. MSU would offer a purchase price of \$49,500. The fair market value of the property is estimated at \$75,000 based upon recent transactions in the same county, including the recent purchase of KYUS-TV.
3. The site offers higher elevation, fewer regulatory issues, and significant cost savings compared to appropriately build out the existing PBS site in the Miles City region. The cost to develop a comparable transmission site is estimated at \$250,000.
4. The core objective in acquiring the KYUS-TV license in the previous Marks Group transaction was to enable long-term public television service, necessitating upgrades to the transmission facilities.
5. The acquisition is a strategic necessity for Montana PBS, as this site will not only serve as a superior local broadcast location but will also function as an essential relay point for extending the broadcast signal to the Glendive area.
6. The funds for this site will come from a Montana PBS non-operating technology reserve account.

ATTACHMENTS

None