

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

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Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Charlie Pierce, Vice President

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

FROM: Brent Johnson, Assembly Member *JB for B.J.*

DATE: October 23, 2012

RE: Resolution 2012-082: Supporting Kasilof Radio Station KWJG and Homer Radio Station KMJG

Kasilof public radio station KWJG and Homer public radio station KMJG enjoy the support of numerous, local listeners. Several area residents host weekly shows for particular interests, such as cooking, dogs, or music. Sometimes religious music is played, but the station is clearly public radio without a philosophical agenda. No editorials are offered to sway listeners regarding politics, religion, or civil movements. An annual fund raiser is held and local people support these stations with gifts. No public funds of any kind are solicited and none have ever been received. In this sense, stations KWJG and KMJG are expressions of free speech at its best.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) oversees all licensed radio stations and has found violations allegedly related to KWJG documents that are a matter of public record and/or are posted for public display, but were not also photo copied and put in a file cabinet. Additional allegations by the FCC of recordkeeping deficiencies have been challenged by KWJG. The FCC has announced that fines will be levied. Such fines could be quite large and the Board of Directors has elected to go off the air to save money until the fines are revealed. It is the intent of this resolution to show the FCC that KWJG and KMJG are appreciated and recognized by the Kenai Peninsula Borough in the hopes that any fines will be decidedly small and administered quickly.

Your support of this resolution will be appreciated.