

**COVER SHEET – AGENDA ITEM #R2**

For Commission Meeting: June 20, 2016

“Contingency Request: Commissioner Attendance at  
Alliance for Community Media National Conference”

**Recommendation**

Approval of up to \$2,900 from FY 2015-16 Contingency for registration fees and travel expenses for Commissioner Dicile to attend the Alliance for Community Media National Conference on behalf of the Commission.

**Background**

At its May meeting, the Commission discussed a request by Commissioner Dicile to attend the Alliance for Community Media National Conference in Boston and to have her travel expenses reimbursed from MHCRC funds. The Commission directed staff to research the estimated costs and prepare a contingency request for consideration at the June meeting.

The Alliance for Community Media is a national membership organization which advocates, provides information, and creates networking opportunities for people involved with community-based media centers such as Portland Community Media and MetroEast Community Media. The MHCRC is a member of the Alliance.

The Alliance annual conference is an opportunity for sharing best practices in community media and strategies on public policy and franchise negotiations. The conference also is structured to encourage participants to learn what others are doing to support a greater understanding of the vital role community media plays in engaging communities in local decision making, government transparency, emergency management planning, and community dialogue.

Thus far, \$5,000 of the \$32,000 FY15-16 operations budget contingency has been allocated.

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