
From: Doyle, Sheila [BOARD]
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 5:52 PM
To: Bonnie Campbell; Craig Lang; David Miles; Downer, Robert; Harkin, Ruth; Jack Evans; Johnson, Greta A; 'mgartner@iowacubs.com'; Rose Vasquez
Cc: Brunson, Marcia R [BOARD]; Donley, Robert [BOARD]; Evans, Thomas A [BOARD]; 'Braun, Mark J'; 'Saunders, Keith D'; UIHC - Tom Moore (thomas-moore@uiowa.edu); Sayre, Patrice [BOARD]
Subject: FW: Mediacom CEO Letter to Sinclair CEO

Regents,

See below and attachment. Thank you.

Sheila

From: Jim Carney [mailto:carney@carneylawfirmiowa.com]
Sent: Fri 12/18/2009 12:38 PM
To: mbruns@iastate.edu
Subject: Mediacom CEO Letter to Sinclair CEO

Marcia: Could you please see that the below message and attached letter gets distributed to all Board of Regents members? If possible, we would like this done today. Thank you!

Please see the attached letter that was sent today from Mediacom's Chairman and CEO, to Sinclair's Chairman and CEO, David Smith. It addresses the issues raised by University of Iowa President, Sally Mason, in a letter to both CEO's earlier this week.

James W. Carney
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Rocco B. Comisso
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

December 18, 2009

Mr. David D. Smith
President and CEO
Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.
10706 Beaver Dam Road
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

via Email or Facsimile

Dear David,

I am writing to follow up on a letter dated December 15, 2009 that we both received from University of Iowa President, Sally Mason. As President Mason articulated in her letter, the outcome of this round of retransmission consent negotiations between Mediacom and Sinclair is critical to Iowans. Similar messages have been echoed by dozens of Iowa's elected officials, including the Governor, Iowa's entire bipartisan Congressional Delegation, the leadership of the Iowa Legislature, and local mayors.

The appearance of the Hawkeye football team in the Orange Bowl on January 5th is clearly an event of significant public importance within Iowa. In addition to the Orange Bowl (FOX), the dispute between our companies threatens to deny popular sports programming like the BCS National Championship Game (CBS), NFL playoffs (CBS and FOX) and Super Bowl (CBS) to nearly one million residents of the Hawkeye State. Particularly affected will be the tens of thousands of elderly and low-income Iowans who rely on Mediacom's low-cost broadcast basic service as a means of viewing Sinclair's digital broadcast signals on older analog televisions.

Mediacom would like to avoid these tremendous public harms by continuing to carry Sinclair's TV stations. We ask that you join us by agreeing not to pull your signals from our cable systems during this time as we work towards a mutually agreeable resolution. Mediation is certainly one option. As you know, Mediacom proposed mediation as far back as August 25th, but Sinclair turned us down. While even at this late stage we are encouraged that Sinclair is now reconsidering mediation, we are very concerned that the process itself may extend well beyond the Holiday Season.

An even better, timelier option would be an extension of our current agreement. Sinclair is very familiar with this alternative since 2 weeks ago your company granted Time Warner Cable a 12 month extension of its expiring retransmission consent agreement on terms which we believe are much more favorable than those offered to Mediacom. Though we still view the discriminatory financial demands being made by Sinclair as outrageous in light of the distressed economic conditions in our country and in comparison to what Mediacom pays all other broadcasters in the markets we serve, we would nonetheless offer the following proposal:

The parties agree to a 3 month extension of the current agreement while we continue to negotiate through a mediator. During the extension period, Mediacom would agree to pay Sinclair the monthly consideration Sinclair demanded in its last offer dated October 28, 2009. If a new agreement is reached before the end of the extension period, the parties will true up any differences in the monthly consideration at that time. In the event that an agreement is not reached by the end of the extension period, Sinclair can simply retain all monies paid by Mediacom.

While our companies have had our differences, I am sure that one thing we can agree upon is that it is best for the citizens of Iowa if Mediacom continues carrying the Sinclair stations beyond December 31st. To that end, I would appreciate your immediate consideration of our offer.

Sincerely,



cc: Sally Mason, President, University of Iowa
Federal Communications Commission
Chairman Genachowski
Commissioner Capps
Commissioner McDowell
Commissioner Clyburn
Commissioner Attwell Baker
Board of Regents, State of Iowa
Governor Culver

U.S. Congress
Senator Grassley
Senator Harkin
Representative Boswell
Representative Braley
Representative King
Representative Latham
Representative Loeb sack
Iowa Legislature
Senator Gronstal
Senator Kibbie
Senator McKinley
Representative McCarthy
Representative Murphy
Representative Paulsen