

**WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes, April 2, 2014

Welcome

Bryon Sitler welcomed everyone. Members introduced themselves.

Minutes

Nanette Pritzer (St. Charles) moved to approve the minutes. Kate Van Auken (Cass City) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director's Report:

Bryon Sitler reported that:

- He sent out Statistical data and hopes it is useful to libraries for planning. The statistics are from 20 years ago to the present. The amount of funding to libraries is no better than it was all those years ago.
- The photo copier lease expired and White Pine no longer has a need for it. Existing printers can handle most of the copies, and if there is a need for larger copier runs, there are several places in Saginaw that can be used.
- Bryon is registered for the Rural Library Conference being held on Mackinaw Island from April 30, 2014 – May 2, 2014.
- A \$4000 invoice for unemployment arrived, which was a bit of a surprise.
- Annual meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2014. Jim Murdock will be speaking on Customer Service. Bryon is still looking for an additional speaker.
- There have been a few McLaren Health Insurance participants cancelling their plans because they can find a less expensive plan elsewhere.
- Bryon asked if there was any interest in Zinnio (Magazines). Libraries would like to have it but the cost is prohibitive.
- Nancy Robertson will be retiring in 2 weeks and Carol Wolenberg, Nancy's supervisor from the Department of Education is also retiring on April 30. They wanted her replacement hired by April 1.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Executive Budget Recommendations:

- State Aid to Libraries - \$8.8 million dollars. This is a \$300,000 increase from current fiscal year, which is less than 1 cent per capita.
- This includes 1.75 Million to Michigan eLibrary.
- Renaissance Zone Reimbursement - \$4.7 million. This item remains unchanged from current fiscal year.
- MPERS payments to libraries - \$2.55 million. This is a \$1.2 million increase from the current fiscal year.
- The recommended Library of Michigan operations budget is \$4.4 million.
- LSTA operating budget of \$5.6 million dollars.
- Total Appropriation: \$29.9 million.

Personal Property Tax Reform

This is a 10-bill package. Senate Bill 822 ensures 100% reimbursement to local governments and libraries dependent on PPT for core services. Libraries must show money is being used for core needs. The package of bills will be voted on in August. SB 826-828 clarifies if the initiative isn't approved, all PPT is placed back on the tax rolls. If approved, it will most likely take effect on October 1, 2014. Mimi Herrington (Bad Axe) wanted to know how reimbursement would be handled. Bryon stated that the bill is still being worked on and the County Clerk would issue the re-imbursments, based on December 1 taxes.

Delivery

MCLS stated the service will remain at 3 days and there would be a 3% price increase. The Library of Michigan will pay for 1 day and White Pine Library Cooperative will reimburse members for 2 days. Mary Jaworski (Port Austin) said she is still only getting delivery 1day per week. Ashley has joined MelCat and is receiving delivery. Members helped fund a delivery study but there no results being released.

Gratiot County Libraries & countywide millage

Council members moved to the computer room to listen to a presentation made by Jessica Little (St. Louis), Bryan Dinwoody (Alma), and Lynne Clark (Ashley) about the process involved in working towards a countywide millage proposal for the August 5, 2014 ballot.

AWE – AfterSchool Edge Digital Learning System Presented by Jeremy Link.

- Features 50 top-rated educational software titles for various elementary grade levels.
- Available on either a netbook or a touchscreen desktop using easy to use and manage technology.
- Price: \$3000 with a 3 year warranty, which includes 1 upgrade in years 2 & 3.
- Additional years can be purchased.

- Tier pricing is available for group purchasing, being offered at the Rural Library conference. 10-24 units / \$2993 25-49 units / \$2867 50+ units / \$2678
- Jeremy will email Bryon with more pricing details.
- Rose Rice-Gutierrez (Bridgeport) said that they had this system and someone smashed the library's window in and this is the only item that was stolen.

Membership News – Other

The cooperative gave away 4 Windows XP laptops, 4 monitors, a couple keyboards and several mice to interested people in attendance.

The Rural Libraries Conference will be held April 30-May 2, 2014 on Mackinac Island.

Next Meeting: August 6, 2014