

Board report April, 2014

Compiled statistical data information.

New computer arrived, had to learn where things are and how to do some tasks.
Not everything transferred properly. It has taken time to check and correct – especially the statics excel sheets. Statistics will soon be done.

Copier is gone.

Visited Caro to speak with Marcia before her retirement.

Continue to meet with the Gratiot County group about a county-wide millage.

I have registered for the Rural Libraries Conference, 4/30-5/2 on Mackinac Island.

UI payment. This was part of the money owed the Feds by Michigan, which had borrowed to pay UI over the last couple of years. UI payment, \$4,000

Annual meeting date is set with Jim Murdock speaking on customer service.

There are 36 libraries in the Fuelyouyourmind.digital collection (OverDrive)

Insurance: several have canceled both medical and dental.

The Zinnio Representative has contacted me again. Is there any interest?

Executive Budget Recommendations:

- State Aid to Libraries - \$8.8 million dollars. This is a \$300,000 increase from current fiscal year.
- Michigan eLibrary - \$1.75 million
- Renaissance Zone Reimbursement - \$4.7 million. This item remains unchanged from current fiscal year.
- MPSERS payments to libraries - \$2.55 million. This is a \$1.2 million increase from current fiscal year.
- The Library of Michigan has 33 full time positions and has an operations budget of \$4.4 million dollar recommendation.
- The Library Services and Technology program has an operating budget of \$5.6 million dollars and one full time employee.

Total Appropriation: \$29.9 million.

Personal Property Tax Reform Update

A 10-bill package was signed by the governor which will modify the 2012 Personal Property Tax reform package. The package is a dramatic improvement from the original bills. It provides for 100% reimbursement to local governments including libraries dependent on PPT for core services. The new package of bills likely will see swift movement in the legislature. Highlights of the bills are below.

- **SB 821** - Establishes a formula for reimbursement to locals and eliminates the 2.3% threshold for locals to qualify for reimbursement.
- **SB 822** - Ensures 100% reimbursement to locals, updates the ballot language accordingly.
- **SB 823** - Clarifies industrial property does not include utility personal property used to generate, transmit and distribute electricity. The bill also defines "original cost" for determining eligible property.
- **SB 824** - Cross references the Metro Extension Act to a new "Local Community Stabilization Act".
- **SB 825** - Technical amendment that will allow the new plan to be placed in front of voters in August of 2014.
- **SB 826, 827, 828** - Includes language that clarifies if the August 2014 ballot initiative were to fail, all personal property tax is placed back on the tax rolls.
- **SB 829** - Sets out a new statewide, flat-rate Essential Services Assessment based on acquisition cost and age of property. Replaces the LOCAL ESA in the 2012-passed version.
- **SB 830** - Allows Michigan Strategic Fund to abate in those rare circumstances where a company has all personal property currently abated and the ESA results in an increase.