

MEMO

To: State Library Commission
From: Sue Jackson
Re: LSCA and LSTA project updates
Date: October 1, 1998

FY 97 LSCA TITLE I and TITLE III

September 30th brought the deadline for expenditures for all LSCA FY 97 Title I and III projects. The three Montana projects still having FY 97 funds unexpended have now been completed and all appropriated LSCA grant funds have been spent. These projects include Have Laptop Will Travel (Titles I and III), Virtual Museum (Title III), and RiCoNet (Title I). A small amount (\$1,036.67) was unused by the Virtual Museum Project, but that money was transferred to and expended by the Have Laptop Will Travel Project.

Final reports for these and all other FY 97 projects will now be requested from project administrators so that information can be incorporated in MSL's 1998 annual report to IMLS.

LSCA TITLE II

Sheridan Public Library (FY 96): The new library building is nearly completed. Carpeting and tiles are currently being installed. There is still some work to be done on the circulation desk and the fixtures have not yet been installed in the bathrooms. Finishing the skylight will be the final construction step and it is scheduled to be completed on October 19th. The library will begin moving into the new building at the end of October with an open house event scheduled later.

Dillon Public Library (FY 97): The project went to bid on September 3rd. When the bids were opened on September 24th, the lowest bid was \$345,000 which is \$120,000 more than currently available for the remodeling project. The architect has set meetings between his staff and the bidding contractors, plumbers, and electricians to see where money can be saved so it will be possible to complete the project.

LSTA FY 98

LSTA Internet Connectivity Project: Currently, agreements are in place in **Phase I** of this project for twenty-one libraries. Four projects that have started since the Commission's August meeting are:

Ekalaka Public Library	(LSTA \$2,093)
Fairfield Public Library	(LSTA \$1,976)
Henry Malley Memorial Library (Broadus)	(LSTA \$780)
Manhattan Community Library	(LSTA \$2,139)

These new projects bring the total cost to date for Phase I to \$49,379.

One additional project is expected to begin later this month at Dutton Public Library. The cost has not yet been determined. Dillon City Library is also still planning to participate following completion of the remodeling done in their Title II project.

Phase II of the Internet Connectivity Project is also progressing. Initially, fourteen libraries were identified as eligible for this phase and were sent applications to apply for the available grant funds. By the application deadline of September 15th, four libraries had made application for the LSTA grant funds: Superior, Fort Benton, Choteau, and Livingston. Libraries in Plains and Roundup now have direct access so will not participate. The Ronan Public Library has declined to participate at this time for financial reasons. The other seven libraries not yet responding are those in Columbus, Cut Bank, Forsyth, Glasgow, Red Lodge, Shelby, and Virginia City. These libraries will be contacted again to see if more information or time is needed to consider participating in the project.