

MEMO

To: State Library Commission
From: Sue Jackson
Re: LSCA and LSTA project updates
Date: August 6, 1999

LSCA FY 97 Title II

Dillon City Library: The project is now ninety percent completed. During the “messiest” phase of the remodeling, the library was closed for a few days. Library staff and volunteers took the opportunity to do major cleaning, including scrubbing and varnishing shelves and painting walls. Installation of new wiring and light fixtures has changed the look and feel of the library’s main reading area, bringing favorable comments from many regular patrons. Carpeting has also been installed in the reading room. A portion of the downstairs – the bathrooms and small room displaying sale books – is open and now being used. The meeting room will also be available very soon. A grand opening celebration for the remodeled library is scheduled for October 23rd.

LSTA FY 98 Internet Connectivity Project (ICP)

Phase I: The deadline for FY 1998 LSTA projects is September 30, 1999, so participating ICP libraries are busy completing their projects. Two libraries with balances, Ekalaka (\$344) and Philipsburg (\$526.60), will not use the money remaining in their grant awards. These amounts will revert and be made available for another project. Three other libraries, Stevensville (\$255.70), Dillon (\$619.50) and Valier (\$139), will use their remaining LSTA money in the next two weeks.

Phase II: To date, LSTA funds have been expended for three of the Phase II projects: Fort Benton, Choteau and Virginia City. Small balances remain in the grants for Superior (\$120.62) and Ronan (\$553.40). The project in Livingston has been delayed because of technical problems, but Milla Cummins believes that it will move quickly now that those difficulties have been resolved.

MSL Fall Workshop: The workshop to be held in Lewistown in September was originally approved as a FY 99 LSTA project. However, because there are remaining FY 98 funds available, and because the workshop takes place before

the September 30, 1999 deadline for expending the 1998 award, the workshop is now designated as a FY 98 project. Registration forms have been sent out with the July issue of Big Sky Libraries and the August issue of Focus. Accommodations have been made for presenters and staff, and all meals and a walking tour of Lewistown's historic district have been booked.

LSTA FY 99

Library Improvement Project (LIP) for Madison County: The LIP Advisory Committee continues to meet regularly. The survey/questionnaire designed and distributed to county residents by the Committee enjoyed a very good return percentage. The information collected in the survey is being compiled and analyzed to determine how local taxpayers view library services and what changes they would like to see made. Cost for the survey was \$1,269, bringing the total grant expenditure to date to \$1,306.