

Montana State Library Commission
Final Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2006
Helena, MT

Attendees:

Commissioners: Don Allen, Cheri Bergeron, Caroline Bitz, Cindy Carrywater, Ron Moody, Bruce Morton, and Nora Smith.

Staff: Carol Churchill, Bob Cooper, Alan Cox, Jim Hill, Sue Jackson, Jim Kammerer, Duane Lund, Bruce Newell, Kris Schmitz, Darlene Staffeldt, and Julie Stewart.

Visitors: Tracy Cook, MSU Great Falls College of Technology and Gloria Langstaff, Bitterroot Public Library.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Longevity Awards:

Schmitz awarded Carol Churchill a 15 year service pin. Hill presented Duane Lund a 15 year service pin. Newell presented Darlene Staffeldt a 30 year service pin. Staffeldt presented Julie Stewart a John G. Lorenz Award for timely and accurate submission of statistical information for fiscal year 2005.

Opening Time for Comments:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

Bergeron moved to accept the minutes of August 15, 2006 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

State Librarian Report

Staffeldt asked Groves to show new marketing items. Groves shared the adult programming guide which will be mailed to all public libraries and is a collection of ideas for librarians to use in targeting adults. Groves showed the new posters. MSL was successful in receiving funds from Mountain West Bank and Thompson Gale is interested in donating funds the first of the year. In January, Groves will do a series of three television ads and some radio spots.

Staffeldt just returned from Little Rock where she attended COSLA meetings. Gates money will be coming down the pipeline again. There was a lot of conversation about merging several national groups such as National Center for Education Statistics,

National Commission on Libraries and Information Sciences efforts for collection library statistics. All of those national groups require statistics from us. There is a proposal for Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to take on all of those national library statistics. This should be a smoother process as we wouldn't have to report to three separate federal agencies with statistics. There was no word at conference about our federal budgets. We don't have a draft LSTA budget at this meeting, however, are hoping to have it by December.

Staffeldt will be recommending with the LSTA that we use the slot that has been the Montana Library Network (MLN) director for a western consultant. We've had two staff members for the two Federations in the east and one for central Montana, but since Cooper has taken on the Director of Library Development, he has had more duties put on him, which makes it difficult for him to maintain contacts in the western part of the state. In an evaluation a few years ago, this was the number one project that libraries throughout the state liked and approved was our having statewide library consultants. The other recommendation is the \$7,000 for the virtual reference project. That's a cooperative of 20 libraries statewide, providing reference services statewide and they have sent MSL a letter asking for support in that amount. These are two recommendations you will see when you see the LSTA budget.

We will soon be advertising for four positions. Currently we are advertising for an Assistant State Librarian for Networking and Collaborative Projects. Staffeldt distributed the org chart to the Commission members. This position is a combination of Staffeldt's former position and the MLN director responsibilities. That position is being advertised now. The Western Consultant position has been advertised. We have a Metadata Cataloger position at classification now. It has slightly been rewritten to deal with more of the digital and metadata aspects of that position. We will be opening a reader advisor position in the Talking Book Library next week.

TBL asked Staffeldt to remind everyone that October is art beyond sight month. There are several activities that the Education for the Blind Organization has been provided for opportunities both nationally and internationally for appreciation of art. Also, October 15 is white cane day.

MSL staff had three working sessions on professional evaluation management plan – competency identification. We're combining comments from the three sessions and managers met yesterday to start working with long range plans, measurable objectives, responsibilities and timelines. We're hoping to have a draft process to start with in April/May and then work toward an official start in July.

Moody asked how uncertain each year is it that Gates Foundation will give money in the form of grants.

Staffeldt said that for the past three years they've been saying they aren't going to give any money to libraries. Then Staffeldt hears they are giving new money.

Staffeldt said the fall workshop was a success. Sue Jackson said there were 111 people registered and four didn't make it. There were mostly public libraries, trustees, and school librarians.

There will be Trustee workshops in Billings on October 28 and in Missoula November 11. Staffeldt encouraged members to attend if possible.

Newell mentioned there were updates to the MLN report since it was written. The first is that the Network Task Force meeting is set for October 27. OCLC is including a page describing the Montana library card project pilot in their annual report. The Shared Catalog had a meeting last Friday and one quote from Michael Ober, from Flathead Community College Library director talking about connection problems. He said "Flathead was experiencing really no problems, but as long as any library in the Montana Shared Catalog experienced problems, he had problems." This echoed the solidarity of early Shared Catalog days.

Staffeldt asked if the new format on her written report was satisfactory? Moody suggested under each departmental headings, put the name of the staff person who is primarily responsible for those duties.

Interlibrary Loans FY 06 and Beyond

Staffeldt shared the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) spreadsheets. The first chart is activity in FY 2007, representing the loans and borrows from 2006. We have a low as far as \$1.98 and a high of \$50,000. This points out that as we move forward, we will want to make some rule change to allow for if it's less than a certain amount, and we wouldn't have to write a check for it. The second spreadsheet shows the last three years, 2006, 2005, and the 2004 payments. The Network Task Force committee has ILL on their agenda. This is the distribution that will happen again next year unless the law changes to allow for the net lending option that we asked for. If the law changes, we'll have to change the rule as soon as the session ends.

Cooper has been to three Federation meeting and ILL was a major topic of concern. The small and medium libraries understand why we did what we did. They hope this is a patch and feel this is a difficult thing to deal with. Cooper tells them the Commission and MSL are trying to find a more suitable solution.

Allen said in reviewing the spreadsheets, he found one library gets one-third of the money. There ought to be some way to equitably spread the money. If you're a lender it costs a lot of money. Allen said he's never seen actual costs. This seems to

be a program that we don't have a handle on. The whole program doesn't seem to work well and there needs to be a new approach.

Staffeldt is asking Network Task Force committee to create a subcommittee to review ILL. Don Allen and Nora Smith volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Moody urged that we move forward in solving problems in ILL not just discussing them.

FY07 Financial Report

Schmitz presented FY 07 first quarter's budget.

State of MT GIS Common Operating Picture

Robin Trenbeath, Chief Information Officer at DEQ and chair of subcommittee put together by Dick Clark, Chief Information Officer for the state of Montana for the GIS Common Operation Picture presented a PowerPoint presentation. Joining him was Jeff Brandt, Deputy Chief Information Officer for the state of Montana.

The primary recommendation of the subcommittee is the creation of an independent Geographic Information Office housed in the Governor's office and staffed by a Geographic Information Officer (GIO) and the Current Department of Administration ITSD GIS Service Bureau personnel. Further, that the office oversees the development, implementation and coordination of GIS activities and technology across all state agencies. A well thought out transition plan is critical to the success of these recommendations. The subcommittee recommends that development of the detailed transitions plans be directed by the GIO. The second recommendation is that NRIS is the state's GIS Data Clearinghouse, including being the providers of the state's primary GIS data portal, and the holder of the state's principal GIS metadata files. They recommended that NRIS not be limited to only providing these services for natural resources information, but be allowed to provide these services for all of the state's GIS information content. Finally, NRIS discontinue of the business of applications development for state agencies and stop storing GIS data content except where that content is archival data and/or NRIS has added significant value to the content dataset.

Allen asked if this change will require legislation.

Trenbeath doesn't think there's legislation required other than funding.

Hill said we should take a proactive role and take a proposal to the Governor's office and to the legislature, if we have a solution better than what was proposed. The CIO is actually is Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and the GIO should be a Geographic Technology Officer (GTO). The true Chief Information Officer is the State Librarian. We have mix where the technology group gets involved in information management. It's not just GIS, but will extend to all information access. We have a bill proposed for

Permanent Public Access that will improve our state publication statutes. They have weighed in on that bill and will continue to do so.

Moody said we have to come up with a proposal and he would take it to the Governor and try to sell it to him. He suggests putting it very simple terms so that everyone can understand it.

Moody asked MSL to produce a concept for delivery system that is most beneficial to the end user. We need to have a description of which GIS system would best serve the people of MT.

Morton thinks the problem is the decision that was made regarding the GIO. Most universities have a vice president or executive officer at the highest level, the cabinet. Why shouldn't the Governor have a cabinet member who deals with informational matter, instead of taking the CIO and making it a mid level management position within an administrative agency? It's below the head of the Department of Administration. He thinks there should be a chief informational officer for the state, not at ITSD, but at the Governor's cabinet, like the Secretary of Agriculture or the head of Administration. That would put the GIO somewhere other than ITSD.

Moody said he took the appointment to the Commission not simply to do a job. The reasons for being here are to see that the GIS information services that we deliver to the people of Montana is the best and most efficient possible. That's what he wants to see happen. He's not willing to accept much less than that without a fight. He's been hearing persuasive arguments for this proposal not producing the best GIS system for the people in Montana. He's willing to fight for this but needs a brief understandable description of a GIS informational system that would be the best for the people of Montana.

Newell said you would have two strikes against you if limiting the discussions to GIS information. The primary argument is the role of the State Library's to manage state government information some of which happens to be GIS type information.

Morton said the point is to challenge them on their resistance to the permanent access. If we can pass the permanent access law, we will have the clear mission to do what we want to do and GIS is just one form of information.

Staffeldt agreed that's where the focus needs to be and also we need to talk more with members of the Montana Land Information Advisory Council. They've never taken any action on this.

Action Items

Allen moved to approve FY 2007 1st quarter budget. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commission asked what the status is on the permanent access bill.

Staffeldt said the Commission took action on the recommendation in April. It was approved as part of the legislative package. It is with the bill drafter at this time. Staffeldt asked the drafter if it had been given an LCC number. It does have an LCC number. We have sent the drafter what the committee came up with for revisions on the legislation. Hill and staff are working on a PowerPoint presentation that explains the legislation and how it will affect agencies. We will be scheduling time with agencies and share the presentation with them. We are waiting for the draft bill and will have to find a sponsor. The subcommittee on local government and education passed it without any problem, which usually means one of their members is willing to carry it. When the drafter gets what she feels is a final draft, she will give it to us for review.

Commission Goals and Objectives – Members

The next Commission meeting is December 13 in Bozeman at the new library.

Moody suggested having something that we can take action on in terms of completing our plans. Can we get something in writing before December meeting from the bill drafter?

Morton suggested we host a lunch in Bozeman and invite the local legislators, particularly Brady Wiseman, because he's a member of Informational Technology Board.

Staffeldt said we could do the PowerPoint presentation in December. She will try to get the draft legislation by then to share. We could invite the local legislators to the meeting.

Morton suggested hosting a lunch with just members of the Commission and the legislature as a follow up of the presentation.

The December meeting is in Bozeman at the new library. The Network Task Force meeting will be in Helena on October 27, 2006. Cooper added the MLA Offline to the calendar on February 23 and 24, 2007, in Bozeman. The Pathfinder Federation meeting is May 3, 2007 in Harlem.

Bitz shared her experience of attending the National Book Festival in Washington, D. C. She thanked Staffeldt for sending her to that.

Staffeldt reminded the Commission that the State Librarian's evaluation is coming up and is usually completed in December.

Library Literature Sampler

No comments.

Other Business

Nora complimented Sara Groves on the Smartie Pants brochure.

Morton moved to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.