

Memo

To: Montana State Library Commission

From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian

Date: May 22, 2012

Re: Rosebud County Library federation affiliation request

On May 21, 2012 I received the accompanying letter from Ellis Roberts Parry, chair of the Rosebud County Library. As you will read, the letter is a request for you, as the Commission, to consider their request to change federation affiliation from the Sagebrush Federation to the South Central Federation. The Commission has the statutory authority to grant or deny this request is according to Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 22-1-402, the statute which gives the Commission the authority to designate the area served by each federation.

I responded to Mr. Parry's letter to let him know that I will share his letter with you. In my letter I also explained the following questions that the State Library must consider before we request action from the Commission on this matter:

- 1) The geographic extent of new federation boundaries;
- 2) Potential changes needed to the Administrative Rules of Montana;
- 3) Impacts to funds due to each federation based on the changes in population represented by each;
- 4) The need for the federations to change their plans of service accordingly.

Understanding the complexities of this matter, I believe we can proceed under the following timeline:

- June 6: Commission is notified of the Rosebud County Library and the Bicentennial Library of Colstrip request;
- June – July: Questions above are addressed by MSL staff and the information gathered is shared with the Commission and impacted federations;

- August 8- Rosebud County Library officials make a formal request at Commission meeting for Commission action;
- August - September(pending Commission action): Sagebrush and South Central federations revise plans of service; the federations will likely need to hold special meetings to approve the revised plans of service;
- October 10: Commission approves revised plans of service, payments issued to these Federations.

Prior to action in August, if you have addition questions that you would like the State Library staff to consider as they pertain to this matter please notify me directly.

