

PO Box 201800 1515 East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-3115

## Memo

To: Network Advisory Council

From: Tracy Cook, Library Development Director

Date: March 6, 2019

## Re: Library Development budget for FY19 LSTA award and FY20 State Fiscal year

**Background:** The overall Library Development budget is linked on the agenda. As you can see, there are unallocated funds including coal tax funds. This is an opportunity for the NAC to decide on what to fund. Because of the legislative session, I recommend we complete a multi-step process – first approving personnel and contractual obligations, then prioritizing spending for remaining funds, and then in May approving final use of the unallocated funds.

We have \$10,351 in LSTA to allocate and \$88,614 in Coal Severance Tax (CST) funds. Here are some helpful notes as you review the budget and the funding ideas:

- We don't have any money currently allocated for new MSC libraries due to the moratorium.
- We can shift any of this budget to CST, but those funds can be volatile.
- If you are interested in shifting any LSTA items to CST funding, this is what I recommend. These are items that are not personnel or contractual obligations. They are also items that have more flexible timelines which helps with cash flow. I have only one exception, and that is OCLC group services.
  - OCLC group services \$59,328 (I recommend only a portion of this be moved)
  - Training budget \$54,500 (I recommend the Webjunction amount be LSTA)
  - MMP Digitization \$6,000
  - Lifelong Learning \$10,000

## Possible funding ideas (some from staff and some from the November NAC meeting):

- Allocate an amount for MSC new libraries
- Pay for a Virtual Private Network for the MSC initial setup costs are \$19,400. Libraries could pay ongoing costs. This would protect the MSC's data.
- Increase the amount of funding for OCLC thereby reducing the costs to libraries
- Improve cataloging particularly related to MSC what do we want cataloging to look like? How do we want to develop the next generation of cataloguers? Could we support funding for cataloging education?
- Support efforts related to:

- Resource sharing
- o Early childhood
- Support services for older adults
- Support scaling some of the civil conversations and/or discourse work
- Support story corps and oral history collections in the MMP
- Contract with someone with economic development/workforce experience to identify regional needs, serve on economic development/chamber of commerce boards, and recommend and create programming for libraries that is tailored to their needs.

## What do I need to know from the NAC?

- Do you want to shift any of the LSTA items I listed to CST funds? If so what and how much?
- What are your funding priorities for the roughly \$100,000 that is likely to be available pending receipt of CST revenue?
  - Please review the funding ideas' list. It's okay to add to the list. We need a priority list. Staff can then plan for the projects with a budgeted amount based on your priorities. We will bring projects with funding amounts outlined to your May meeting.