

**MMLL Director's Report**  
August 25, 2011

**State Aid, FY2010-2011 (Current Year)**

We are now in the 11th month of the fiscal year and we still have 5 libraries that are just now getting their first 50% payment of the regular State Aid. However, the Library of Michigan has seen the return of Kathy Webb. She used to prepare the state aid payments and did a great job. Things have picked up since her return on the first of August. The state must pay out the remaining 50% of state aid by September 30. We should start receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> payments by the first part of September since the second payments are much simpler to do.

**State Aid for FY 2011/2012**

As reported at the last meeting, the legislature approved a total state aid to libraries package of \$6,750,000. This will be about a 7% cut from what we are receiving this year and much better than the Governor's proposed budget for State Aid to public Libraries that cut the amount by about 40%. Since one of our libraries added a township to its service area we will have a slight increase in the density payment. The new census figures from 2010 will be used for the first time beginning October 1, 2011 to allocate state aid for this coming year and many of our areas experienced some population growth. Therefore our actual revenue for the coming year maybe a bit higher than it would have been.

**Cooperative Directors Association and Foster Swift law firm are sponsoring a series of webinars for Trustees.**

As reported at the previous meeting, lawyers from Foster Swift will be presenting a series of webinars aimed at Trustees and Directors during the year. The second in the series will be on September 6, and it will be on Policies for Problem Patrons. Registration is online. The webinar will be recorded and available for viewing at convenient times.

**Budget Amendment Needed to Update Current Budget**

The current budget needs to be revised slightly to reflect actual expenditures. The proposed changes are in your packets.

**Strategic Planning for the MMLL Board.**

Today, the MMLL Board will begin a strategic planning process. We have hired Ginger Hentz from MSU to help us with our efforts. We will begin following lunch today.

**The Cooperative Directors Association Will Conduct a Survey**

The Coop Director's Association has decided to work with Bill Schorer and Associates to develop and conduct a statewide survey of cooperative members to help with planning and advocacy issues for cooperatives. This is also being done to help facilitate the creation of Library Cooperative Dashboard.

**The Advisory Council Meeting Held on August 11, 2011**

The Advisory Council met at the Cadillac Wexford PL on August 11. We had a small turn out of only about 10-11 people. We had lively discussion regarding penal fines which have been seen reductions of as much as 20% in some areas and increases in a few areas. We also discussed summer reading programs and shared ideas on author visits.

**Other matters & Miscellaneous**

1. Workshop on making a Facebook page for their library will be held on October 25, 2011 in Cadillac. Sheila Good from Saginaw will conduct the workshop.

Announcements will go out this next week.

2. We are still working with Movie Licensing USA to see if we can get a discount for members with a group "bulk" buy.

Respectfully submitted by

James W. Lawrence, Director,