

MMLL Director's Report
March 24, 2011

State Aid, FY2010-2011 (Current Year)

We are now about to complete 6 months of the fiscal and payments of the regular State Aid have been in a holding pattern until the state developed a method to comply with the court ruling. The delay has also been due to the Library of Michigan processing the requests for the supplemental state aid first. That part of state aid is now complete and LM has begun to process the annual reports to the state so they can begin to pay the regular state aid. As always, they will be processed in the order they were received. We did receive word this week that some checks have been written. MMLL received its direct state aid check yesterday for the 1st 50%.

Proposed State Aid for FY 2011/2012 Cuts 40% from State Aid

The Governor's proposed budget for State Aid to public Libraries cuts the amount by about 40%+. This week the House and Senate are holding hearing on the Dept. of Education budget which includes the state aid to libraries. Today we will discuss what the budget for MMLL that a cut of this size will mean.

MMLL has applied for USF E-rate funds for telephone service and Internet access.

MMLL has submitted the required Form 471 to indicate our choice of AT & T for the telephone provider and Internet Access provider. The window for Form 471's filing is today.

Summer Reading Dates for MMLL Libraries

Again, this year we will be working with TV 9&10 Helping hands to promote summer reading programs. I will need the member libraries dates, events & program information relatively soon or as soon as they are finalized.

Census Data for Michigan is being released soon.

Some data was released on Tuesday of this week. Detroit and Grand Rapids both suffered population losses. The Northwest Michigan area grew by about 5.8% overall.

However many cities saw drops. Population figures (based on the 2000 Census) and service area square mileage figures have been provided. Library of Michigan has provided us with a detailed population and service area spreadsheet. I have several copies here.

Friends of Michigan Libraries starts Trustees Alliance

Shirley Bursema, Trustee of Lakeland cooperative, informed the coop directors that the Friends of Michigan libraries has formed a Trustee Alliance to help provide some needed training and resources for board members and trustees. We will look for this in the future for possible workshops to help for our various board members.

Summer Reading Craft Workshop Scheduled for May 6, 2011.

MMLL will sponsor a Summer Reading Craft Workshop on May 6, 2011 at the Cadillac Wexford County Library. Tracy Logan of CWPL is helping to plan this event. Some details still need to be finalized, such as cost and registration. Lunch will be included in the fee. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Other matters & Miscellaneous

1. Library of Michigan will be holding a Plinkits Webpage design session on August 4th in the MMLL offices. Attendees are already booked through the Library of Michigan.
2. Emily Clark has left Fife Lake Public Library for Kirtland Community College.

Respectfully submitted by

James W. Lawrence, Director,