

MMLL Director's Report
May 24, 2012

State Aid for FY 2011/2012 and 2012/2013

Library of Michigan is paying the State Aid in the order libraries filed their state aid annual report. Through the end of April, about 17 of our libraries have received their state aid checks. LM is making every effort to get the 1st 50% payments out by July 1 and the 2nd 50% payments all made by mid-July.

2012-2013 Budget is moving through the legislature fairly quickly. Both house and Senate have approved versions of the 2 budgets that contain money for libraries. The House and Senate versions of the State Aid to Libraries fund differ by \$470,700 with House approving the higher amount. This bill will go to conference committee and the members have been named. Therefore the total aid to libraries budget will be either \$6,750,000 or it could be as high as \$7,220,700. (\$6,750,000 is the amount of state aid in the current year)

The neither the legislature nor the governor want any prolonged fights about the budget so it should be passed quickly so that the legislature can began campaigning for re-election.

Summer Reading Promotion on 9 & 10 News

Once again Channel 9 & 10 news will be promoting summer reading programs on their Helping Hands public service spots. Next week we will began sending the information to 9& 10 News.

Webinar Held on Cataloging Basics

MMLL cosponsored a webinar on cataloging basics –Bits & Pieces of Cataloging on April 24. Several of members signed up for the course. We will be billed for a portion of the costs as will the participants.

E-Reader Workshops To Train the Trainer Held.

Two workshops to train the trainers on E-Reader were held in Traverse Area District Library and presented by TADL staff. The workshops were held on April 10th and April 17th and both were well attended. We hope to have the same staff present the same workshop in othere areas of the cooperative service area.

Library is Michigan Preparing New LSTA 5-year Plan.

Library of Michigan is conducting a online survey right now on LSTA and they have held several in person sessions around the state to get input from libraries for the next 5-year plan for the Library Services and Technology Act.

MCLS Wants to Work Closer with Coops

At the last Coop Director's Association meeting in April, Randy Dykhuis approached the coops about working closer together for training in other areas. A committee was formed to explore areas that we can work together. I have been put on that committee. We have not met yet.

Small and Rural Libraries Conference held May 2-4, in Acme, Michigan.

The recently held conference was a big success with over 400 attendees. Many of our member libraries were represented at the conference. I was only able to attend the first day and the last due to medical emergencies in my family (which are much better now and continuing to improve).

We have a handout on the role of trustees that came from the conference by way of Helen Dewey.

Advisory Council Meeting Held in Elk Rapids.

On May 10th we held the Advisory Council Meeting in Elk Rapids and had a tour of the Elk Rapids Library which is located in an old but stately house on the bay. We had a very small turnout. The meeting was constructive with the main topic of conversation was policies of various subjects and updating current policies on personnel, etc.

Other matters & Miscellaneous

1. Miriam Andrus is the Interim Director at Big Rapids Library and Bradley Chapin is the new Director at Kalkaska County Library.
2. E-rate training will be June 12, 2012

Respectfully submitted by

James W. Lawrence, Director,