

MMLL Director's Report
May 26, 2011

State Aid, FY2010-2011 (Current Year)

We are now about to complete 8 months of the fiscal year and payments of the regular State Aid are starting to come in. We have received notice that 28 of our libraries have been paid their first 50% of state aid. Since moving to the Department of Education (MDE), payments have slowed down. MDE uses a more complicated payment request system and the Treasury Department which used to process checks in only a few days upon authorization now can take weeks.

State Aid for FY 2011/2012

Yesterday, the legislature approved a total state aid 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%. This is much better news than had been expected and thanks in large part to Sen. Walker of Traverse City who chaired the committee.

Summer Reading Promotion on 9 and 10 News

TV 9 and 10 News will have a link to our online calendar for events for the Summer Reading programs around the League.

Up North Digital Collection for OverDrive is expanding

The joint OverDrive System which started with only a few members from MMLL and Northland Library Cooperative has been expanding. They now have about 14 members either in the collection or soon to be. More libraries are expected to join before the end of the year. New libraries are admitted only at each quarter of the year.

Cooperative Directors Association and FosterSwift law firm are sponsoring a series of webinars for Trustees.

Lawyers from FosterSwift will be presenting a series of webinars aimed at Trustees and Directors during the year. The first one is June 7, and it will be on Millage

Campaigns. Registration is online. Dates and subjects for the forthcoming webinars are on the sheet I handed out today.

Summer Reading Craft Workshop held on May 6, 2011.

MMLL's Summer Reading Craft Workshop on May 6, 2011 had 19 attendees and was very well received. Presenters were from Mt. Pleasant library, the Plymouth district library and the Cadillac Wexford Public Library (Tracy Logan).

Budget Amendment Needed to Update Current Budget

The current budget needs to be revised slightly to reflect actual expenditures and a slight increase in revenues. The proposed changes are in the Board packets.

Other Matters & Miscellaneous

1. Library of Michigan will be holding a Plinkits Webpage design session on August 4th in the Cadillac Wexford Public Library. Attendees are already booked through the Library of Michigan.
2. We have been working with Movie Licensing USA to see if we can get discount for members with a group "bulk" buy.
3. I will be on vacation beginning tomorrow for about 2 weeks returning on the 1th of June.

Respectfully submitted by

James W. Lawrence, Director,