

**Director's Report**  
**WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**September 16, 2017**

## CORRESPONDENCE

The **Department of Employee Trust Funds (DETF)** has announced a 0% health insurance increase for state employees and an average of 3.3% increase for local government employees in 2018. While actual premiums for the different providers have not been released, the list of providers for Marathon County has been announced. Providers available in Marathon County in 2018 include GHC of Eau Claire, Health Partners Health Plan, Security Health Plan-Central and WEA Trust East. DETF also announced that the Joint Committee on Finance (JCF) has rejected its proposal to go to a self-funded model for health, but has recommended the following to the Assembly and Senate:

- Eliminate domestic partnership program. Existing partnerships would be "grandfathered"
- Move the group health insurance from a 3-tier to a 5-tier structure
- Increase legislative input and oversight authority over the program by:
  1. Adding 4 GIB members appointed by legislative leadership of each party in both houses
  2. Senate confirmation of GIB appointees
  3. Adding more reporting requirements
  4. Requesting the Legislative Audit Bureau to conduct an audit of the group health insurance program and reserves

Notes of thanks were received from Neillsville Public Library Children's Librarian **Kathy Wegner**, and Withee Public Library Director **Teresa Miniatt** for offering each library a Summer Library Program (SLP) grant to host a performer during the summer months.

WVLS received a thank you card from retired Tomahawk Public Library Director **Mary Dunn** for the support provided throughout her library career.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

WVLS Communications Coordinator **Anne Hamland** and her family moved from Wausau to Eau Claire over Labor Day weekend. With the move, Anne's office space has also migrated. She will be taking up residence in the Indianhead Federated Library System most of the time, and returning to Wausau a few workdays each month. With this transition, Anne will be in a better position to coordinate with and share expertise between key IFLS staff to advance the IFLS/WVLS website development services and future communications/marketing projects. While we will miss Anne's daily presence in the WVLS office, we look forward to the opportunities this partnership will bring to the services we provide our members.

Also, **Anne Hamland** recently completed a 6-week online "WordPress for Libraries" course offered through the UW-Extension and UW-Madison. WordPress is an open source content management system that is easily customizable and popular in libraries. The course shared the basics of WordPress websites and moved toward advanced topics like theme editing and multi-site administration, and will prove valuable as she continues to develop a model for website development, design and maintenance for WVLS and IFLS libraries.

WVLS Assistant Director and ILS Administrator **Inese Christman** was invited to join the **Recollection Wisconsin's Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Service Hub Steering Committee**. Selected from a large and impressive slate of nominees, Inese begins her two-year term in September 2017 and it will run until August 2019. The Committee's charge is to develop policies and procedures for the ongoing operations of the DPLA Service Hub, and to provide advice and recommendations to the Governing Board on matters of interest to the Hub and the Wisconsin cultural heritage community. Inese will attend her first meeting on September 11 in Madison.

## WVLS PROJECTS

### V-Cat Administration

The V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee met on Tuesday, August 29 to develop a process for reviewing all V-Cat Sierra Circulation-related documentation and to review the “Damaged/Billing Recommended Best Practices” document. The Committee also discussed the *Best Practices for Libraries that Bill for Cross-County Use* report developed by SRLAAW (System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin). Last week, the committee recommended to the V-Cat Council that a one-year patron card renewal process with address verification be implemented by consortium members. This issue will be up for further discussion at the V-Cat Council meeting in November.

WVLS ILS Administrator **Inese Christman** will present a session on “Using Sierra’s Create List Reporting Tool” at Rhinelander District Library’s staff in-service on Friday, September 29.

The migration of the Sierra servers from bare metal to virtual servers is slated for Tuesday, October 31. Consortium members have been notified of this project and that Sierra may not be accessible that day.

### YSIE (“Why? See!”) – Youth Services Information Exchange

The latest informal discussion opportunity in the Youth Services Information Exchange series was hosted at the Antigo Public Library on Friday, August 25, 2017. It was attended by seven WVLS librarians, a representative of Northern Waters Library System and a WVLS staff member. Topics covered included teen gaming, policies for managing after school teen activities in shared space, summer reading program activities, reading incentives, gathering data for passive and drop-in programs, makerspace and coding initiatives. The group toured the Antigo Public Library. Definite plans for the next discussion were tabled pending a check of dates and locations.

### Legislative Update

See September 11, 2017 edition of the Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) Legislative Newsletter at the end of this report. **(Exhibit 11-a)**.

### Internal Technology Projects

The **Active Directory migration** is underway. A new File Server is established for WVLS staff use, and some movement to the new schema for operations services (VPN for access from home/outside of network) has begun. Prior to finalizing migration to the new Active Directory schema for WVLS staff, upgrades to Windows 10 for all WVLS staff are being scheduled out with completion expected by the end of September.

The **Audio/Visual Enhancement Project** in the WVLS meeting room is complete. Wireless display and computer audio in/out is now also complete. The hearing loop was tested upon install, but not verified to work as expected “in production” so we are working to schedule a review and tuning of the hearing loop output to ensure it is working as intended.

### LEAN WI

**ERate** – Preparations for the 2018 ERate filing process are in motion. Messaging to libraries for the new cycle will be going out at the end of September.

**Virtualization of Sierra Servers** – The Sierra Application and Database migration from physical servers to virtual servers hosted on the LEAN WI private cloud will occur on Tuesday, October 31.

**Library Upgrades** - We are in the process of upgrading most libraries’ routers, switches, and WiFi equipment in our evolution to integrated services. This project needs to be completed by the end of March 2018 to satisfy LSTA program timeline requirements but we intend to have it completed by the end of January 2018. WVLS is also helping libraries implement or convert to **Pharos computer session management software**, with assistance from IFLS which already supports that product for many of their members.

**“Door Counter” Project** – We are targeting mid-October for internal product testing, and mid-November for installing “pilot” units at two or three libraries.

### Technology Planning

**2018 Budgeting** – As of this writing, we are awaiting word on the review/approval process from IFLS regarding their share of the LEAN WI budget.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING

### OverDrive Support Class

WVLS is paying the registration fee for three area library staff to participate in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) online OverDrive Support Course being held in September and October. People taking the course include: **Teresa Miniatt**, Withee Public Library; **Heather Bain**, Marathon County Public Library – Hatley Branch; and **Cara Hart**, Neillsville Public Library.

### MCPL and Rhinelander District Library Staff In-Services

The Marathon County Public Library and Rhinelander District Library have invited member library staff to attend their staff in-services on Friday, September 29 (**exhibit 11-b**). WVLS thanks both libraries for the gracious invitation and hopes staff from other libraries are able to take advantage of these opportunities.

### WVLS Retreat for Public Library Directors

Public library directors from WVLS and surrounding systems are invited to attend the bi-annual WVLS Director’s Retreat to be held on Thursday, October 5 at Tribute Golf Course and Bunker’s Bar & Grill, Wausau. This full day of learning, sharing and inspiration has a very tight agenda that includes discussion sessions, table activities, comradery, and high-powered speakers. The morning keynote, featuring **Amanda O’Neil** and **Kelly Nelson** (Winneconne Public Library), will be on community partnerships and playing to the strengths of library staff and community. Over lunch, **Cindy Fesemyer** (Columbus Public Library) and **Deb Haeffner** (South Central Library System) will present “From Potluck to Project” and discuss how the library brings community partners together for potluck conversations that result in community projects.

### WVLS Youth Services Workshop

The **annual youth services workshop** will be held on Tuesday, December 12. The morning program will be a joint presentation about collection development and transforming library spaces for youth services. **Marge Loch-Wouters** (*Tiny Tips for Library Fun* blogger and Youth Services Consultant for South West Library System) is partnering with **Patty Becker** and **Susan Queiser** from Barron Public Library where they did a complete remodel of their children’s space and collection arrangement. In the afternoon, WVLS will host **Tessa Michaelson Schmidt**, Youth and Inclusive Services Consultant at Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Tessa’s topics are “Libraries are for Everyone” (introducing the revised DPI guidelines *What Does It Mean to Be Inclusive?*) and an update on the DPI/DLT Coding Initiative.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 7 – **“Tips for Building a Well-Rounded Collection for Youth”** webinar – third in a 5-part collection development webinar series – sponsored by WVLS and 10 other public library systems (Hamland)
- September 7–9 – Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference; St. George, Utah
- September 11 – Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Service Hub Steering Committee meeting; Madison (Christman)
- September 13 – Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Steering Committee GoToMeeting with System Directors (Sepnafski)
- September 13 – Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) funding and Cost Standards Subcommittee GoToMeeting (Klingbeil)

- September 14 – Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Steering Committee meeting; Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point (Sepnafski)
- September 14 – WiLSWorld Quarterly Short webinar “Information Literacy Misconception Study and Survey Findings”
- September 16 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Wendt, Hildebrand)
- September 19 – Consultation Visit (county funding of libraries); Gilman (Sepnafski, Hafemeister)
- September 19 – **“ALA Conference At-a-Glance”** webinar with ALA Conference Scholarship winners, **Denise Chojnacki** and **Debbie Valine** (Rhineland District Library)
- September 21 – WPLC Steering Committee GoToMeeting (Christman)
- September 21 – Director Orientation; Antigo (Hafemeister, Sepnafski)
- September 22 – PLSR Steering Committee regional meeting; Marathon County Public Library (Sepnafski)
- September 25 – Forest County Library Board meeting (Wendt)
- September 26 – **“Database Overview”** NFLS/WVLS webinar (Hamland)
- September 28 – ETF (Employee Trust Funds) Health Insurance Dual Choice Kick-Off; Madison (Hildebrand)
- September 28 – DPI’s System Youth Services Consultants’ meeting; Johnson Creek (Wendt)
- September 29 – System Office Managers & Business Administrators of Wisconsin (SOMBAW) meeting; Madison (Hildebrand)
- September 29 – DPI’s System Continuing Education Coordinators’ meeting; Johnson Creek (Hamland)
- September 29 – WLA’s Library Development and Legislation (LD&L) meeting; Madison (Wendt)
- September 29 – **Rhineland District Library Staff In-service**; Rhineland (Christman)
- September 29 – **Marathon County Public Library Staff In-Service**; Wausau
- October 4 – **“Are You Being Served? Programming for Emerging Adults”** NFLS/WVLS webinar (Hamland)
- October 5 – **WVLS Director’s Retreat**; Tribute Golf Course and Bunkers Bar & Grill (Sepnafski, Christman, Hildebrand, Wendt, Klingbeil, Hamland)
- October 12 – WiscNet’s “Building Smarter Communities” workshop; Stevens Point (Klingbeil)
- October 17 – System and Resource Library Administrators’ Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) meeting; Wisconsin Dells (Sepnafski)
- October 17 – Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) meeting; Wisconsin Dells (Klingbeil, Hamland)
- October 17-20 – **“RECHARGE”** – 2017 WLA Conference; Kalahari Resort & Convention Center; Wisconsin Dells (Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Wendt, Hamland, Hildebrand)
- October 25 – **“Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, Video, Video, Video! Or, Using Video to Market Library Services”** NFLS/WVLS webinar (Hamland)
- October 26 – **“Data Informed Collection Development”** webinar – fourth in a 5-part collection development webinar series – sponsored by WVLS and 10 other public library systems (Hamland)
- October 31 – Migration of Sierra Application and Database from physical to virtual servers (Christman, Klingbeil, Heitman)
- November 1 – **“Graphic Design for Libraries – Part I”** NFLS/WVLS webinar (Hamland)
- November 2 – WVLS V-Cat Council meeting; Marathon County Public Library (Christman, Mroczenski)
- November 2 – **WVLS Periodic Renewal**; Marathon County Public Library (Hamland)
- November 3 – **“Promoting Your Collection: Merchandising and More”** webinar - fifth in a 5-part collection development webinar series – sponsored by WVLS and 10 other public library systems (Hamland)
- November 7 – WiLS 2017 Regional Meeting; Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point
- November 9 – PLSR Steering Committee meeting; Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point (Sepnafski)
- November 15 - **“Graphic Design for Libraries – Part II”** NFLS/WVLS webinar (Hamland)
- November 18 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Wendt, Hildebrand)
- December 12 – **“WVLS Annual Youth Services”** workshop; Marathon County Public Library (Wendt)