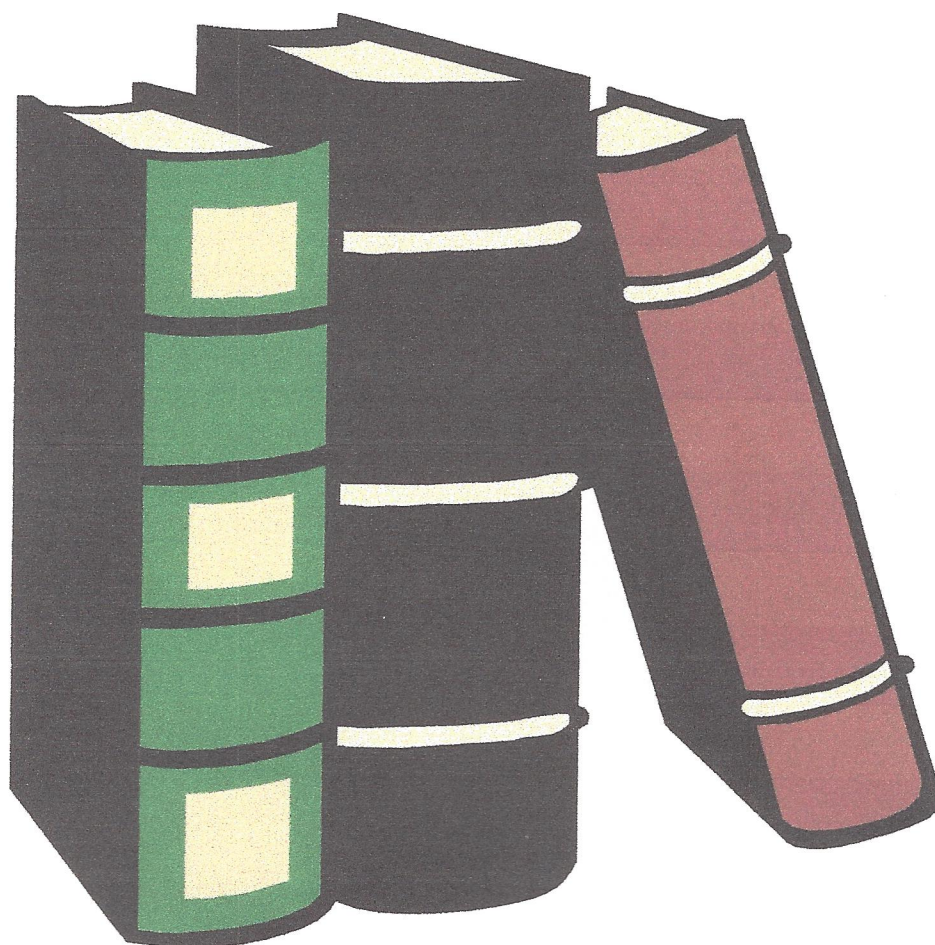


# **LINCOLN COUNTY LIBRARY PLAN**

June 4, 1999 Edition



**Resolution 19 -99**  
**Title: County Library Plan**

**WHEREAS** the Lincoln County Board levies a county library tax under section 43.64(1) Wisconsin Statutes for the provision of public library service, and

**WHEREAS** the Wisconsin Legislature recently passed Senate Bill 269 (1997 Wisconsin Act 150) which requires counties to form a Library Planning Committee and adopt a written county library plan, and

**WHEREAS** Lincoln County Board of Supervisors created a Library Planning Committee by the adoption of Resolution 42-98 on October 20, 1998, and

**WHEREAS** the County Library Planning Committee has developed a written library plan,

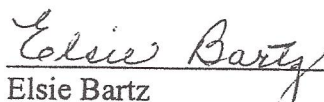
**WHEREAS** the proposed plan has been approved by the Library Boards of T.B. Scott Library and the Tomahawk Public Library,

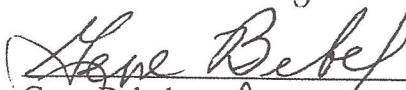
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts the recommendation of the County Library Planning Committee and adopts the County Library Plan dated June 4, 1999.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that plan be submitted to the State Department of Public Instruction as required by Wis. Stat 43.11(3)(b).

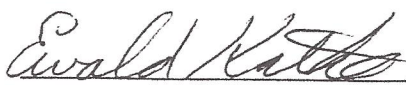
Dated this 22nd day of June, 1999.

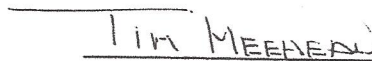
County Library Planning Committee

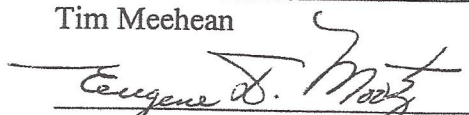
  
Elsie Bartz

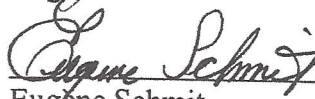
  
Gene Bebel

  
Paul Garner

  
Ewald Katke

  
Tim Meehan

  
Eugene Mootz

  
Eugene Schmit

Fiscal Impact: None (no change in County tax levy)  
Drafted by John Mulder, Administrative Coordinator



**LINCOLN COUNTY PLAN OF LIBRARY SERVICE**  
(June 4, 1999 Edition)

**Mission Statement:** To make library service available to Lincoln County residents of all ages and to provide for equitable funding of that service.

**I. Background:**

A. There are two public libraries in Lincoln County:

T.B. Scott Library in Merrill  
Tomahawk Public Library in Tomahawk

B. Since the adoption of Resolution #62 on December 18, 1979, the Lincoln County Board has delegated the oversight responsibility of county library services to the separate Merrill and Tomahawk public library Boards of Trustees. In June 1991, the County Board entered an agreement with both the Tomahawk Library and the T.B. Scott Library for the provision of countywide library service. This agreement provided for funding of library services to the residents living outside the cities of Tomahawk and Merrill.

C. In 1961 Lincoln County began its affiliation with the Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS), a federated library system operating under Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Lincoln County is represented on the Board of Trustees by one person as required by Wis. Stat. 43.19(1)(b).

D. The current agreement between the County, the respective library boards, and the Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS) states that the purposes of the County Library Planning Committee are to:

1. Maintain a currently useful plan of library services within the County;
2. Monitor library services within the County;
3. Work with the County Board of Supervisors and the county's librarians to develop and maintain adequate county funding for established public libraries which serve residents of the county who live outside of the cities of Merrill and Tomahawk;
4. Determine the purpose and distribution of any funds or other benefits which may come to the county to improve and extend library services from WVLS or other funding sources; and
5. Work with the county board of supervisors, librarians from within the county, and the WVLS staff and Board of Trustees to help Lincoln County's libraries to achieve and maintain compliance with statutory and system requirements,

## **Lincoln County Library Plan – June 4, 1999 Edition**

recognizing the statutory autonomy of the individual library board of trustees for each of the two libraries in Lincoln County.

- E. By the adoption of Resolution 42-98 in October 1998, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors created a Library Planning Committee under the requirement of Wis. Stat. 43.11.

### **II. Current Library Services to County Residents:**

- A. An inventory of basic information about public library service in Lincoln County including collection sizes, circulation, finances, and staffing is provided by each public library in the county via the state required annual report. A copy of that report is filed at each public library; with each library's municipality; with each library's Board of Trustees; with the Lincoln County Clerk; with WVLS; and with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning (DLTCL). The Lincoln County Library Planning Committee will review this report on an annual basis.
- B. Each public library in Lincoln County is an autonomous municipal public library. The Boards of Trustees of these libraries are properly appointed per Wis. Stat. 43.54.
- C. Each public library in Lincoln County provides library services to all residents of Lincoln County, residents of all WVLS counties, and residents of all Wisconsin counties (except Milwaukee County) by means of the intersystem agreements WVLS has with other Wisconsin library systems. By agreement of the Lincoln County Library Planning Committee, the Board of Supervisors, and the boards of each public library in the county, an in-county non-resident circulation (for the purposes of county reimbursement under Wis. Stat. 43.12(2)) is defined as:

An in-county, non-resident circulation is eligible for county level reimbursement if it meets the following criteria:

- Is an item from a public library's collection checked out to a walk-in patron from an area of the county which does not directly support a public library. Items used in the library do not count as eligible circulation;
- Is an interloan item received from another library checked out to an in-county, non-resident patron; and
- The number of eligible in-county and cross-county non-resident circulation will be collected and reported on an actual, annual basis.

### **III. Current Funding of Library Services to County Residents:**

- A. Each public library in this county is supported by funds from:
1. The municipality in which the library is located, and the municipality abides by the statutory requirement to support the library at least at the average of their support during the previous three years as per Wis. Stat. 43.15.



### Lincoln County Library Plan – June 4, 1999 Edition

2. The County, which abides by the statutory requirement to maintain its support of the library at a level not lower than the average of the previous three years per Wis. Stat. 43.15(2)(b). Lincoln County pays a proportion of the total budget for each library. The amount paid to each member shall be based on the percent of that member's circulation to Lincoln County residents who live outside the cities of Merrill and Tomahawk. The percentage paid to each library is based on circulation statistics from that library's annual report for the last full calendar year preceding the presentation of the budget proposal to the County. The proportion is expressed in whole numbers rounding down to the nearest whole number where the actual proportion is less than or equal to .49 (49/100<sup>ths</sup>). Where the whole number and any fraction in addition thereto is .50 (50/100<sup>ths</sup>) or greater, the whole number for purposes of determining payment is increased to the nearest whole number.
  3. The County, by providing the above funding meets the requirements of providing at least 70% of the cost of providing circulation to residents of the county who are not residents of the cities of Merrill and Tomahawk as required by Wis. Stats. 43.12(1) and (3).
  4. Other WVLS counties, as reimbursement for service given by public libraries in this County to people from those counties who do not live in municipalities which support public libraries as authorized under Wis. Stats 43.12. The County Library Planning Committee encourages the two public libraries to seek reimbursement from other counties when the circulations to residents of other counties exceed 100 circulations.
  5. Occasional grant money from federal, library system, or other agencies, and
  6. Gifts and donations.
- B. The municipalities in this County which support public libraries have elected to exempt themselves from the county tax levy. They are eligible for this exemption because local tax support for their public library is at an equal or higher level than the support provided by the county.
- C. The County's historical funding of each of the libraries in the county is included as an appendix to this document.
- D. The following method will be used to comply with Wis. Stat. 43.11(3)(c): If a public library in another Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS) county requests reimbursement for on-site circulation service which it provides to residents of Lincoln County who are not residents of the City of Merrill or Tomahawk, it shall request that reimbursement via the following actions:
1. The Board of Trustees of the public library requesting reimbursement for circulations given to Lincoln County residents who are not residents of the cities of Merrill or Tomahawk, by July 1<sup>st</sup> of any year, provide written notification of such request to the Chair of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors.

## Lincoln County Library Plan – June 4, 1999 Edition

2. This notification must include statistics indicating:
  - a. the number of on-site circulations for which reimbursement is being requested
  - b. the requesting library's total operating expenditures (minus capital and federal expenditures) in the year previous to the request
  - c. the requesting library's total circulation in the previous year to the request
  - d. a description of the method(s) used by the requesting library to determine the residence of patrons from Lincoln County.
3. Based upon the written request for reimbursement and the submission of statistics as requested above, Lincoln County will provide reimbursement according to the following formula:
  - a. In the first year following the written request for reimbursement, Lincoln County will reimburse the requesting library 1/3 of 70% of its actual cost per circulation in the previous year. (Actual cost is computed according to the formula stated in Wis. Stat. 43.12(1).
  - b. In the second year following the written request for reimbursement, Lincoln County will reimburse the requesting library 2/3 of 70% of its actual cost per circulation.
  - c. In the third and subsequent years following the written request, Lincoln County will reimburse the requesting library at 70% of its actual cost per circulation.
  - d. Payments will be made by Lincoln County directly to the requesting library by at least March 1<sup>st</sup> of any eligible year.

### IV. Goals and Objectives of This Plan:

GOAL #1: TO PROVIDE ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS WITH OPEN ACCESS TO ALL LIBRARY SERVICES PROVIDED BY ALL WVLS MEMBER LIBRARIES, PER WIS. STAT. 43.11(3)(c).

#### County Level Objectives: (Carried out by the County Board of Supervisors)

- a. Maintain membership in WVLS by complying with statutory requirements for county membership in a library system per Wis. Stat. 43.15(4)(b).
- b. Appoint representative(s) to represent Lincoln County on the WVLS Board of Trustees.
- c. Provide financial support at least at statutory levels per Wis. Stats. 43.15(4)(b)2 and 43.12.
- d. Abide by agreement with the WVLS which, among other things, states that libraries in this county provide service to all residents of Lincoln County.
- e. Appoint a county library planning committee to oversee library activity in Lincoln County.
- f. Adopt and maintain a county plan of service which will be reviewed/revised at least every three years.



## Lincoln County Library Plan – June 4, 1999 Edition

### County Level Objectives (Carried out by the County Library Planning Committee)

- a. Maintain a currently useful plan of library services within the County and review/revise that plan at least every three years.
- b. Hold meetings at least quarterly and invite directors and/or trustees from all public libraries in Lincoln County to attend and participate in discussions of issues being considered by the County Library Planning Committee.
- c. Hold at least one of the meetings in each of the libraries located in the County.
- d. Oversee library services within Lincoln County.
- e. Work with the County Board of Supervisors and the Boards of the two respective libraries to develop and maintain adequate county funding for public libraries in Lincoln County and other WVLS counties, which service residents of this county who live outside of the cities of Merrill and Tomahawk.
- f. Determine the purpose and distribution of any funds or other benefits which may come to the county to improve and extend library services from other funding sources.
- g. Work with the County Board of Supervisors, librarians from within the county and the WVLS staff and Board of Trustees to help Lincoln County libraries to achieve and maintain compliance with statutory and system requirements.
- h. Review the current funding agreement and formula.

### Local Level Objectives (Carried out by local municipality)

- a. Maintain membership in WVLS by complying with statutory requirements for municipal library membership in a library system, Wis. Stat. 43.64(2)(c).
- b. Sign an agreement with the WVLS which, among other things, states that the library will serve all residents of the WVLS area in the same manner as it serves residents of the municipality which established the library.

### Local Level Objectives (Carried out by local libraries)

- a. Directors of the public libraries in this county will annually provide statistics to the Clerk of Lincoln County which will be used to determine this County's financial responsibility to support libraries in this and other WVLS counties for service to residents of Lincoln County who live outside of the cities of Merrill and Tomahawk, Wis. Stat. 43.12(2).
- b. Directors of public libraries in this county will regularly attend meetings of the County Library Planning Committee to provide background/input into decision-making, etc.

**GOAL #2: TO PROVIDE FOR EQUITABLE FUNDING FOR LIBRARY SERVICES PROVIDED TO ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS.**

**County Level Objectives...(Carried out by County Board of Supervisors)**

- a. Provide financial support at least at statutory levels per Wis. Stats. 43.11(3)(c), 43.12, and 43.15(2)(b).

**County Level Objectives...(Carried out by County Library Planning Committee)**

- a. Work with the County's public library directors to develop annual budget and distribution formula for county library support.

**Local Level Objectives (Carried out by local municipality)**

- a. Provide financial support at least at statutory levels per Wis. Stats. 43.64(2)(b) and 43.15(2).

**Local Level Objectives...(Carried out by Local Libraries)**

- a. Directors of the public libraries in Lincoln County will annually provide statistics to the Clerk of Lincoln County which will be used to determine this county's financial responsibility to support libraries for service to residents of Lincoln County and other WVLS counties who live outside the cities of Merrill and Tomahawk and will make their records available to the County Clerk, per Wis. Stat. 43.12(2).
- b. Directors of public libraries in Lincoln County will regularly attend and participate in meetings of the County Library Planning Committee.

**GOAL #3: TO CONTINUE TO REVIEW THE CURRENT METHOD OF PROVIDING LIBRARY SERVICES AND THE FUNDING OF THOSE SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF LINCOLN COUNTY WHO LIVE OUTSIDE THE CITIES OF MERRILL AND TOMHAWK.**

**County Level Objectives...**

- a. The County Library Plan will be revised to reflect any changes to the provision and /or funding of library services which are adopted by the County Board.

**V. Future Plans:**

As per Section IV, Goal #1 of Lincoln County's plan, the County Library Planning Committee will review and revise this plan as necessary at least every three years.

Copies of revised plans will be filed with Lincoln County's Board of Supervisors; the County Planning Committee, each public library in this county, the WVLS and the



## **Lincoln County Library Plan – June 4, 1999 Edition**

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning (DLTCL).

### **VI. Attachments:**

1. County Resolution #62 "Responsibility of Library Boards for State Aid Allocation and Programming," adopted December 18, 1979
2. County Resolution #42-98 "Library Planning Committee," adopted October 20, 1998
3. List of the Library Planning Committee members
4. Brief History and Fact Sheet for:
  - a. T.B. Scott Library
  - b. Tomahawk Public Library
  - c. Wisconsin Valley Library Service
  - d. WVLS report describing the benefits Lincoln County derives from its affiliation with WVLS
5. WVLS Member County Participation Agreement
6. WVLS Member Library Participation Agreement
  - a. T.B. Scott Library
  - b. Tomahawk Public Library
7. Agreement between the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors and participating libraries
8. Historical Circulation figures 1994-1998
9. Library Budget Process and Historical Funding Levels – 1994-1998

RESOLUTION NO. 62

TITLE: Responsibility of Library Boards for State Aid Allocation and Programming

WHEREAS, the T. B. Scott Free Library in Merrill and the Tomahawk Public Library provide legal access to public library services for all residents of Lincoln County, and

WHEREAS, the Boards of Trustees of these libraries have agreed that the allocation of State of Wisconsin aids and programming for county-wide library services should be the mutual responsibility of both Boards, and

WHEREAS, there is no legal requirement to have a separate county-wide library committee to carry out said responsibilities;

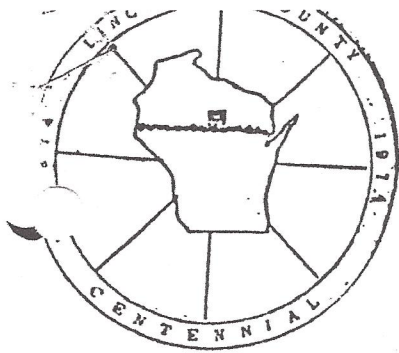
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this 18th day of December, 1979, by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors, that the Boards of Trustees of the T. B. Scott Free Library in Merrill and Tomahawk Public Library shall assume the mutual responsibility for the division of Wisconsin state aid funds and the programming for county-wide library service.

Introduced by:

Harry Osness

Harry Osness





# LINCOLN COUNTY CLERK

COURTHOUSE

MERRILL, WISCONSIN

54452

715-536-7444

Elizabeth S. Mehe  
Deputy & Person  
June E. Downing  
Deputy Clerk & B.

NORTH OF THE TENSION LINE

STATE OF WISCONSIN }  
COUNTY OF LINCOLN } SS

I, Kenneth Oldenburg, Clerk of the County of Lincoln, Merrill, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution # 62 is a true and correct copy of said resolution as passed by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors at their Regular meeting, the 18th day of December, 1979.

Certified this 4th day of January, 1980.

Kenneth Oldenburg  
KENNETH OLDENBURG, Clerk  
Lincoln County, Wisconsin

Adopted  
10/20/98  
20 days - 0 days

**Resolution 42-98**

**Title: Library Planning Committee**

**WHEREAS** the Lincoln County Board levies a county library tax under section 43.64(1) Wisconsin Statutes for the provision of public library service, and

**WHEREAS** the Lincoln County Board reimburses the T.B. Scott Public Library (Merrill) and the Tomahawk Public Library (Tomahawk) for provision of library services to the residents of the county who do not live in municipalities that have established libraries, and

**WHEREAS** the Wisconsin Legislature recently passed Senate Bill 269 (1997 Wisconsin Act 150) which requires counties to form a Library Planning Committee, and

**WHEREAS** the current funding mechanism for library services has recently been discussed by members of the public and the Administrative & Legislative Committee,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts the recommendation of the Administrative & Legislative Committee and forms a Library Planning Committee with the committee appointments presented to the County Board for approval at the November 1998 County Board meeting.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the first issue for the Library Planning Committee is to review the joint library issue with a potential target date of implementation by the year 2000.

Dated this 20th day of October, 1998.

Administrative & Legislative Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Sumnicht, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eugene Mootz, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Jackson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eugene Schmit

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Schaefer

Fiscal Impact: Mileage & per diem  
Drafted by John Mulder, Administrative Coordinator



## **LINCOLN COUNTY LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

<b>ELSIE BARTZ</b>	<b>TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVE</b>
<b>GENE BEBEL</b>	<b>EDUCATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE</b>
<b>PAUL GARNER</b>	<b>CITY OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE</b>
<b>EWALD KATKE</b>	<b>TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVE</b>
<b>EUGENE MOOTZ</b>	<b>COUNTY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE</b>
<b>GENE SCHMIT</b>	<b>TOMAHAWK LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE</b>
<b>TIM MEEHEAN</b>	<b>MERRILL LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE</b>

## **BRIEF HISTORY OF T. B. SCOTT FREE LIBRARY**

Thomas Blythe Scott was an Irish immigrant who made his fortune in northern Wisconsin through his interests in lumbering and railroads. Scott's will provided \$10,000 "for the purpose of procuring, establishing and maintaining a public library," on the condition that the City of Merrill provide suitable quarters. The library that bears his name opened its doors to the public in March of 1891.

The library's original home was located at the southern end of what is now known as the "Old City Hall." As the library collections and programs expanded, lack of space became a critical problem. A new library, designed in the Prairie School style, was completed in 1911, one of the many library buildings funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

Growth continued and an addition to the Carnegie structure, which doubled the size of the library, was built in 1969. Thirty years later the library is again crowded, and service to people with disabilities is limited.

Over the years TBSFL has received recognition: 1968 Librarian of the Year (Edna Kraft); 1974 Carnegie building named to the National Register of Historic Places; 1977 Library of the Year; and 1986 Trustee of the Year (Anita Gebert).

## **SERVICES**

Maintain print and nonprint collections to supply both educational and recreational needs of patrons.--Provide onsite and telephone reference services.--Offer in-home visitation of elderly and/or people with temporary or permanent disabilities who cannot come to the library, via the Outreach Program.--Supplement public and private school library services, compile book boxes for teachers, and work with homeschoolers.--Encourage young children to develop a lifelong interest in reading and learning through a books for babies program, story hours for 2-5 year olds, and a variety of programs for school-age children.--Offer a Summer Reading Program to help children maintain their reading/learning skills during the months they aren't in school.--Plan daytime and evening book discussion groups for adults who enjoy studying good literature, both classic and contemporary.--Participate in the statewide interlibrary loan program to give our patrons access to materials not found in our collection.--Maintain a computerized catalog which allows people to locate materials by author, title, subject, or key word.--Give Internet access via several computer stations.--Provide word processing, resume writing and other computer programs.--Purchase learning games for kids, both traditional and electronic.--Operate a small branch library in Gleason, staffed on Saturday mornings.--Furnish a meeting room for use by community groups



## **T. B. SCOTT FREE LIBRARY**

### **Fact Sheet (4/99)**

<b><u>Founded:</u></b>	1891
<b><u>Current Director:</u></b>	Beatrice Lebal, 106 W. First Street, Merrill, WI 54452 Phone - (715) 536-7191 Fax - (715) 536-1705 email - blebal@mail.wiscnet.net
<b><u>Home Page:</u></b>	Under construction.
<b><u>Primary Area Served:</u></b>	The City of Merrill and the townships surrounding it, including Birch, Corning, Harding, Merrill, Pine River, Rock Falls, Russell, Schley, and Scott.
<b><u>Population Served:</u></b>	21,510 (1997 Wisconsin Library Service Record estimate)
<b><u>Governance:</u></b>	TBSFL operates under Chapter 43 of the WISCONSIN STATUTES. The library is governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees, including seven appointed by the Mayor and two appointed by the County Board Chairman. Current officers of the TBSFL Board include: Timothy Meehan, President; Michael Geisler, Vice President; Richard Mamer, Financial Secretary. The Director acts as Secretary to the Board.
<b><u>Location:</u></b>	TBSFL is located on the banks of the Prairie River, approximately at the center of the city, at 106 W. First Street. A small branch library is located in the Gleason Fire Barn.
<b><u>Budget and Funding:</u></b>	The 1999 TBSFL budget is \$687,899. County residents pay a portion of the budget based on library circulation to people living outside the City of Merrill. An Endowment Fund has been established to provide for ongoing facility upkeep and special projects.
<b><u>Major Service Roles:</u></b>	Popular Materials Library, featuring current, high-demand, high-interest materials in a variety of formats for people of all ages. Reference Library, providing timely, accurate, and useful information for community residents in their pursuit of job-related and personal interests. Pre-schoolers' Door to Learning, encouraging young children to develop an interest in reading and learning through services for children, and for caregivers and children together. Active in the development of V-Cat, a shared automation system that will serve the seven-county Wisconsin Valley Library Service area.
<b><u>Staff:</u></b>	Just over 13 full time equivalents.
<b><u>Workload:</u></b>	Annual circulation of about 300,000 items; 1795 interlibrary loan items circulated to local patrons or sent to other libraries; 161 homebound, handicapped, and senior citizens received materials through the Outreach Program.
<b><u>State View:</u></b>	TBSFL is a member of the Wisconsin Valley Library Service, one of 17 systems in the state.

## BRIEF HISTORY OF TOMAHAWK PUBLIC LIBRARY

The first library and reading room in Tomahawk was given to the City by William H. Bradley in 1889. The library was a collection of newspapers, magazines and books donated by Mr. Bradley, the "father" of Tomahawk, and his friends to serve as an alternative to the saloons for lumbermen of the area. As was true in a number of other Wisconsin communities at that time, the Women's Christian Temperance Union members were involved in gathering additional books and in assisting the librarian.

In 1907-08 the Women's Literary Club and the Tuesday Club sponsored fund-raising projects to open a library in the community after the earlier reading room was destroyed by fire. Their efforts were successful in 1909 in opening in the assembly room of the Tomahawk City Hall. Historical sources cite the assistance of Miss Lutie Stearns of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission in organizing the new library for service.

The predecessor of the current library facility was a nondescript 2,400 square foot stone and block building adjoining City Hall. The addition to City Hall was a gift from Mr. and Mrs. George Karam in 1967. The Karams were local business owners and Mrs. Karam served on the library board. Children's services were provided from a completely separate 1,320 square foot room on the second floor of City Hall.

On April 5, 1995, a new chapter was added with the opening of the current library. The new library has an 11,500 square foot main level and an accompanying full unfinished basement. Community wide support funded the \$1,115,000 building with approximately \$790,000 in TULIP donations.

## SERVICES

Provide onsite and telephone reference services. -- Encourage young children to develop a lifelong interest in reading and learning through Story Time and Tot Time for preschoolers, as well as programs for school-age children. -- Have book reserves -- Offer a Summer Reading Program to help children maintain their reading/learning skills during the months they aren't in school. -- Have special programs -- Participate in the statewide interlibrary loan program to give our patrons access to materials not found in our collection. -- Have a photo copying service available for personal copying done at a nominal fee. -- Have a facsimile service available for sending fax transmittals for a fee. -- Offer in-home visitation of elderly and/or people with temporary or permanent disabilities within the City limits, via the Outreach Program. -- Give Internet access and programs via computer stations. -- Provide IBM compatible computers. -- Maintain print and non-print collections to supply both educational and recreational needs of patrons. -- Supplement public and private school library services, compile book boxes for teachers, and work with homeschoolers. -- Offer a Book Club or discussion groups for adults who enjoy studying good literature, both classic and contemporary. -- Maintain a computerized catalog which allows people to locate materials by author, title, subject, or key word. -- Purchase C.D. Rom learning products for kids. -- Furnish a "community room" for community group meetings.



**TOMAHAWK PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Fact Sheet (4/99)**

<u>Founded:</u>	1889 (Current building completed 3/27/95)
<u>Current Director:</u>	Paula Steuernagel
<u>Home Page:</u>	
<u>Primary Area Served:</u>	The City of Tomahawk and surrounding townships, including Somo, Wilson, Bradley, King, Tomahawk, Skanawan and Harrison in Lincoln County, plus the Town of Nokomis in Oneida County
<u>Population Served:</u>	Over 7172. (1997 Wisconsin Library Service Record estimate)
<u>Governance:</u>	The Tomahawk Public Library operates under Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Current Board of Trustees include: Thomas Seavey, President; Donald Nelson, Sara Reiff; Julie Kainz; Judith Nelson; Edward Remmers; Eugene Schmit, County Board Representative; John Sarnow, District Administrator
<u>Location:</u>	300 W. Lincoln Ave., Tomahawk, WI 54487
<u>Budget and Funding:</u>	Per 1998 Fiscal Report, the budgeted amount was \$313,750. This includes City and County appropriations, State aid, grants and other operating income.
<u>Major Services:</u>	Provide reference services, offer Story Time and Tot Time for pre-schoolers and school children, have book reserves, offer a summer reading and other special programs, participate in the statewide interlibrary loan program, have photo copying and fax services, are part of the Outreach Program, have computer stations with Internet access and learning products, aid public and private school libraries, work with homeschoolers, have an adult Book Club, furnish a "community room" for group meetings.
<u>Staff:</u>	5.8 fulltime equivalents
<u>Workload:</u>	1998 circulation showed 73,748 adults and 52,689 juveniles, and 47,522 within the City and 78,915 rural, including the remainder of Lincoln County, Oneida, Price, and other WVLS counties
<u>State View:</u>	Tomahawk Public Library is a member of the Wisconsin Valley Library Services, which is one of 17 systems in the state

## BRIEF HISTORY OF WVLS

The Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS) is one of the first four Wisconsin library systems which began in 1961 as a federally funded pilot projects.

The WVLS project set out to prove that reference and interloan service could be provided on a cost-effective basis to mostly rural residents

The Northern Waters Library Service (Ashland/Superior) project was established to test the cost-effectiveness of bookmobile service to a large rural area.

The Southwest Wisconsin Library System (Fennimore) project was to see if centralized cataloging and processing of library materials for a large rural area was a good idea.

The Milwaukee County Federated Library System was trying out the idea of providing general back-up services to libraries in a very populous area.

After federal funding ran out in 1965, each of the counties which was participating in the federal project was asked by WVLS if they felt the project warranted continuing support with county dollars. All involved counties said "yes." WVLS ran on only county dollars from 1965-1972.

In 1971 and 1972 the State of Wisconsin agreed that the 4 system projects were very valuable to residents of the state. The state took over the funding of library systems and set statutory requirements for their services, governance, and funding levels. State funding first became available in 1973. Since that time WVLS has operated almost entirely on state (and sometimes federal grant) dollars. Participating counties continue to contribute about 4% of WVLS' annual revenue.

The basic daily services provided by WVLS to/for its members include: back-up reference service; interlibrary loan directly or indirectly via systems such as QuILL - an electronic interloan service partially pioneered by WVLS which served as a test site for the program; general and specific consultant services; provision of continuing education opportunities for library personnel in the area; provision of deposit collections of large print books and audio cassettes for libraries, nursing homes and apartments for the elderly; access to a growing collection of video cassettes; courier service which connects most of the public libraries in the state; and, most recently, with the help of the T.B. Scott Free Library in Merrill, WVLS is setting up a systemwide shared automation system which will allow interested libraries to access their own and other members' collections via computer.



# WISCONSIN VALLEY LIBRARY SERVICE

Fact Sheet (1/99)

Founded: 1961

Current Director: Heather Eldred, 300 North First St., Wausau, WI 54403-5473  
Phone - (715) 261-7251  
Fax - (715) 261-7259  
email - eldred@wisvalley.lib.wi.us

Home Page: [www.wisvalley.lib.wi.us](http://www.wisvalley.lib.wi.us)

Area Served: 7,630 square miles including the north central Wisconsin counties of: Clark, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida and Taylor

Population Served: 270,765 (10/98 Wisconsin DOA population estimates)

Number of libraries through which service is provided: 25 public libraries, 212 non-public libraries.

Governance: WVLS operates under Chapter 43 of the WISCONSIN STATUTES. WVLS is governed by a 15 member Board of Trustees. Each participating county has at least one member on the board - the rest are allocated according to population. Trustees are appointed by the chairs of the County Boards of Supervisors. The current officers of the WVLS Board are: President - Douglas Lay (Marathon County); Vice-president - Donna Walbeck (Taylor County); and Treasurer - Louann Fenhaus (Marathon County).

Location: The WVLS rents space from and operates out of the Marathon County Public Library, 300 North First Street, Wausau, WI 54403-5473

Budget & Funding: The 1999 WVLS budget is \$815,190. About 90% of support comes from the State of Wisconsin and 10% from participating counties, interest on investments, grants etc.

Major Services: Reference and interlibrary loan; video tapes; storytelling kits; audio tapes; large print books; consultant service to area librarians and trustees; courier service to/from almost all Wisconsin public libraries; training workshops for area library personnel and trustees; and V-Cat, a shared automation system.

Staff: 10 full time equivalents

Workload: WVLS responds to approximately 20,000 requests annually.

State View: WVLS is one of 17 library systems in the state.

# Wisconsin Public Library Systems





## LINCOLN COUNTY BENEFITS FROM WVLS MEMBERSHIP - 1998

In 1998, their 37<sup>th</sup> year of affiliation with the Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS), staff and patrons of Lincoln County libraries continued to make good use of the resources available to them through Lincoln County's membership in WVLS, the seven-county library resource sharing network headquartered in Wausau. Other WVLS member counties are: Clark, Forest, Langlade, Marathon, Oneida, and Taylor.

Lincoln County has 24 libraries - 2 public and 22 nonpublic. In 1998 both of the public libraries and one of the nonpublic libraries made use of WVLS services. In addition, one nursing home or apartment for the elderly made use of WVLS deposit collections in 1998. All types of libraries in every member county can use as many or as few WVLS services as they wish.

### REFERENCE AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN

In 1998 Lincoln County libraries sent 1,074 requests for library materials and information to WVLS. Any member library can send requests for information on specific subjects to the WVLS office where highly trained staff will search for the information being requested. Interlibrary loan (ILL), the sharing of materials between libraries, provides local access to the resources of WVLS, the state, the nation (and sometimes beyond).

WVLS acts as an interloan clearinghouse (or backup library) to its members. In addition to sending requests for materials and information to WVLS, members are directly accessing the collections of other libraries in the WVLS area and beyond through electronic means. Individual libraries maintain their own ILL statistics when they go directly to other libraries so this annual benefit report is not able to report the total number of interloans each member library participated in. Electronic access was primarily made available to member libraries through their membership in WVLS.

### DEPOSIT COLLECTIONS

In 1998 Lincoln County received deposit collections of 160 large print books and 545 spoken word audio cassettes. These collections are sent, via WVLS-sponsored courier service, for three-month loan periods to requesting libraries, nursing homes and apartments for the elderly. They help keep local collections fresh and interesting and stretch local library budgets. At an average 1998 purchase cost of \$33.68 for each item in a deposit collection, Lincoln County libraries and other service providers had on-site use of approximately \$23,744 worth of materials during 1998.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Lincoln County library personnel and trustees attended WVLS-sponsored continuing education activities 41 times in 1998. These workshops help to keep the library community informed about new library materials, library-related technologies, legislative activities, general library procedures, etc. Attendance helps public library directors maintain their state-required certification levels.

## CONSULTANT SERVICES

WVLS staff made 16 on-site consultant visits to Lincoln County libraries in 1998 to provide services such as one-on-one training in the use of new technologies; helping with collection upkeep; aiding in policy development; giving explanations to library boards, etc. In addition, WVLS staff respond on a daily basis to requests for help and information from library personnel and trustees by phone, fax and email.

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM PERFORMANCES

With the help of a \$320 WVLS subsidy, 2 performers brought added interest to the 1998 Summer Reading Programs run by Lincoln County public libraries. Studies have shown that library summer reading programs are the single most important activity in the maintenance of childrens' reading skills over the summer months.

## GENERAL GRANTS

As WVLS members, libraries can apply for grants to expand and enrich local library services. Membership in WVLS also makes libraries in Lincoln County eligible for WVLS special project funds (projects initiated by WVLS). In 1998 Lincoln County public libraries reported receipt of \$5,435 in grant funds.

## DIRECT CASH GRANT FROM WVLS

In 1998 the Lincoln County Library Board received a cash grant of \$7,099. Libraries can use WVLS cash grant dollars for anything except capital improvements. The county library board divides the cash grant dollars between the 2 public libraries in Lincoln County to improve and extend library services on the local level.



## COURIER SERVICES

WVLS supports two courier services which enable public libraries in WVLS member counties to send/receive library materials (postage free) to/from most libraries throughout the State of Wisconsin. The value of these courier services to public libraries in Lincoln County in 1998 was \$2,119

## WESSLER SCHOLARSHIPS

The Wessler Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Carol Ruth Wessler, the first WVLS reference librarian. Personnel from all types of libraries may apply for Wessler funds to help pay the costs associated with attendance at continuing education activities related to reference and interloan. In 1998 one Wessler Scholarship (\$254) was awarded to a Lincoln County library employee.

## ON-SITE USE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACROSS THE STATE

A current public library card allows Lincoln County residents to make on-site use of all other public libraries which belong to the WVLS. In addition, that library card allows for on-site use of public libraries in all cities across the state except for public libraries in Milwaukee County. Usually there is no cost involved in using libraries outside of the 7-county WVLS area however, in areas of heavy use, the State of Wisconsin has allowed some public libraries to charge for non-resident use.

## COUNTY REPRESENTATION ON WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In 1998 Rose Marie Stevens (Irma) represented Lincoln County on the WVLS Board of Trustees.

## FURTHER INFORMATION NEEDED?

If you would like more information, contact:

Heather Eldred, Director  
Wisconsin Valley Library Service  
300 N. First Street  
Wausau, WI 54403

Phone: (715) 261-7251  
Fax: (715) 261-7259  
email: [eldred@wisvalley.lib.wi.us](mailto:eldred@wisvalley.lib.wi.us)  
Web page: <http://wisvalley.lib.wi.us>

County Benefits From WULS Membership - 1998

COUNTY POPULATION	CLARK 32,625	FOREST 9,302	LANGLADE 20,593	LINCOLN 28,865	MARATHON 125,460	ONEIDA 34,439	TAYLOR 19,481
1 Requests sent to WULS by libraries in county	3,112	817	670	1,074	4,529	2,899	2,299
2 # Large print books on deposit in county	2,040	360	0	160	2,686	1,133	1,060
3 # Audio cassettes on deposit in county	1,369	600	195	545	2,043	320	815
4 # Video cassettes on deposit in county	1,275	485	130	0	2,020	175	975
5 # Workshop attendance days per county	54	7	28	41	123	82	36
6 # Field contacts in county	16	4	9	16	17	5	23
7 Summer Reading Program Performances	9	3	1	2	9	3	5
8 Value of Wessler scholarships	161	0	0	\$ 254	287	0	0
9 Value of Grants	\$39,523	\$ 1,070	\$ 484	\$ 5,435	\$20,296	\$ 1,570	\$ 1,847
10 Value of courier service (Waltco & SCLS)	\$ 9,280	\$ 2,597	\$ 1,165	\$ 2,119	\$ 2,597	\$ 3,074	\$ 4,984
11 Cash grants for member counties	\$ 8,046	\$ 2,250	\$ 5,078	\$ 7,099	\$30,815	\$ 8,463	\$ 4,812
Direct county financial support of WULS	\$ 2,839	\$ 904	\$ 2,046	\$ 3,056	\$14,283	\$ 5,021	\$ 1,896

NOTE: Lines 1, 5, 6, & 8 represent services available to all types of libraries in each county.

Lines 2, 3, & 4 represent services available to public libraries, nursing homes and apartments for the elderly in each county.