

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
WVLS Board of Trustees Meeting
January 20, 2018

CORRESPONDANCE

- In late November 2017, DPI informed WVLS that our 2018 system plan was approved and that our first (of two) 2018 state aid payments was released. The first payment of \$660,238 was transferred electronically into a WVLS investment account.
- WVLS received official notifications that appointments have been renewed for **Tom Bobrofsky** (Clark County), **Tyson Cain** and **Douglas Lay** (Marathon County), and **Pat Pechura** (Oneida County).
- **Marla Sepnanski** received a letter from DPI indicating that her Grade I Public Librarian Certificate has been renewed. The certificate is valid through November 2022.
- A note of thanks was sent to former MCPL Director **Phyllis Christensen** for her \$1,000 donation to WVLS.
- **Kris Adams Wendt** received a thank-you card from **Vicky Calmes**, Colby Public Library Director, for assisting with moving day tasks.

PEOPLE and LIBRARIES IN THE NEWS

The *new* **Colby Community Library** opened its doors on December 18. Organizers broke ground on the project May 1, 2017. A Grand Opening/Open House will be held at the Colby Community Library on Saturday, **February 17**, from 1:00-4:00 pm, with a dedication at 1:00.

DPI's Public Library Development Team is recruiting for a Library Consultant to serve as its state data coordinator and consult on public library and system finance and compliance. This position will fill the position vacated by **Jamie McCanless** in March 2017. The application deadline is January 21.

The Nicolet Federated Library System (Green Bay) Board of Trustees hired **Tracy Vreeke** as the new director of the system. Formerly a librarian at the Door County Library, Tracy's first day on the job was January 3. She replaces **Mark Merrifield**, who retired in May 2017.

Dominic Frandrup (Antigo Public Library Director), **Laurie Ollhoff** (T.B. Scott Library Assistant Director), and **Heidi O'Hare** (Tomahawk Public Library Director) have been offered \$100 scholarships to apply to their travel expenses to attend the 2018 WLA Library Legislative Day in Madison.

Crandon Public Library Director **Michelle Gobert** has resigned from her position to take on a new role as Youth and Family Educator at the Forest County UW-Extension.

Jamie Matczak, former Interim Director at the Nicolet Federated Library System (NFLS), has been hired as the new Education Consultant for WVLS. Her first day on the job was **January 8**.

Kyle Schulz, Circulation and Systems Librarian at Kalamazoo College (MI), has been hired as the new WVLS ILS Administrator. Kyle's first day on the job will be **February 13**. He replaces Inese Christman, who retired on January 8.

WVLS PROJECTS

2018 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference

The Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference (WWWC), a premier state-wide virtual conference developed by the Nicolet Federated Library System and supported by WVLS and 15 other library systems in Wisconsin, will be held **January 23-25, 2018**.

Nineteen, 60-minute web presentations focusing on public libraries will be given each day from speakers all over the country. Presentations are geared to have 45-50 minutes of material, and then time for Q & A. Attend what you want – one...four...or all 19! Because of the collaboration, all sessions are available at no cost to participants. For more information, and to register, visit <http://www.wildwiscwinterweb.com>

Public Library / System Annual Reports

Several WVLS staff are compiling data for the system's and member public libraries' 2017 annual reports. V-Cat related statistics were shared with DPI to download into the online reports, and a 2-page V-Cat data sheet was emailed to each public library this week.

2017 WVLS Audit

WVLS was contacted by Kerber Rose, formerly Krause, Howard and Company, Inc., in mid-December with a request for information to begin the 2017 WVLS audit. We will be working with them over the next several months to ensure the audit is ready to share with this Board in May.

Legislative Update

Hearings were held on the *Public Library Data and Technology Training Bill* (AB572/SB491) before the Assembly Committee on Rural Development on November 16 and Senate Education Committee on December 19. Both committees voted to unanimously recommend the bill to their respective houses of the legislature for passage. It is expected to be taken up by the Assembly on January 16 and hopefully will pass both houses during the limited floor periods remaining before session adjournment in February. The League of Municipalities and Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) have both joined the Wisconsin Library Association in [officially supporting this legislation](#).

The bill seeks no additional funding. It adds language to expand the use of the WISEdata and WISEdash information system appropriations beyond K-12 schools to include applications of potential benefit to individual public libraries and Wisconsin's 16 regional public library systems. It also opens TEACH block grants, which are now available through the Department of Administration to small and rural schools, to their counterparts in education: small and rural libraries. DPI/DLT has assured that there is adequate capacity in both programs to include libraries without negatively impacting K-12 schools.

Library Legislative Day is Tuesday, February 20, in Madison. [Register Online for Library Legislative Day](#) or download the [PDF \(Exhibit 11a\)](#) and fax it to the WLA Office at 608-245-3646. Or scan and attach it to an email to Brigitte Rupp Vacha ruppvacha@wisconsinlibraries.org. **Registration DEADLINE is Monday, January 29.** More details regarding program agenda and lodging at the [Madison Concourse Hotel, Madison WI](#) are available at the [Library Legislative Day website page](#). A block of rooms has been reserved at the Concourse until January 22. WVLS will make every effort to coordinate transportation from Wausau depending upon response and logistics. Due to the early start to the Library Legislative Day activities, as well as the Monday afternoon SRLAAW meeting, organized WVLS transportation will likely depart mid to late morning on Monday, February 19, necessitating an overnight.

Libraries WIN Website Service

The Libraries Win Website Service is now hosting 18 websites (13 live, 5 in development) for libraries over the Indianhead Federated Library System and WVLS service areas. This new service, which began in late 2017, offers one-on-one consultation with **Anne Hamland**, provides each participating library with a standard website, and empowers library staff to maintain their library's website once the draft website goes live. 2018 will feature two co-work days to gather website staff from each location into one space. Webinars will also be scheduled as needed to review website practices and allow for questions.

Youth Services Update

Youth services librarians are encouraged to mark their calendars for the **January 23 Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE)** at the Jean M. Thomsen Memorial Library, Stetsonville. Over a working lunch from 11:00am-2:00pm, attendees will discuss 2018 "Libraries Rock!" summer programming ideas, teen summer programs and WVLS youth services. Attendees will discuss new methods they are incorporating into their summer programming, and share what is happening in youth services at their library. WVLS Public Library Services Consultant **Anne Hamland** plans to bring a "brainstorming idea list" created by youth services librarians from the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS). This discussion opportunity is the first YSIE scheduled in 2018, however additional discussion opportunities are being scheduled in May and September. There will also be a grassroots gathering following **Children's Book Fest** in Rhinelander on the afternoon of March 7. Note: Children's Book Fest will be held March 6-7. See flyers attached to this report (**Exhibits 11b and 11c**) for details.

IT Services Integration Project Update

The Network Equipment Refresh and Active Directory integration project has been implemented in part or in full at the Abbotsford Public Library, (the brand new) Colby Community Library, Edith Evans Memorial Library (Laona), Edward Demmer Memorial Library (Three Lakes), Granton Community Library, Greenwood Public Library, Minocqua Public Library, and Rhinelander District Library. Planning and scheduling for the Antigo Public Library, Crandon Public Library, Frances Simek Memorial Library (Medford), Thorp Public Library, and Western Taylor County Public Library (Gilman) are in progress as of this writing and the scheduling out of all other libraries through March is expected to be completed by the end of January.

IT Strategic Planning

A revision of the WVLS Technology Strategy, including Technology Plan, is underway. This revision process and cycle is being leveraged to develop and propose a comprehensive Technology Strategy for the LEAN Wisconsin (LEAN WI) partnership as a single planning effort which covers all partners. Assuming acceptance of a joint LEAN WI Technology Strategy and Plan, the new WVLS Technology Plan for July 2018 - June 2023 will include participation in the LEAN WI technology resource sharing partnership and adherence to the LEAN WI strategy. Items of need which remain unique to WVLS or, by necessity, must remain segregated from the LEAN WI partnership will be expressly defined in the WVLS Technology Plan for July 2018 - June 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 18 – PLSR Steering Committee meeting (Sepnafski, Hamland)
- January 20 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting**
- January 23 – **WVLS Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE)** – Jean M. Thomsen Memorial Library, Stetsonville (Hamland)

- January 23-25 – **WVLS co-sponsored 2018 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference** (Matczak)
- January 24 – WISCAT User Group online meeting (Mroczenski)
- January 27 – WLA LD&L Committee meeting – Madison (Wendt)
- January 30 – DPI-hosted CE Consultants meeting (Matczak)
- February 1 – **WVLS V-Cat Council meeting** – WVLS office (Klingbeil, Mroczenski, Sepnafski)
- February 1 – **WVLS V-Cat Cooperative Circ Committee** meeting (Klingbeil, Mroczenski)
- February 1 – 2nd Conference About Libraries & Literacy (C.A.L.L.) – Murphy Library, UW-LaCrosse
- February 8 – PLSR Funding Subcommittee meeting (Klingbeil)
- February 17 – Colby Community Library Grand Opening/Open House, Colby (Sepnafski)
- February 19 – SRLAAW meeting – Madison (Sepnafski)
- February 19 – WPLC Board meeting – Madison (Hamland)
- February 20 – **WLA’s Library Legislative Day – Madison** (Wendt, Sepnafski, Hamland, Matczak)
- February 22 – WPLC Steering Committee meeting (Hamland)
- February 22-23 – PLSR Workgroup Members meetings – Stevens Point (Sepnafski)
- February 26 – Deadline to submit system/public library annual reports to DLT
- February 27 – **WVLS “Social Media” webinar (tentative)** (Matczak)
- March 3 – PLSR CE Workgroup meeting (Matczak)
- March 4-10 – National Teen Tech Week
- March 6-7– **Annual Children’s Book Fest / Grassroots Gathering** – Rhinelander (Hamland, Matczak)
- March 12-14 – DPI’s inaugural Inclusive Services Institute - Madison

Happy New Year!

Marla