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Dear Marathon County Public Library Board Members,

Good afternoon, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak today. I've worked for WVLS for almost two years, and I also have 12 years of public library system experience with the Nicolet Federated Library System, based in Green Bay.

You're going to hear a presentation today from our colleagues at the South Central Library System, where they will talk about their services and standards. Because there is a lot of talent among their staff, I know it will be an impressive presentation. I work and collaborate with several of their staff members, including Consulting Services Coordinator, Mark Ibach. Mark and I have an online meeting tomorrow at 11:30 a.m., with consultants from the Outagamie-Waupaca Library System (based in Appleton), and the Nicolet Federated Library System (based in Green Bay). The four of us are going to finalize a draft of a marketing plan template. This marketing plan template will be available to all public libraries in Wisconsin in early 2020 to assist them with their marketing efforts. The hand out in front of you highlights this collaborative effort, as well as more than 20 examples of how WVLS collaborates with all 16 public library systems.

Another way that I collaborate with all 16 library systems is through the annual Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference, highlighted in the collaborations hand out, which I have coordinated the last 7 years. Fourteen sessions are presented from librarians all over the country over two days in January. Rachel Arndt, Public Services Area Manager for the Milwaukee Public Library, says, *"Every winter I look forward to the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference. The topics are timely and actionable. I get to hear from expert practitioners, some of whom are nationally known speakers. Everyone should be supporting and participating in the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference."*

WVLS staff is collaborative, hard working, talented, well-connected, and always looking to improve and be better. We rely on our colleagues in other systems for expertise and support, the same way they rely on us. Whether people work in Ashland or Appleton, Milwaukee or Menomonie, it takes many for the 380+ libraries in Wisconsin to achieve success. These relationships with other system colleagues are mutually beneficial and supportive. I also call many public library system employees not just colleagues, but friends. I value these relationships and hope they continue.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

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