Exhibit 16

Council on Library and Network Development
November 10, 2023
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Including a Tour and Presentation from the Matheson Memorial Library

1. **Call to Order** (Action; 5 minutes)   Isa Small, *COLAND Chair*

   Roll Call/Determination of Quorum (Information)

                                                           Terri Muraski, *COLAND Secretary*

   Introduction of Guests/Visitors
   Changes/Additions to Agenda (Action)   Isa Small
                                                           All

   Approval of September 8th, 2023, Minutes (Action)

                                                           Terri Muraski

2. **Welcome from Matheson Memorial Library and**   Chad Robinson,
   Tour (30 minutes)   *Director*

3. **Prairie Lakes Library System Merger**   Steve Ohs, Prairie
   (Discussion; 45 minutes)   Lakes Library
                                                           System; Steve
                                                           Platteter, Prairie
                                                           Lakes Library
                                                           System, any board
                                                           members

4. **National School Library Trends in Intellectual**   Monica Treptow, DPI
   Freedom   DPI Staff
   (Discussion; 30 minutes)

5. **Report of the Chair** (Information, Discussion; 10 minutes)   Isa Small;
                                                           All

6. **DPI, PLSR, and School Libraries Updates** (Discussion; 20 minutes) Biennial Reports s. 43.07(4), (5), (7)	Ben Miller; DPI Staff
7. **Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Wrap up**	Bruce Smith, DPI; Ben Miller, DPI, DPI Staff
8. **Legislative Update** (Discussion; 15 minutes)	Dr. Darrell Williams, PhD; *DPI*

9. **Network Development Subcommittee Reports**
    ● September 2023 Broadband Subcommittee_01
    ● September 2023 Broadband Subcommittee_02
    ● October 2023 Broadband Subcommittee Minutes
(Discussion; 15 minutes)
	Ellen Kupfer, *Vice-Chair*;
	DPI Staff

10. **Networking Lunch** (Noon)	All

11. **Review Meeting Dates and Tentative Locations**
(Information, Discussion; 5 minutes)
    ○ 2023 Meeting Dates:
       ■ Friday, January 12th, 2024 | Virtual
	Isa Small;
	All

12. **Announcements**	Isa Small; All
13. **Adjournment** (2:00 pm)	Isa Small; All

COLAND Goals:

1. **HUMAN RESOURCES:**
   a. RECRUITMENT: Support efforts inspiring middle school, high school, and college students to consider a career in library science.
   b. EDUCATION: Evaluate and support educational pipelines, continuing education, professional standards, inclusive practices, and licensing/certification for both school and public librarians.
   c. RETENTION: Increase the retention of professional librarians and help advocate for competitive salaries, benefits, and recognition for service in the field.
2. **BROADBAND ACCESS:**
   a. ADVOCACY: Advocate with stakeholders in achieving statewide broadband service that is accessible and affordable for all Wisconsinites—a foundational element of digital equity.
3. **INNOVATION:**

a. OBSERVATION: Actively and thoughtfully monitor trends, developments, and challenges in modern library services.
b. ENCOURAGEMENT: Support the Department of Public Instruction, library districts and systems, individual libraries, and professional groups as they implement and experiment with new programs—especially those which serve marginalized populations.

4. **OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT:**
a. AWARENESS: Increase awareness of COLAND through outreach to libraries, library systems, and professional groups.
b. NETWORKING: Develop and support active relationships with—and between—libraries, librarians, and vital organizations aligned with COLAND goals.

5. **INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM:**
a. PROTECTION: Vigorously defend intellectual freedom and the Right to Read.
b. PERSEVERANCE: Support libraries and their staff as they face a recent surge in book challenges; carefully monitor state and national trends in book challenges, as well as the groups and opinions fueling them.

43.07 Council on library and network development. The state superintendent and the division shall seek the advice of and consult with the council on library and network development in performing their duties in regard to library service. The state superintendent or the administrator of the division shall attend every meeting of the council. The council may initiate consultations with the department and the division. The council shall:

(1) Make recommendations to the division in regard to the development of standards for the certification of public librarians and standards for public library systems under s. 43.09.

(2) Advise the state superintendent in regard to the general policies and activities of the state's program for library development, interlibrary cooperation and network development.

(3) Advise the state superintendent in regard to the general policies and activities of the state's program for the development of school library media programs and facilities and the coordination of these programs with other library services.

(4) Hold a biennial meeting for the purpose of discussing the report submitted by the state superintendent under s. 43.03 (3) (d). Notice of the meeting shall be sent to public libraries, public library systems, school libraries and other types of libraries and related agencies. After the meeting, the council shall make recommendations to the state superintendent regarding the report and any other matter the council deems appropriate.

(5) On or before July 1 of every odd-numbered year, transmit to the state superintendent a descriptive and statistical report on the condition and progress of library services in the state and recommendations on how library services in the state may be improved. The state superintendent shall include the report as an addendum to the department's biennial report under s. 15.04 (1) (d).

(6) Review that portion of the budget of the department relating to library service. Recommendations of the council in regard to the budget shall accompany the department's budget request to the governor.

(7) Receive complaints, suggestions and inquiries regarding the programs and policies of the department relating to library and network development, inquire into such complaints, suggestions and inquiries, and advise the state superintendent and the division on any action to be taken.

History: 1979 c. 347; 1983 a. 524; 1985 a. 177; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 27.

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Meeting Minutes
Council on Library and Network Development
Friday, September 8, 2023
Bayfield Public LIbrary, Bayfield, Wisconsin
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Council Members

Present:

Isa Small (Chair)

Ellen Kupfer (Vice Chair)

Terri Muraski (Secretary)

Josh Klingbeil (member at large)

Amy Beth Bahena-Ettner

Terrence Berres

Andi Cloud

Nick Dimassis

Dennis Myers

Jaime Healy-Plotkin

Rob Nunez

Michael Otten

Christinna Swearingen

Rachel Thomas

Amy Thornton

Kristi Williams

Missing:

Amy Beth Bahena-Ettner

DPI Staff:

Allyson Hanz

Ben Miller

Shannon Schulz

Elizabeth Tomev

Monica Treptow

Guests:'

Teresa Weber, Director of Bayfield Carnegie LIbrary

Sherry Machones, Director of Northern Waters

Dr. Darrell Williams

Call to Order - Isa Small called the meeting to order at 9:02.

Roll Call - Quorum present

Changes/Additions to Agenda - Motion by Kupfer, second by Healy-Plotkin to add action item on support for including libraries in planning for broadband expansion to agenda item #8. Motion passed unanimously.

[Approval of July 14, 2023, Minutes](#) - motion by Wiliams, second by Kupfer approved unanimously

Introduction of guests - Chair Small welcomed guests Sherry Machones, Director of Northern Waters LIbrary Service and Teresa Weber, Director of the Bayfield Carnegie LIbrary. Both guests provided brief background introductions.

Welcome from Bayfield Carnegie Public Library and Tour - Teresa Weber welcomed the group and gave a brief history of the library, which opened in 1904, as well as information on current programs and services. She then provided attendees with a tour

of the facility.

National Public Library Trends in Intellectual Freedom
Sherry Machones gave a presentation entitled "Intellectual Freedom: State of the States". She serves as the Wisconsin representative for public libraries to the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom. She reviewed the increasing number of book challenges, the parental rights movement, and state efforts against library affiliation with ALA. She reviewed a state by state list of recent laws and actions related to intellectual freedom. She also spoke on the current Wisconsin censorship movements in Iron RIver and Marathon County. Michael Otten added information regarding the push for a book rating system in Marathon County. Ben Miller reviewed DPI's stance on intellectual freedom and how state funding for libraries, such as LSTA, is sometimes a target of these groups. Monica Treptow will present on the situation in schools at the next meeting. Treptow provided some additional information related to school challenges and links (provided below) to national data and a Senate hearing on the issue. There was discussion of these groups trying to take over governmental boards through additional appointments, the advocacy role of ALA, and local control of libraries in Wisconsin. Dr. Williams encouraged libraries to be proactive and knowledgeable about the support available. It is important to proactively review policies and procedures related to challenges. Outreach to other libraries through the library system and staff training are essential. Treptow stressed that freedom of speech includes challenges and policies and procedures need to take that into account. These groups sometimes directly attack librarians, resulting in high turnover of public library directors, which was 27% in Wisconsin in the past year. Challenges can also lead to collection development self-censorship by librarians.

- Machones presentation slides: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jGv9mHkrcz5KgLOlTKVOdqdIQ3ID-rU_Zi2--yDNuhs/edit?usp=sharing
- Link to hearing: https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/committee-activity/hearings/book,-bans-examining-how-censorship-limits-liberty-and-literature,
- State of America's Libraries Report 2023 | News and Press Center (ala.org)

Report of the Chair
Chair Small attended the SRLAAW Meeting. The biennial report was sent to the State Superintendent and her very positive response is linked below. There were three open positions on COLAND. One appointment has been made. Please share any recommendations for new non-professional members.
- State Superintendent Response to COLAND Biennial Report

Discussion of Intertype Library Report

Ben Miller shared the report linked below and encouraged members to ask questions and share thoughts on any of the partnerships and programs. Beth Tomev shared highlights from the report related to CCBC, the library delivery system, WEMTA, WILS, and the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille library. Other programs included are the Play, Make and Learn Conference; Badgerlink products such as US Newstream; Interlibrary loan, WISCAT, the library-workforce connection, LSTA funding, WISELearn and many other library collaborations - especially between schools and public libraries. The group expressed interest in providing us with more information on Badgerlink, WILS, gaming, accessibility and OER, and co-located libraries.

- [2021-2023 State Superintendent's Report on Intertype Library Cooperation and Resource Sharing](#)

DPI, ARPA, PLSR, and School Libraries Updates

Ben Miller reviewed the upcoming Badgerlink procurement process including a recent call for evaluators. He reviewed the public library compensation study results. It is available on the SRLAAW website. He also discussed the survey and report on public library facilities. Both reports will be rolled out with toolkits. Monica Treptow reviewed her summary report on a study of the Common School Fund. There were no changes to the guidelines because changes requested were not in line with the statute that governs the funding. The study revealed that issues with the funding often relate to lack of staffing and planning. She also reported on results of the study on school library plans, a school library/public library workshop held in August, and reading legislation that was recently passed in Wisconsin. Beth Tomev reviewed the many public and school library visits she took with Dr. WIlliams where they highlighted the importance of librarians and gathered data on the needs of libraries. She shared stickers and information on the library "Get your card" program. Dr. Williams expressed his enjoyment with and the value of the library visits. Tomev also reviewed procedures for filling out COLAND reimbursement forms. The link to the DPI report above includes links to more information on all of these topics.

Break for Networking Lunch (12:10-12:25)

Legislative Update
Dr. Williams shared that Dr. Underly has expressed her appreciation with the biennial report and all the information contained therein. He discussed state initiatives related to reading and literacy. He encouraged COLAND members to join him on library visits.

Network Development Subcommittee Reports
The committee did not meet over the summer. They have a meeting scheduled next Friday. Kupfer shared that libraries are not currently being included in the expansion

plans. Miller added that he has discussed this issue with some of those involved and suggested that COLAND or the subcommittee make a public comment. Motion from Kupfer, second by Dennis Myers that the subcommittee develop a public comment, to be approved by the Executive Committee, for the Public Service Commission (PSC) to request that libraries and library systems be included in all trainings and workshops to support the work to implement the state and local plans. Motion passed unanimously

Review of future meeting dates and tentative locations

- 2023 Meeting Dates:
    - Friday, November 10th, 2023 - Elkhorn
    - Friday, January 12, 2024 meeting will be virtual
    - Other possibilities for spring meetings - La Crosse, Platteville, tribal library.

Chair Small will begin working on setting up sites for the spring calendar.

Announcements:

- EC Public Library - hosting CV Bookfest - http://cvbookfest.org October 11-16. They are also hosting a library card program.
- Sherry Mahones shared Information on an initiative to share a technology staff person across three library systems. They have developed a multi-system job description and hope to hire with a January start date. Josh Klingbeil shared his experiences related to trust building and diversity with shared positions.

Meeting adjourned by Chair Small at 12:54