

**Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative
MMLC Board Meeting
January 10, 2008**

MMLC Board Vice - Chair Ann Ingles called the January 10, 2008 meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

I. Board Members Present: Harold Evans, Mathilde Slider; Stuart Bush; Denise Hooks; Gail Kelso; Gwenda Motley; Amy Schweitzer; Ann Ingles; Alma Staton.

Board Members Absent: Jane Smith (excused); Catherine Alberts (excused).

Guests: Patti Evans; Desta Ureel; Shirley Roos.

Co-op Staff: Roger Mendel; Irene Bancroft.

II. **Public Comments:** none

III. **Audit Report:** Laura DelEva, auditor with Lewis and Knopf, Inc presented the FY 2006-2007 Annual Audit. Laura reported that there are no reportable conditions or material weaknesses, stressing that the Cooperative is in compliance with generally accepted finance rules.

IV. **Review of the Board Minutes date December 13, 2007.** Approved as presented.

V. **Review of the Financial Reports dated December 31, 2007.** Approved as presented.

VI. **Board Committee Reports**

a. **Budget and Finance Committee:** Harold reported the committee met prior to the Board meeting. **Motion forwarded by the Budget & Finance committee seconded to accept the FY 2006-2007 audit as presented. All yeas (9-0).** Roger mentioned that we have added two line items to the budget in order to properly track income and expenses for the Northland Library Cooperative that is outside the contractual arrangement.

b. **Personnel C ommittee:** Ann mentioned that it is time for the Director's Annual Evaluation. The committee will be updating the evaluation form that has been used in past years and asking the Administrative Assistant to mail the form to Board members and the Director's of the public library members in early February. Committee members include Ann Ingles (chair), Gail Kelso, Tillie Slider and Jane Smith.

VII. **New Business:**

a. **Cooperative Re-organization update:** Roger gave an in-depth update on the State Librarian's proposal on re-organization. Members found the State Librarian's blog to be difficult to read, vague and unclear as to what the true changes will encapsulate. Roger mentioned that one member from the State Librarian's committee reported the committee's recommendation included direct State Aid funding for administrative costs to run the cooperatives. The currently presented proposal was refined by the State Librarian to remove the State Aid funding for any direct administrative funding

for Cooperatives. The proposal indicates that the State support be used to cover the cost of state-wide core services which include Mel delivery, Mel Cat and Mel databases. The remaining funds would be sent direct to public libraries on a per capita basis for connectivity / broadband, technology support, awareness / promotion of Mel services, training activities, and costs associated with participation in / enhancement of statewide core services. Roger encouraged members to discuss this issue with their local library director and board, and with other members of the community. Roger also encouraged members to respond to the State Librarian's blog with their opinion and concerns. Nancy Robertson has indicated to Roger she will be accepting comments until late March. Members of the board agreed that it would be helpful if a letter from the board was composed and sent. **Motion by Stuart Bush seconded Alma Staton by to compose a letter to the State Librarian indicating that the MMLC Board is opposed to the proposed re-organization as currently written. All yeas (8-0).** Ann and Stuart will work together to compose the letter and seek input from the other board members.

VIII. Old Business

- a. **Update on the 2007 PAC HUG grant:** Roger mentioned that all 88 computers have been ordered and received for this grant. There have been several small glitches that revolve around Dell shipping the wrong models and charging shipping. We are working diligently to get all the credits applied to our invoices.

IX. Director's Report: Roger directed members to the written report. Roger mentioned that he will be attending the American Library Association mid-winter conference in Philadelphia, PA January 11-16. Roger reported that the Northland office has been closed and vacated. The current files have been moved to the MMLC office, the Northland telephone number has been changed to roll over directly to our office. The planning committee for the Northland mini rural conference has recommended that the registration fee charged to Northland members be extended to the MMLC members. The mini conference is being planned for April 23rd. Roger reported that the Vernon District Library has successfully raised all the monies needed to build and furnish their new library.

X. Board Comments:

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Irene Bancroft
Administrative Assistant

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, March 13, 2008
MMLC Board Meeting
4:30 p.m.