



Board Packet

3.21.24 Board Meeting

Community Library Network
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2024
Hayden Library

2:00pm - 5:30pm

We Empower Discovery

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comment (*30 minutes*)
Speakers must state name and community and speak for no more than 3 minutes. Persons addressing the Board are expected to observe a level of civility and decorum appropriate for a public meeting. No personal attacks or disruptions from audience members will be tolerated.
5. Consent Agenda: Action Item (*5 minutes*)
 - a. Minutes of the Regular meeting of February 15, 2024
 - b. CIN meeting minutes of January 17, 2024
 - c. CIN financial statements February 2024
6. Community Library Network (CLN) February 2024 financial statements: Action item (*5 minutes*)
7. Discussion of Community Library Network February 2024 carryforward balance analysis (*5 minutes*)
8. Circulation Statistics: February 2024 (*5 minutes*)
9. Director's Report (*15 minutes*)
10. Discussion of Materials Selection and Acquisition Policy: Action item (*15 minutes*)
11. Withdrawal and Reconsideration Policy: Action item (*10 minutes*)

Break (*15 minutes*)
12. Discussion on Personnel Policy 5.3.6 Holidays: Action item (*15 minutes*)
13. Discussion on Covid Policy & April 29, 2020 Director's authorization for unilateral covid action: Action item (*15 minutes*)

Agenda, continued

14. Discussion on assignment and delivery of legal reports - Chair Ottosen: Action item (10 minutes)
15. Discussion on Internet Use Safety Policy: Action item (10 minutes)
16. Periodic acquisition report - CLN January and February 2024: Action item (10 minutes)
17. Athol and Post Falls Facilities update: Action item (10 minutes)
18. Trustee Education (5 minutes)
19. Discussion of Public Comment Policy, public etiquette, and signs: Action Item (15 minutes)
20. Discussion of future agenda requests (The board will decide via consensus whether these items will be moved to a future agenda) (5 minutes)
21. Set Special and regular meeting dates: Action item (5 minutes)

Adjournment: Action item

Calendar of events: April 18, 2024, 2:00-5:30pm Hayden Library

Please let us know if you need auxiliary aids or services to enjoy our libraries. This includes providing a sign language interpreter, assistive listening devices, or print materials in a digital format. We can also modify programs, services, or activities, within reasonable limits. Please request these services through Randy Zepeda, ADA Coordinator, preferably 15 days in advance, but no later than 72 hours before the event. Phone: 208-773-1506 ext. 329 Email: ADAcoordinator@communitylibrary.net

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Community Library Network
AMENDED Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 15, 2024
Hayden Library

2:00pm – 5:45pm

We Empower Discovery

Agenda

Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm

Roll Call Trustees: Katie Blank, Tom Hanley, Rachelle Ottosen, Tim Plass,
Vanessa Robinson (left at 5:50 pm)
Treasurer: Julie Saad (arrived at 3:25 pm)
Staff: Alexa Eccles, Lindsey Miller-Escarfuller, Michelle Fansler
General Counsel: Colton Boyles

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment (*30 minutes*)

Speakers must state name and community and speak for no more than 3 minutes. Persons addressing the Board are expected to observe a level of civility and decorum appropriate for a public meeting. No personal attacks or disruptions from audience members will be tolerated.

- Pat Raffe, Post Falls – expressed concern that the board majority might not be aware of how they hinder the attorney's effectiveness. She suggested holding only one meeting in March to allow staff time to address facility issues and urged the board to make positive changes.
- Theresa Birkett, Post Falls – recommended postponing changes to the Material Selection policy until the state legislature decides on S1289. She expressed concern about rising attorney fees and noted that only 20% of registered voters supported the current board majority. She urged the board to listen to Director Eccles, represent all Kootenai residents, and consider holding only one meeting next month.
- Dave Reilly, Post Falls – said he observed online posts regarding water damage in Post Falls and claimed to have retrieved undamaged videos from the dumpster, which he passed to the board, alleging fraud. He highlighted a video case of "Game of Thrones," citing its explicit content as evidence of pornographic materials in the library's collection, suggesting a cover-up.
- Pastor Matt Erickson, Post Falls – stated that mistrust of library staff and a lack of receptiveness to advice are hindering progress. As a regular library user who appreciates the staff's dedication to serving his family, he emphasized the importance of treating all staff members with trust and respect.

Robinson moved to go into Executive Session after public comment.

M, C – Robinson; Plass opposed

Board went into Executive Session at 2:14 pm. (*15 minutes*)

Executive Session | Idaho Code 74-206 (b): To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or

individual agent, or public-school student. Complaints against a public officer and/or individual agent.
Blank moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(b) at 2:14 pm

Blank – Aye
Hanley – Aye
Ottosen – Aye
Plass – Nay
Robinson – Aye

Miller-Escarfuller and Fansler left the meeting at 2:15 pm

Blank moved to come out of executive session at 2:58 pm

Blank – Aye
Hanley – Aye
Ottosen – Aye
Plass – Nay
Robinson – Aye

Consent Agenda: Action Item *(5 minutes)*

Minutes of the Regular meeting of January 18, 2023

CIN November 2023 minutes

CIN January 2024 financial statements

M, C – Robinson

Community Library Network January 2024 financial statements: Action item *(5 minutes)*

- Robinson proposed splitting line 70 into 70a for legal expenses and 70b for professional expenses to improve tracking and potentially adjust future budget allocations for legal counsel. The discussion revolved around the timing of implementing this change, with Eccles expressing no objections and suggesting it could be implemented as early as March.

M, C – Robinson

- Ottosen motioned to accept the January 2024 financial statements. Blank inquired if staff had any highlights to share. Eccles noted new revenue line items related to Idaho statutes regarding revenue and taxation. Plass and Hanley questioned if material purchasing had slowed due to temporary library closures. Miller-Escarfuller responded that materials are being redistributed to open libraries while also slowing down purchases. Eccles elaborated on managing hold cues with top sellers, purchasing large print when available and prioritizing community service. Blank pointed out that five other libraries remain operational.

M, C – Ottosen

- Ottosen proposed that legal reports only be added on the agenda when the board majority consent to it or it is both urgent and important. Blank asked if this was discussed with the Director. Robinson asked if this could be brought up later. Eccles is not sure what the implication is of who has invited legal counsel to meetings. Ottosen chose to stop discussion and move on.

Discussion of Community Library Network January 2024 carryforward balance analysis *(5 minutes)*

- Eccles stated due to the new state funds we are now over \$237k. Without the new state funds, we would have been \$85k short. The second semi-annual state funds anticipated are \$322k.

Circulation Statistics: January 2024 *(5 minutes)*

- Robinson pointed out people are taking advantage of the kid's cards.

Director's Report (15 minutes)

- State Replacement Funds - The board received a handout from the Kootenai County clerk outlining the State Replacement Funds received. They also received an email from a tax accountant in the auditor's office regarding HB292, detailing funds received from training. While it was anticipated that some funds would be received, the exact scope was unknown during the budgeting process. Plass emphasized that these funds are not new money from taxpayers. Eccles clarified that CLN did not have prior knowledge of the exact amount and did not dispute Plass' statement.
- Report on Moving books - Eccles presented a report requested by a trustee regarding the movement of books in the minors' and adult collections. The report highlighted that the Community Library Network has never housed obscene materials and adheres to legal standards regarding obscenity and harmful content to minors. Eccles provided details on books relocated due to reconsideration requests and shared statistics on the number of items in each collection and the types of library cards issued. Blank sought clarification on the different card types, which Miller-Escarfuller explained, distinguishing between minor, minor limited, and teen limited cards based on age restrictions and access to library materials. Robinson clarified that parents could obtain a teen limited card for their 17-year-old child.
- Update on Post Falls and Athol Libraries – Eccles stated Post Falls and Athol are in an emergency state potentially posing harm to the facilities or individuals. The insurance provider, ICRMP, is reviewing the claim with legal counsel, and Eccles expects a response by tomorrow or early next week. She outlined potential costs for content removal, depending on the insurance claim coverage. Immediate water removal using commercial equipment has already been initiated, but the full extent of damage, including potential mold remediation, remains uncertain until walls are inspected. Eccles emphasized that if the board needs to allocate CLN funds for repairs, they should be involved in decision-making processes.

Review and approval of temporary lease: Action item (20 minutes)

- Eccles expressed gratitude for a community offer of discounted storage and office space, valued at approximately \$75,000, including utilities and snow removal, for six months with flexible month-to-month renting. The library staff researched other options but found most required a three-year lease. If approved by ICRMP, it will not need board action; otherwise, it will be categorized under other expenses. Benefits include accommodating displaced workers and providing climate-controlled storage for materials. Boyles conducted a market analysis, revealing this option is significantly cheaper than other commercial properties. Concerns were raised about space sufficiency and maintaining public service during construction. Options for material protection during construction were discussed, with cost being a factor. Blank moved to conditionally approve the lease, sparking further discussion. Some trustees cautioned against micromanaging staff. Not all trustees agreed to the lease option. Eccles clarified that the decision falls within her authority as director due to its cost and emergency circumstances, even if the board votes against it. She will provide further details in a future meeting.

M, Failed – Blank; Hanley, Plass opposed, Ottosen did not vote

Break (15 minutes)

Discussion of motion requiring collection reports. Legal opinion if it makes CLN more vulnerable; Action item (10 minutes)

- Boyles outlined that the report would not include patron information, estimating it would take staff around two hours to compile and export monthly data. He expressed concern that creating a

chronological report could potentially expose the library to legal liability regarding purchasing decisions and viewpoint discrimination. He also mentioned having these records could also help defend against such claims and demonstrate compliance with purchasing policies. Plass supported the idea, seeing value in maintaining a record of library purchases for both public transparency and board oversight. No decision was made.

Discussion on receiving legal advice regarding public policies. Review of when and how legal can provide advice including in writing, in a public meeting, or in an executive session: Action Item *(15 minutes)*

- Plass proposed keeping legal advice confidential from the public, while Blank highlighted the requirement of the open meeting law and mentioned written material is available through public records requests for transparency. Boyles mentioned statute 3205 exempting certain communications but noted limits to confidentiality for government agencies. He emphasized the board's authority over his meeting participation and communication methods. Eccles suggested staff draft policies, present them to the board for edits, and then send them to legal counsel for review. No consensus or decision was reached on the matter.

Discussion of Materials Selection and Acquisitions Policy, Withdrawal and Reconsideration Policy: Action item *(20 minutes)*

- The trustees discussed issues regarding policy prioritization, edits management of the policies, and screen usage during board meetings. Eccles proposed realistic timelines for policy reviews and asked for board meetings to only be once a month, while Robinson raised a point of order about displaying drafts on a screen. Ottosen tried to make progress by reading a paragraph she wanted added, and discussions ensued about the role of staff in policy creation. Eventually, consensus was reached for Plass to edit policies during the meetings and to send electronic files to staff. Staff will provide written drafts of edited policies being worked on in every board packet.

Discussion on Insurance Options: Action item (40 minutes)

- Blank, Robinson, and Eccles noted Redman's recommendation for CLN to remain with ICRMP until October, referring to insurance policy renewal option 1. Eccles discussed the additional expenses associated with options 2 and 3. Plass moved to engage Redman Insurance for option 3's full coverage and cancel existing ICRMP and Great American policies. Ottosen made a substitute motion for option 3 contingent on no other insurance quotes before February 23rd, accepting Wright/American Family quotes, binding the insurance on February 23rd, and promptly canceling ICRMP and Great American policies upon completion. Blank objected to Ottosen's motion within a motion, while Boyles suggested calling it a friendly amendment. Plass withdrew his motion, allowing Ottosen to proceed with her motion. Eccles questioned the board's criteria for option 3 and criticized the decision as reckless, urging a more conservative approach in line with the Financial Policy. Blank moved to postpone /table Ottosen's motion. Not brought to a vote. Plass expressed frustration with ICRMP for lowering insurance coverage while maintaining premiums. Eccles urged the board to act conservatively. Plass moved for a 10-minute extension of the meeting and called the question. Ottosen brought it to a vote.

M, C – Plass – 10-minute extension

Blank – nay

Hanley – aye

Ottosen – aye

Plass – aye

Robinson - nay

M, C – Plass – end discussion and vote on the motion

Blank - nay
Hanley – aye
Ottosen – aye
Plass – aye
Robinson – aye

M, C – Ottosen – option 3 – bind Wright/American Family quotes on Feb 23, cancel ICRMP & Great American
Blank - nay
Hanley – aye
Ottosen – aye
Plass – aye
Robinson – nay

Blank moved to adjourn 5:51 pm
M, Failed – Blank; Hanley, Plass opposed. Robinson absent.

Discussion of Public Comment Policy, public etiquette, and signs: Action Item *(10 minutes)*

- Chair agreed with Eccles to postpone because Robinson left the meeting at 5:50 pm and was the one that proposed this topic.

Discussion of future agenda requests (The board will decide via consensus whether these items will be moved to a future agenda) *(5 minutes)*

- Hanley wants to add facility considerations. Eccles explained the board’s action to change insurance company can affect ICRMP’s pay out.

Set Special and regular meeting dates: Action item *(5 minutes)*

Adjournment: Action item
Blank moved to adjourn at 5:58 pm.
M, C – Blank

Respectfully submitted,
Alexa Eccles, Michelle Fansler

Calendar of events:

21 Mar 2024	Regular Meeting	2:00 – 5:30	Hayden
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COOPERATIVE INFORMATION NETWORK MINUTES

Wednesday, January 17, 2024
Coeur d'Alene Public Library/Zoom

Benewah Co.: __ Kathy Davis/**Clarkia:** __ Dawn Kruger /**Coeur d'Alene:** X Michael Priest
CLN: X Alexa Eccles /**Kellogg:** __ Danni Boylan/ **Liberty Lake:** X Jandy Humble/
Mullan: X Debbie Berger/ **Osburn:** __ Jamee Sperry/ **Pend Oreille Co.:** __ Mandy Walters/
Plummer: X Jenny Grobey/**Priest Lake:** X Jaime Yob/ **St. Maries:** __ Pinky Humphrey/
Wallace J/S High: __ Katie Bauer **Wallace Public:** X Annette Kologi /**West Bonner:** X Meagan Mize

CLN: X Kari Wilson/X Mark Foster/X Janelle Sells/X Lindsey Miller-Escarfuller
Coeur d'Alene: X Christopher Brannon/X Melissa Searle/ X Tyler McLane
Liberty Lake: X Georgette Rogers

Chairperson Michael Priest called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Introductions

All members present introduced themselves

Approval of:

January 2024 Agenda

November minutes

November and December 2023 Financial Statements

Annette moved to approve the consent calendar. Debbie seconded. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business & Action items

- **Overdrive contributions and budget** = If you have funds available to contribute, please consider.
- **Draft CIN Library of Things waiver** = Reviewed draft. Finding it difficult to cover all libraries with one waiver. Will discuss more ideas via email and revisit.

New Business:

- **Training Opportunities** = what consortium training is wanted or needed? New director and Cataloging discussed.
- **Homebound patron category and checkout history** = with the loss of the bookmobile, CDA is taking on more homebound patrons. There is a need to retain checkout history. A motion was presented to retain checkout history for homebound patrons. Jenny moved to approve the motion. Jandy seconded. Motion carried.
- **From SysAdmin:**
 - **Blocking use of RoadRunner email (maybe TWC)** = includes Spectrum - multiple issues stemming from these email address. Requested a block be placed on these email addresses. Jenny motioned to block the RoadRunner and TWC emails. Debbie seconded. Motion carried.
 - **Changing outgoing email address for notices February 1** = All outgoing notifications will go through a single email address (circulation@cinlibraries.org) beginning February 1.
 - **Activating Hold Cancellation Requests February 1st** = Changing the cancellation workflow on holds as previously discussed. Annette made a motion to change the work flow of holds per our previous discussion. Debbie seconded. Motion carried.

- **Aspen Discovery Follow up** = Quotes were given to change to Aspen Discovery. Costs are significantly lower as a consortium. Janelle will give a scale of dues to each library for their evaluation. Please send her year end numbers for the upcoming fiscal year.
- **Damage review contacts - list to be deleted** = Revamping of pages within staff area of Koha. It was determined this will be deleted as it is not longer relevant.
- **Circulation page content - Tyler** = Topic already discussed in the above agenda item.

Adjournment: 11:16 AM

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 10AM. Coeur d'Alene Public Library/Microsoft Teams

Respectfully submitted, Meagan Mize

REVENUE

1 Income – Benewah County – Benewah County has paid their portion of dues for the year and two quarters of their courier costs.

2 Income – Clarkia – Clarkia has paid their portion of dues.

3 Income – Coeur d’Alene – Coeur d’Alene has paid their portion of dues for the year and two quarters of their courier costs.

4 Income – Community Library Network – The District has paid two quarters of dues for the year and two quarters of their courier costs.

5 Income – Kellogg – Kellogg has paid their portion of dues for the year.

6 Income – Liberty Lake – Liberty Lake Library has paid their portion of dues for the year and two quarters of their courier costs.

7 Income – Mullan Public – Mullan has paid their portion of dues for the year.

8 Income – Osburn – Osburn has paid their portion of dues for the year.

9 Income – Pend Oreille – Pend Oreille County has paid their portion of dues for the year and two quarters of their courier costs.

0 Income – Plummer – Plummer has paid their portion of dues for the year.

11 Income – Priest Lake – Priest Lake Library has paid their portion of dues for the year.

12 Income – Silver Hills – Silver Hills has paid their portion of dues for the year.

13 Income – St Maries – St Maries has paid for their dues and two quarters of their courier costs.

14 Income – Wallace High – Wallace High has paid their portion of dues for the year.

15 Income – Wallace Public – Wallace Public has paid their portion of dues for the year.

16 Income – West Bonner – West Bonner District Library has paid their dues and two quarters of their courier costs.

17 Income – E-books Membership – This will be received in May or June by CDA and CLN libraries.

18 Income – E-books Contributions – No contributions this month.

19 Income – Donation for E-books – No donations this month.

20 Income – Interest – Interest Income is above budget for February and the year.

EXPENSES

22 E-books & Materials – No purchases this month.

23 E-book Membership – This expense will be paid in May or June.

24 ByWater / Koha Maintenance – No expense this month.

25 EBSCO Open Athens/Novelist – There is no expense this month. This expense is generally paid in August or September.

26 Envisionware / Maint. – The annual renewal for Envisionware has been paid. This line is complete for the year.

27 Marcive Maintenance – This is billed in the spring or summer.

28 OPAC Maint – Syndetics – The annual renewal for Syndetics has been paid. This line ends the year just over budget.

29 Twilio – Twilio charges are for any automated communication, except email, to library members about their library account. This line is above budget for February.

30 Accounting Svcs – This amount will be billed and paid in September of 2024.

31 Audit – This will be paid in late winter or early spring when our auditor has finished her work.

32 Legal & Professional Services – Charges this month are for bank charges that will be reimbursed in March.

33 Supplies – No expense this month.

34 Local Courier – This is the monthly amount paid to the CIN courier.

35 ORBIS Courier – This is paid in quarterly installments. The next quarterly payment will be in March or April.

BALANCE SHEET

Current Assets/Accounts rec – The checking account reflects the current balance at month-end.

Money Market Acct – These are funds currently in the money market account.

Prepaid Expenses – These are funds placed with Overdrive as part of our CIN contract to acquire eBooks and pay for their service. The annual audit will determine if there are any adjustments necessary for FY 23.

Current Liabilities – None at this time.

Long-Term Liabilities – This line is adjusted at the end of our audit. There were no Long-Term Liabilities for FY 22. The annual audit will determine if there are any Long-Term Liabilities for FY 23.

Capital – Auditor adjustments are made annually to all Capital Assets and Income.

Shanelle Sells
Business Manager for CLN & CIN

**Cooperative Information Network
Income Statement - 41.67% Time Elapsed
For the Five Months Ending February 29, 2024**

UNAUDITED

	Current Month	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD %
Revenues				
1 INCOME - BENEWAH COUNTY	0.00	2,694.10	3,651.43	73.78
2 INCOME - CLARKIA	0.00	1,179.64	1,179.64	100.00
3 INCOME - COEUR D'ALENE	0.00	19,502.15	24,288.82	80.29
4 INCOME - COMMUNITY LIBRARY NET	0.00	40,087.80	80,175.59	50.00
5 INCOME - KELLOGG	0.00	1,462.14	1,462.14	100.00
6 INCOME - LIBERTY LAKE	0.00	5,529.41	7,444.07	74.28
7 INCOME - MULLAN PUBLIC	0.00	1,468.94	1,468.94	100.00
8 INCOME - OSBURN	0.00	1,110.05	1,110.05	100.00
9 INCOME - PEND OREILLE	0.00	4,990.15	5,947.48	83.90
10 INCOME - PLUMMER	0.00	1,739.56	1,739.56	100.00
11 INCOME - PRIEST LAKE	0.00	1,634.75	1,634.75	100.00
12 INCOME - SILVER HILLS	0.00	1,231.35	1,231.35	100.00
13 INCOME - ST. MARIES	0.00	2,717.80	3,675.13	73.95
14 INCOME - WALLACE HIGH	0.00	1,075.30	1,075.30	100.00
15 INCOME - WALLACE PUBLIC	0.00	1,548.71	1,548.71	100.00
16 INCOME - WEST BONNER	0.00	4,519.17	6,433.83	70.24
17 INCOME - EBOOKS MEMBERSHIP	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
18 INCOME - EBOOKS CONTRIBUTIONS	0.00	30,000.00	10,000.00	300.00
19 INCOME - E-BOOKS DONATIONS	0.00	11,075.19	3,000.00	369.17
20 INCOME - INTEREST	13.81	53.04	40.00	132.60
21 Total Revenues	13.81	133,619.25	167,106.79	79.96
Expenses				
22 EBOOKS & MATERIALS	0.00	53,075.19	25,000.00	212.30
23 EBOOK MEMBERSHIP	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
24 ByWATER / KOHA MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.00	29,050.00	0.00
25 EBSCO OPEN ATHENS/NOVELIST	0.00	0.00	9,725.00	0.00
26 ENVISIONWARE / MAINT	0.00	4,161.49	4,727.00	88.04
27 MARCIVE MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.00	1,820.00	0.00
28 OPAC MAINT-SYNETICS	0.00	3,784.19	3,650.00	103.68
29 TWILIO	604.37	3,014.42	5,000.00	60.29
30 ACCOUNTING SERVICES	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
31 AUDIT	0.00	0.00	4,150.00	0.00
32 LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
33 SUPPLIES	0.00	(736.78)	0.00	0.00
34 LOCAL COURIER	5,681.65	28,408.25	68,179.80	41.67
35 ORBIS COURIER	0.00	1,935.62	3,765.00	51.41
36 Total Expenses	6,376.02	93,732.38	167,066.80	56.10
37 Net Income	(\$6,362.21)	\$39,886.87	\$ 39.99	

**Cooperative Information Network
Balance Sheet - 41.67% Time Elapsed
February 29, 2024**

UNAUDITED

ASSETS

Current Assets

MTN WEST - CK BK	\$ 1,683.47
ACCOUNTS REC	<u>39.23</u>

Total Current Assets **1,722.70**

Property and Equipment

Total Property and Equipment **0.00**

Other Assets

MONEY MKT ACCT 2090005920	64,699.64
PREPAID EXPENSES	<u>20,506.09</u>

Total Other Assets **85,205.73**

Total Assets **\$ 86,928.43**

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities

Total Current Liabilities **0.00**

Long-Term Liabilities

Total Long-Term Liabilities **0.00**

Total Liabilities **0.00**

Capital

NET ASSETS	\$ 47,041.56
Net Income	<u>39,886.87</u>

Total Capital **86,928.43**

Total Liabilities & Capital **\$ 86,928.43**

Community Library Network Financial Statement Analysis
February 2024 – 41.67% of Time Elapsed

Revenue

1 Income – Taxes – Property Tax Income came in as expected for February.

2 Income – Bond Levy – We satisfied our bond levy obligation in January. The law requires that all property tax money go to the Bond until that income line has reached 100%.

3 Income – Sales Tax & Ag Equip – Sales Tax Income is received quarterly. This month, we only received Sales Tax Income from Shoshone County. Funds from Kootenai County have been delayed until March.

4 Income – Coop Electric Agreement – This annual payment arrives in July.

5 Income – Personal Property Replacement – The first semi-annual payment arrived in January and is above expectations.

6 Income – Property Tax Relief – The first semi-annual payment arrived in January and is below expectations.

7 Income – State Add'l Tax Relief – This is a new income line as a result of new legislation from House Bill #292. This income will be received in semi-annual installments.

8 Income – ST Homeowners Tax Relief – This is a new income line as a result of new legislation from House Bill #292. This income will be received in semi-annual installments.

9 Income – URD Close – URD funds may continue to trickle in throughout the year.

10 Income – Copiers/Printers – Copier/Printer income is below budget for February.

11 Income – Donations – Donation income this month comes from a variety of library members, including some generous donations for Harrison.

12 Income – Fees – Fee income is below budget for February.

13 Income – Lost & Paid – Lost and paid income is below budget for February.

14 Income – Grants – No income this month.

15 Income – CLN Friends Grants – Income this month will support Summer Reading and the Going to Seed programs.

16 Income – Post Falls Friends Grants – No income this month.

17 Income – Interest – Interest income is above budget for the year.

Expenditures

19-25 Salary Components – The Salary Components, in total for February are at 40.25% of their budgeted amount.

26 Adult Programs – Adult programming is below budget for the month. This line varies quite a bit as programs are planned and presented.

27 Children's Programs – Children's programming expense is below budget for the month. This line varies quite a bit as programs are planned and presented. Youth Services is gearing up for Summer Reading.

28 Collections – Collections spending is below budget for the month.

29 Communications/Marketing – Minimal expenditures this month. This line will increase as programs require marketing materials.

30 Emerging Tech. Programs – No expense this month.

31 OCLC/Databases – No expenditures this month.

32 Software – The expense this month includes the monthly hosting services for Office 365, the software renewal for the CCTV cameras, and increasing the number of users able to access the accounting software.

33 Internet Access – Fatbeam is our vendor that brings the internet into our central hub at Post Falls. E-rate discounts are being applied. The negative amount reflects the State reimbursing the District for the non-E-rate supported expense.

34 Telecom – Fatbeam connects all our facilities to the central hub for internet access. T-Mobile is our hot spot provider. Verizon provides wireless access for Chromebooks, the bookmobile and several devices used by facilities staff. E-rate discounts are being applied. The negative amount reflects the State reimbursing the District for the non-E-rate supported expense.

35 Tech Proc/Office – Tech processing and supplies is just below budget for February.

36 Grants – Expenses this month supported Teen Wellness programs.

37 Grants – CLN Friends – Expenses this month purchased supplies for Summer Reading and Going to Seed programs.

38 Grants – Post Falls Friends – No expenses this month.

40 Janitorial – Janitorial expenses this month include regular monthly cleaning at all locations.

41 Library Equip (under \$2500) – Purchase this month focused on equipment needs for Athol and Post Falls resulting from the water damage remediation.

42 Mileage & Vehicle Maint. – Expenses this month include fuel for District vehicles.

43 Outreach Vehicles – Expenses this month include minimal fuel purchases for Outreach vehicles.

44-50 Repairs & Maint. (as a group) – As a group, repairs and maintenance are at 20.54% for February. Expenses this month include the annual fire sprinkler inspections, quarterly HVAC preventative maintenance, HVAC repairs at Hayden, Post Falls, and Spirit Lake, and plumbing repairs at Hayden.

51 Snow Removal – Snow removal costs for February were moderate. More winter weather is still expected.

52 Telephones – Telephone expenses are on target for February.

53-59 Utilities (as a group) – As a group, utilities are at 40.30% for February. This month includes regular expenses for electricity, gas, water, sewer, and garbage.

61 Audit – The audit process is under way and the on-site portion has been completed. CIN will reimburse the District for their portion of the audit expense once the audit is complete.

62 Bank Svc Chg. – Bank service charge expense is below budget for the month.

63 Bond Principal Payment – Our bond principal is paid in July.

64 Bond Interest – Our bond Interest is paid semi-annually in January and July.

65 CIN – We pay our dues to CIN quarterly. The next quarterly payment will be in April.

66 Courier – We pay our courier payments to CIN quarterly. The next quarterly payment will be in April.

67 Copiers – Copier expenses are paid quarterly and are just above budget for the quarter.

68 Dues – No expense this month.

69 Insurance – 50% of the ICRMP policy and 100% of the Great American Insurance policy has been paid. The balance of the ICRMP policy is expected to be paid by April 1, 2024.

70 Legal & Professional – This line is above budget for February. Expenses this month include fees for the electronic time-keeping payroll system, collection services for past due patron accounts, and legal consulting services.

71 Petty Cash Expense – Expense this month is below budget for February.

72 Postage – Postage is just on target for February.

73 Sales Tax Expense – This is paid quarterly based on the amount of income we receive from copier and printer use. We will make the next quarterly payment in March.

74 Storage Rental – Storage rental is just below budget for February.

75 Training/Conf. Travel – Expenses this month include travel arrangements for the Director to attend the Director’s Summit in Boise.

BALANCE SHEET

Current Assets – Includes month end checking account balances as well as Property Tax Receivable. Property Tax Receivable is examined and adjusted annually by the auditor. Adjustments for FY’23 are not completed yet.

Property and Equipment

All capital property and equipment balances reflect the current value of the assets. These are examined and adjusted annually by the auditor. Adjustments for FY’23 are not completed yet.

Land – No change this month

Land improvements – No change this month

Buildings – Expense this month includes payment for the lighting project at Hayden.

Vehicles – No change this month

Equipment & Furniture – No change this month

Collections – No change this month

Other Assets

Mtn West MMK – Henderson Fund – This account is a fund dedicated to Youth Services purchases in the District.

ICS – This stands for “Insured Cash Sweep” and is the account where we receive the most stable interest on funds we anticipate holding for longer periods of time. The ICS holds the majority of our cash on hand and keeps our funds within the guidelines of FDIC insurance.

CARRF – Our Capital Asset Repair and Replacement available funds appear here. The budgeted FY’23 transfer was made in September. This account is currently over the FDIC insurance limits and staff will be looking for more secure options while maintaining liquidity for upcoming capital projects.

CARRF-CDARS – CARRF funds in excess of FDIC insurance limits are held in this group of short-term CDs.

Mtn West MMK – Pinehurst Bequest – This account is a fund dedicated to the Pinehurst library

Amount to provide for long-term debt – These assets would be used in the event we needed to pay someone their accrued vacation time if they left the District. (See “Accrued Annual Leave” below.)

Current Liabilities

All current liabilities are examined and adjusted annually by the auditor. Adjustments for FY’23 are not completed yet.

Accts Payable – Bills that would normally be paid in February arrived late delaying their payment until March.

Accrued Payroll Liabilities – a portion of the October payroll included some days in September of the prior fiscal year.

SUTA Payable – Unemployment taxes accrue monthly and are paid quarterly.

Accrued Annual Leave – This is close to the same amount (\$0.16 difference is due to rounding during the audit process) listed as an asset above and represents our current liability to pay those with accrued vacation time.

Bond Interest Payable – This amount is established annually at the close of the fiscal year through audit adjustments.

Long-Term Liabilities

Bonds Payable – This is the amount currently owed on our bond.

Premium on Bonds Payable – This amount is established annually at the close of the fiscal year through audit adjustments.

Deferred Property Tax Revenue – This is the portion not paid within 60 days of the end of our fiscal year. The amount is established annually at the close of the fiscal year through audit adjustments.

Net Assets

Net Invest in Fixed Assets – This is the value of all the District's fixed assets minus our bond debt. The amount is established annually at the close of the fiscal year through audit adjustments.

Net Assets – Unrestricted – These are liquid assets. The amount is established annually at the close of the fiscal year through audit adjustments.

Restricted Net Assets – This reflects end-of-year entries through audit adjustments and includes assets for the following restricted funds: Smithsonian and all other unexpended grant monies and dedicated donations.

Janelle Sells
Business Manager
Community Library Network

Community Library Network
Balance Sheet - 41.67% of Time Elapsed
February 29, 2024

UNAUDITED

ASSETS

Current Assets

MTN WEST-CK BK	\$ 10,017.47
ACCTS REC	86,626.20
PROPERTY TAX RECEIVABLE	<u>486,528.00</u>

Total Current Assets **583,171.67**

Property and Equipment

LAND	268,512.00
LAND IMPROVEMENTS	53,045.23
ART	8,785.00
BUILDINGS	9,230,756.16
VEHICLES	478,300.94
EQUIP & FURNITURE	352,516.93
COLLECTIONS	5,127,103.77
ACCUM DEPREC	<u>(8,917,774.79)</u>

Total Property and Equipment **6,601,245.24**

Other Assets

MNT WEST MMK - HENDERSON FUND	5,476.93
ICS	3,688,928.27
CARRF	501,435.75
CARRF - CDARS	234,935.21
MNT WEST MMK-PINEHURST BEQUEST	134,948.77
AMT TO PROV FR LONG TERM DEBT	<u>101,575.49</u>

Total Other Assets **4,667,300.42**

Total Assets **\$ 11,851,717.33**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities

ACCT PAYABLE	\$ 10,870.00
ACCRUED PAYROLL	48,146.00
SUTA PAYABLE	4,579.49
ACCRD ANNL LV	101,575.65
BOND INT PAYABLE	<u>5,659.48</u>

Total Current Liabilities **170,830.62**

Long-Term Liabilities

BONDS PAYABLE	520,000.00
PREM ON BNDS PAY	489.31
DEFERRED PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	<u>468,102.00</u>

Total Long-Term Liabilities **988,591.31**

Community Library Network
Balance Sheet - 41.67% of Time Elapsed
February 29, 2024

UNAUDITED

Total Liabilities **1,159,421.93**

NET ASSETS

NET INVEST IN FIXED ASSETS 5,942,228.51

NET ASSETS-UNRESTRICTED 3,170,953.98

RESTR NET ASSETS 326,865.44

NET INCOME 1,252,247.47

Total Net Assets **10,692,295.40**

Total Liabilities & Net Assets **\$ 11,851,717.33**

Community Library Network
Income Statement - 41.67% of Time Elapsed
For the Five Months Ending February 29, 2024

UNAUDITED	Current Month	YTD Actual	Approved Amended Annual Budget	YTD % Budget
Revenues				
1 INCOME - PROPERTY TAXES	346,887.91	2,587,772.82	5,013,163.00	51.62
2 INCOME - BOND LEVY	0.00	278,400.00	278,400.00	100.00
3 INCOME - SALES TAX & AG EQUIP	2,563.24	81,652.40	300,000.00	27.22
4 INCOME - COOP ELECT AGRMENT	0.00	8,401.44	35,100.00	23.94
5 INCOME - PERSONAL PROP RPLCMNT	0.00	16,030.02	27,983.00	57.28
6 INCOME - PROPERTY TAX RELIEF	0.00	21,795.93	64,300.00	33.90
7 INCOME- STATE ADD'L TAX RELIEF	0.00	28,577.61	0.00	0.00
8 INCOME-ST HOMEOWNER TAX RELIEF	0.00	294,281.95	0.00	0.00
9 INCOME - URD CLOSE	0.00	(825.72)	0.00	0.00
10 INCOME - COPIERS/PRINTERS	2,501.95	12,697.53	34,000.00	37.35
11 INCOME - DONATIONS	1,487.10	2,899.55	10,000.00	29.00
12 INCOME - FEES, ETC.	90.00	347.07	1,100.00	31.55
13 INCOME - LOST & PAID BOOKS	434.74	2,242.02	7,400.00	30.30
14 INCOME - GRANTS	0.00	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
15 INCOME - CLN FRIENDS	4,900.00	6,300.00	15,000.00	42.00
16 INCOME - POST FALLS FRIENDS	0.00	900.00	10,000.00	9.00
17 INCOME - INTEREST	9,960.53	34,600.46	34,000.00	101.77
18 Total Current Revenues	368,825.47	3,376,073.08	5,850,446.00	57.71
Expenditures				
19 SALARIES	223,372.63	1,188,416.84	2,993,456.00	39.70
20 PERSI RETIREMENT BENEFITS	21,691.26	112,954.54	288,626.00	39.14
21 MEDICAL/DENTAL BENEFITS	23,247.16	123,049.56	374,736.00	32.84
22 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	190.32	951.60	2,350.00	40.49
23 VEBA HEALTH BENEFITS	0.00	58,793.77	65,440.00	89.84
24 EMPLOYMENT TAXES	18,963.33	116,811.91	252,895.00	46.19
25 Total Salaries and Benefits	287,464.70	1,600,978.22	3,977,503.00	40.25
26 ADULT PROGRAMS	698.18	2,293.06	17,000.00	13.49
27 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS	4,215.61	9,540.67	30,000.00	31.80
28 COLLECT(Bks & Materials)	24,277.93	103,938.18	332,079.00	31.30
29 COMMUNICATIONS / MARKETING	18.90	158.07	22,500.00	0.70
30 EMERGING TECH. PROGRAMS	0.00	97.93	2,500.00	3.92
31 OCLC/DATABASES	0.00	6,500.00	37,000.00	17.57
32 SOFTWARE	5,487.03	32,646.27	108,000.00	30.23
33 INTERNET ACCESS	597.00	(597.00)	7,164.00	(8.33)
34 TELECOM	5,361.74	7,128.92	66,202.00	10.77
35 TECH/PROC/OFFICE	5,209.46	23,532.03	57,628.00	40.83
36 GRANT	575.10	5,993.23	20,000.00	29.97
37 GRANTS - CLN FRIENDS	318.68	2,986.27	15,000.00	19.91
38 GRANTS - POST FALLS FRIENDS	0.00	1,484.97	10,000.00	14.85
39 Total Programs, Materials and Services	46,759.63	195,702.60	725,073.00	26.99
40 JANITORIAL	7,410.08	49,419.49	160,000.00	30.89
41 LIBRARY EQUIP (UNDER \$2500)	4,238.60	12,757.27	93,544.00	13.64
42 MILEAGE & VEHICLE MAINT.	328.74	9,503.56	24,000.00	39.60
43 OUTREACH VEHICLES - R & M	47.69	1,596.91	38,300.00	4.17
44 REPAIRS&MAINT/AT	1,685.39	2,414.53	14,225.00	16.97
45 REPAIRS&MAINT/HR	388.00	1,975.06	7,600.00	25.99
46 REPAIRS&MAINT/HL	4,632.41	9,082.41	23,800.00	38.16

Community Library Network
Income Statement - 41.67% of Time Elapsed
For the Five Months Ending February 29, 2024

UNAUDITED	Current	YTD Actual	Approved Amended Annual Budget	YTD % Budget
47 REPAIRS&MAINT/PK	764.00	2,842.37	18,900.00	15.04
48 REPAIRS & MAINT/PF	2,462.89	5,599.78	35,200.00	15.91
49 REPAIRS&MAINT/RA	1,190.00	2,197.17	18,800.00	11.69
50 REPAIRS&MAINT/SL	2,103.84	2,850.99	12,750.00	22.36
51 SNOW REMOVAL	4,029.88	16,059.90	35,000.00	45.89
52 TELEPHONE	1,343.57	7,354.06	18,250.00	40.30
53 UTILITIES/AT	649.76	3,971.68	9,050.00	43.89
54 UTILITIES/HR	529.96	2,579.10	6,000.00	42.99
55 UTILITIES/HL	2,951.32	14,266.94	37,700.00	37.84
56 UTILITIES/PK	647.48	3,039.31	6,700.00	45.36
57 UTILITIES/PF	7,233.70	22,187.76	55,200.00	40.20
58 UTILITIES/RA	920.04	4,696.26	11,750.00	39.97
59 UTILITIES/SL	684.16	3,254.85	7,600.00	42.83
60 Total Facilities Maintenance	44,241.51	177,649.40	634,369.00	28.00
61 AUDIT	1,000.00	17,750.00	14,500.00	122.41
62 BANK SVC CHGS	2.79	35.55	350.00	10.16
63 BOND PRINCIPAL PAYMENT	0.00	0.00	255,000.00	0.00
64 BOND INTEREST	0.00	11,700.00	23,400.00	50.00
65 CIN	0.00	17,485.92	34,972.00	50.00
66 COURIER	0.00	22,601.88	45,204.00	50.00
67 COPIERS	0.00	4,897.06	9,500.00	51.55
68 DUES	0.00	812.00	2,000.00	40.60
69 INSURANCE	0.00	33,008.50	51,293.00	64.35
70 LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL	11,572.37	36,529.62	82,000.00	44.55
71 PETTY CASH EXP	50.00	146.91	1,000.00	14.69
72 POSTAGE	858.70	4,036.65	10,000.00	40.37
73 SALES TAX EXP	0.00	491.86	2,040.00	24.11
74 STORAGE RENTAL	350.00	1,750.00	4,500.00	38.89
75 TRAINING/CONF. TRAVEL	565.68	(1,750.54)	20,000.00	(8.75)
76 Total District General Operations	14,399.54	149,495.41	555,759.00	26.90
77 Capital Expenditure from Current Revenues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
78 CARRF Fund Transfer from Current Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
79 Total Capital Investment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
80 Total Current Expenditures	392,865.38	2,123,825.63	5,892,704.00	36.04
81 Total Current Revenues	368,825.47	3,376,073.08	5,850,446.00	57.71
82 Total Current Expenditures	392,865.38	2,123,825.63	5,892,704.00	36.04
83 Net: Current Revenues less Current Expenditures	(24,039.91)	1,252,247.45	(42,258.00)	

On September 15, 2023, the Board voted to reduce Property Tax Income
and the budget deficit to be paid for with Carryforward Funds

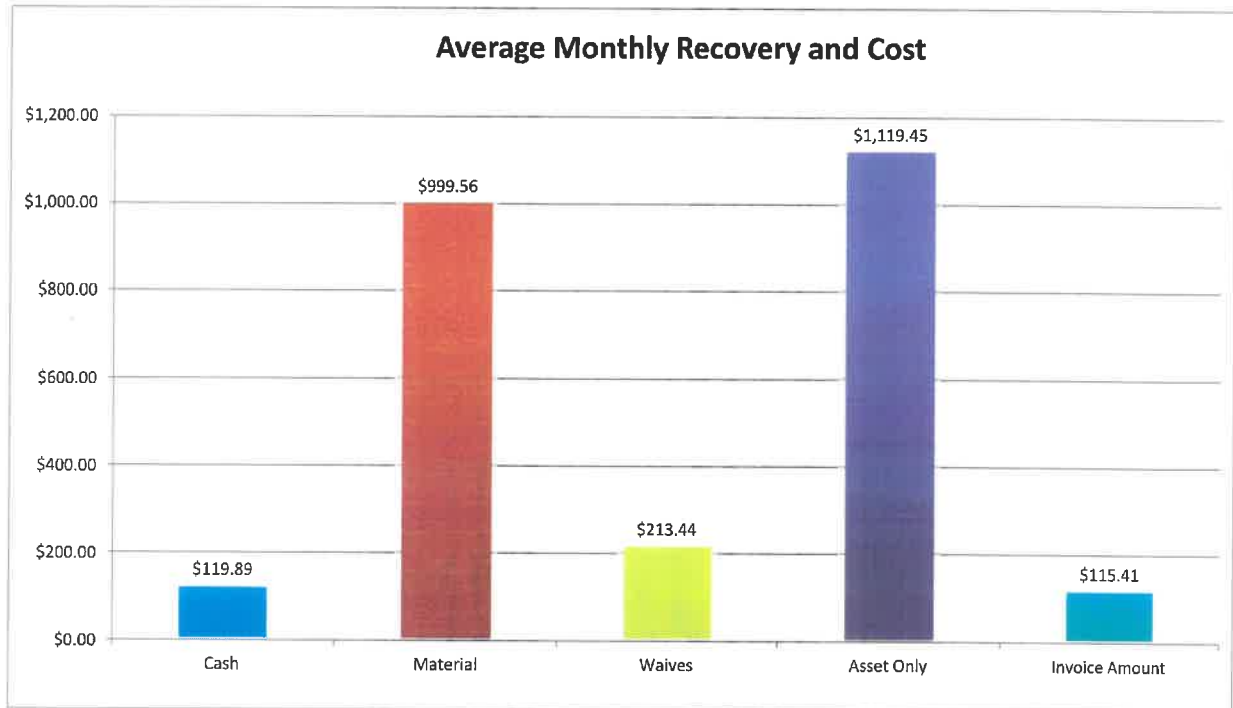
84 FY'24 Capital Projects funded with Carryforw	0.00	0.00	56,000.00	0.00
85 FY'24 Capital Projects funded with CARRF	42,952.54	67,702.54	102,500.00	66.05
	42,952.54	67,702.54	158,500.00	42.71



Monthly Recovery Statistics: Community Library Network

3/2023 Through 2/2024

Month	Cash	Material	Waives	Total	Assets Only	Invoice Amount
February-24	\$45.00	\$992.05	\$235.57	\$1,272.62	\$1,037.05	\$104.85
January-24	\$45.00	\$1,291.74	\$267.59	\$1,604.33	\$1,336.74	\$209.70
December-23	\$101.00	\$1,026.09	\$27.90	\$1,154.99	\$1,127.09	\$93.20
November-23	\$62.95	\$1,113.48	\$182.20	\$1,358.63	\$1,176.43	\$93.20
October-23	\$262.94	\$1,133.88	\$169.96	\$1,566.78	\$1,396.82	\$198.05
September-23	\$156.99	\$591.27	\$24.60	\$772.86	\$748.26	\$50.00
August-23	\$291.85	\$757.60	\$226.32	\$1,275.77	\$1,049.45	\$221.35
July-23	\$82.00	\$576.68	\$15.19	\$673.87	\$658.68	\$139.80
June-23	\$40.00	\$390.80	\$69.10	\$499.90	\$430.80	\$50.00
May-23	\$60.00	\$575.65	\$0.00	\$635.65	\$635.65	\$58.25
April-23	\$107.99	\$1,697.23	\$478.98	\$2,284.20	\$1,805.22	\$50.00
March-23	\$183.00	\$1,848.21	\$863.85	\$2,895.06	\$2,031.21	\$116.50
Total	\$1,438.72	\$11,994.68	\$2,561.26	\$15,994.66	\$13,433.40	\$1,384.90
Average	\$119.89	\$999.56	\$213.44	\$1,332.89	\$1,119.45	\$115.41
Total ROI: \$12:1						



COMMUNITY LIBRARY NETWORK

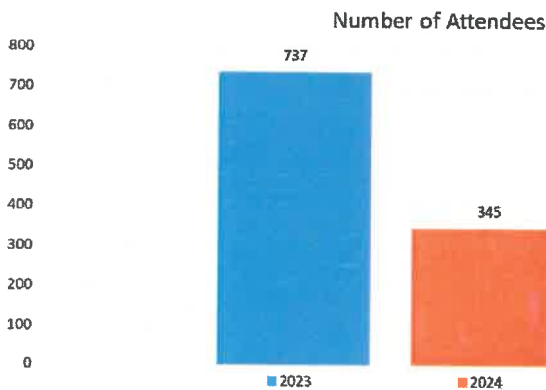
February-24

	<u>AT</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>HL</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>PK</u>	<u>RA</u>	<u>SL</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>TOTAL CIRCULATION</u>	1396	1472	1975	41480	10762	7698	12734	6511	84028
CIRC LAST YEAR	5452	2897	1821	34049	32996	7285	10306	5124	99930
YEAR TO DATE CIRC	22165	8780	10530	190705	137082	35926	56047	28046	489281
YEAR TO DATE CIRC LAST YEAR	26931	14023	10381	169416	164764	35980	52139	27053	500687
<u>PHYSICAL ITEMS CIRCULATION</u>	404	1371	1168	28597	2965	3044	8863	4175	50587
CIRC LAST YEAR	3850	2831	1011	23299	21082	3003	6543	2822	64441
YEAR TO DATE CIRC	14587	8199	5840	126288	78089	13267	37424	17039	300733
YEAR TO DATE CIRC LAST YEAR	18987	13677	5700	115703	106642	13300	33184	14732	321925
<u>OVERDRIVE EBOOK DOWNLOADS</u>	253	57	51	2595	2063	252	762	132	6165
EBOOK CIRC LAST YEAR	299	35	53	2356	1802	176	640	132	5493
<u>OVERDRIVE EAUDIO DOWNLOADS</u>	334	44	67	2654	2356	267	1148	254	7124
EAUDIO CIRC LAST YEAR	399	31	29	2286	2346	163	854	168	6276
TOTAL MONTHLY CIRC	587	101	118	5249	4419	519	1910	386	13289
TOTAL MONTHLY CIRC LAST YEAR	698	66	82	4642	4148	339	1494	300	11769
YEAR TO DATE TOTAL CIRC	3402	572	546	25986	22354	2372	9464	1759	66455
YEAR TO DATE TOTAL CIRC LAST YEAR	3413	341	382	22864	21212	1840	7555	1380	58987
<u>FREEGAL USAGE</u>	87	0	0	1727	1658	2299	300	80	6151
CIRC LAST YEAR	63	0	0	1543	1258	2112	840	215	6031
YEAR TO DATE CIRC	544	9	87	12090	9969	10063	1141	228	34131
YEAR TO DATE CIRC LAST YEAR	138	5	0	7464	6396	10415	4088	2289	30795
<u>INTERNET & COMPUTER USE</u>	318	N/A	689	5907	1720	1836	1661	1870	14001
USE LAST YEAR	841	N/A	728	4565	6508	1831	1429	1787	17689
YEAR TO DATE CIRC	3632	N/A	4057	26341	26670	10224	8018	9020	87962
YEAR TO DATE CIRC LAST YEAR	4393	N/A	4299	23385	30514	10425	7312	8652	88980
<u>MATERIALS ADDED</u>	9	21	45	712	98	147	206	77	1315
YEAR TO DATE	374	277	307	3306	2535	731	914	441	8885
YEAR TO DATE LAST YEAR	614	366	439	4141	3587	591	880	568	11186
<u>NEW PATRONS</u>	1	5	1	184	12	13	63	23	302
NEW PATRONS LAST YEAR	27	15	2	193	158	16	56	25	492
YEAR TO DATE	95	83	14	757	514	71	283	91	1908
YEAR TO DATE LAST YEAR	139	111	14	806	775	71	254	105	2275
<u>NEW PATRONS (By Card Type)</u>									
ADULTS (18+)	1	2	1	141	8	10	45	17	225
MINOR	0	1	0	28	4	3	11	4	51
MINOR LIMITED	0	2	0	10	0	0	7	2	21
TEEN LIMITED	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
<u>CURRENT CARDHOLDERS</u>	2116	1529	429	13466	19181	1917	5349	1859	45846
<u>PEOPLE COUNTER</u>	284	630	899	13519	1186	1758	4671	2306	25253
COUNTER LAST YEAR	1725	1477	401	10374	14822	2069	4002	2126	36996
YEAR TO DATE	6047	3018	4701	56215	44972	8129	18721	8861	150664
YEAR TO DATE LAST YEAR	8311	5843	2155	50359	69396	9603	20017	10566	176250
<u>MEETING ROOMS</u>									
# OF TIMES MEETING ROOM USED [LIBRARY]	0	N/A	N/A	28	3	23	24	15	93
MEETING ROOM ATTENDANCE	0	N/A	N/A	232	41	200	98	226	797
# OF TIMES MEETING ROOM USED [NON-LIBRARY]	0	N/A	N/A	18	0	3	5	2	28
MEETING ROOM ATTENDANCE	0	N/A	N/A	300	0	130	45	21	496

**March 21, 2024
Monthly Board Report
For February 2024**

Adult Programming

Month: February 2024
Coordinator Name: Marie Shockley
Department: Adult Programming



The closure of Post Falls and Athol libraries lowered our adult program attendance numbers this month, but it is clear in looking at individual programs that many of the Post Falls and Athol members have found their way to programs held by Spirit Lake, Rathdrum, and Hayden. For example, the acrylic painting class held by Rathdrum, which typically sees 6-10 attendees, blew up this month with 19 people in attendance and even more being added to a registration list for next month's program. The Crochet Connection, a community led group we host and sponsor at Hayden library, typically has 10-15 members in each meeting, but this month boasted numbers in the mid-20s for each of the weekly programs. And Spirit Lake's monthly Dungeons & Dragons game doubled in size this month making for a raucous afternoon of dragon slaying and interactive storytelling.

Some of the more unique programs we held this month also got a lot of attention from members. The Superb Owl celebration, a program designed to be intergenerational and family oriented brought many families to the Spirit Lake Library—one even claiming to have come all the way from Liberty Lake just for this program! During the program members learned about owls, did owl crafts, and played a game of owl trivia. Do you know what the collective noun for a group of owls is? A program at Pinehurst focusing on the art of Kintsugi brought in a rare demographic for our programs—the 20- and 30-year-olds. They were eager to learn more about this little piece of Japanese culture and excitedly signed up for some of the other upcoming programs upon their departure. We'll definitely consider that a win!

Athol

Casey Peters



Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Casey Peters
Library: Athol
Monthly Door Count: N/A
New Cards Issued: N/A
Total Circulation: 1,396
Study Room Usage: N/A
Meeting Room Usage: N/A

As everyone is aware, the Athol Library remains closed. The community has been greatly impacted by this closure. This month the library has moved items to the shed that are able to be stored there. Members continue to utilize our online services and Wi-Fi from the parking lot. Below are some emails from our community members who greatly miss our services.



To whom it may concern.

We are so very sad the Athol library is closed. The library is a vital part of our small community. My family homeschool along with a large percentage of our local population. Having access to the libraries' resources has greatly impacted many already. We appreciate and look forward to the day the library can reopen. The children in our area and in my family desperately need this resource.

Thanks



I am the founder and Executive Director for the Athol based nonprofit organization, Bestowing the Basics. There are not enough words to describe the need and value the library and all of the staff bring to Athol. I understand the current circumstances surrounding our beloved library, and that it was beyond one's control. However, if there is anything we can do to help with ensuring our library and those employed there are saved, please do not hesitate to let me know what those needs are. I am confident I can rally our community to support the needs and/or challenges our library is facing. I appreciate your time and the opportunity given to share my feelings. Have a blessed day.

In His Lovingkindness




To whom it may concern,

I am guilty of primarily reading on my kindle, but I'd finally gotten my stepson into reading! He was ecstatic to get his very own library card. We live in town and walking there to get a new book was becoming a highlight for us as a family.




To whom it may concern,

I live in Bayview and just wanted you to know how much the Athol library has been missed since your closure in January. We not only miss the convenience of your location to pick up books and attend events but also the amazing staff who are a joy to visit with. Our family hopes you'll be reopening soon!




Dear Athol Library Staff,

I really miss having the Athol Library open and available. Sure, we can still go to Hayden or Rathdrum, but in addition to the longer distance, I miss seeing our librarians and staff. I sure hope the repairs are completed promptly and the library can reopen soon. If there is any way I can help with anything, such as book care or sorting, et cetera, please let me know.




We miss our local library!

To not have access to our local library is such a detriment to our community. For the insurance company to be holding up repairs is unacceptable. This should be dealt with in a TIMELY manner, which should amount to weeks not months!! We need our local library to be open and functioning. Thank you



To whom it concerns;

Please note the closure of the library due to water damage has been a noticeable inconvenience to me and the many friends I have talked to about this issue. Why is it closed for such an indeterminate time? Is it due to finances? Insurance company delays? We need to be kept abreast... I utilized that library weekly not only for book rental but the access to copy machine etc. Please know we need this library to be up & running sooner than later; the community is much larger than the city proper numbers reflect and it's a needed asset for a majority of us.



Hello,

I wanted to take a moment to share how badly we've been missing the library. My four-year-old LOVES Ms. Bethany, exploring the books, and engaging with other children. We're really feeling the pain of the closure. I'm happy to help in any way I can!

Thank you,

Bookmobile/Outreach

Karin Hall



Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Karin Hall
Department: Bookmobile and Outreach
Monthly Door Count: 630
New Cards Issued: 2 adult cards, 1 child, 2 limited access
Total Circulation: 1,472

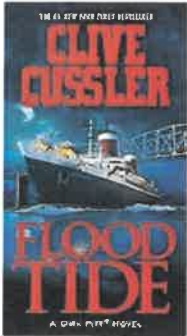
Bookmobile and Outreach staff continue to serve North Idaho STEM Charter Academy and Christian Center School using the Sprinter Van and several carts. The students and schools are thrilled to be able to have public library service.

We have a few lobby stops, in Hayden and Post Falls, and staff are helping out up front at Hayden.

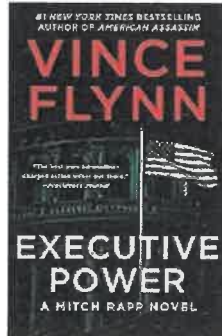
Collection Development

Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Kari Wilson
Department: Technical Services / Collection Development
Items Added: 1,315
Top Charts: Top Young Adult Fiction titles checked out in February for each library

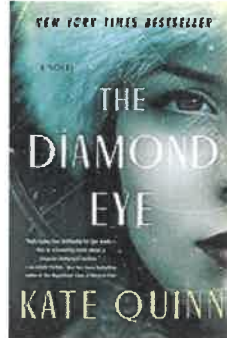
Athol



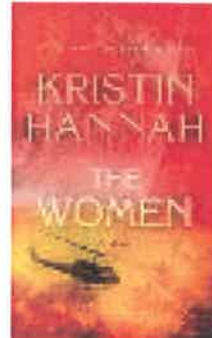
Bookmobile



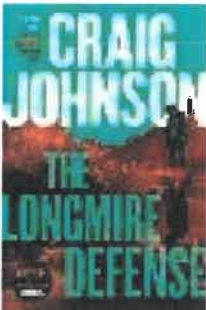
Harrison



Hayden



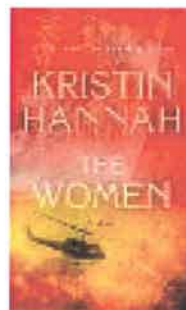
Pinehurst



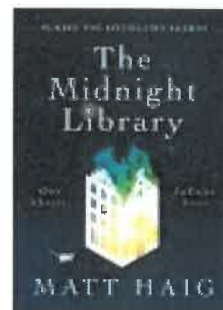
Post Falls



Rathdrum



Spirit Lake



Collection Highlight:



Donations – the community generously donates thousands of items a year to our libraries. We can add new items to each library's collection, trade out existing copies for donated copies in better condition, or move unneeded items to our Friends of the Library for book sales where funds benefit library programs and events.

In February, Technical Services received 418 online material requests/suggestions from members; 340 were purchased, 39 were submitted as Interlibrary Loans, and 39 were unable to be filled.

February Marketing and Communications Report

Reviews

Google Reviews

Community Library Network ▾



Community Library Network at Hayden [📍](#)

8385 North Government Way, Hayden Lake, Idaho 83835



Glaceon 1770

★★★★★ 2 weeks ago

I love the library and it goes really quiet.



(owner)

2 weeks ago

Thank you for the 5-star review and library love. We appreciate patrons like you!

[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Community Library Network at Athol [📍](#)

30399 3rd Street, Athol, Idaho 83801



Robert Cowper

★ 2 weeks ago

Gary scary



[Reply](#)

Community Library Network at Spirit Lake [📍](#)

32575 N 5th Ave, Spirit Lake, ID 83869



Debbsy 2016 Williams

★★★★★ 3 weeks ago

So helpful!! Greets you as you walk in!



(owner)

3 weeks ago

Thank you for the great review! Our staff pride themselves on being helpful and friendly! We hope to see you again soon!

[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Community Library Network at Hayden [📍](#)

8385 North Government Way, Hayden Lake, Idaho 83835



L Simpson

★★★★★ 3 weeks ago

Great environment. Friendly, helpful. Beautiful seating areas. Quite a few desktop computers available. I saw teens... [More](#)



(owner)

3 weeks ago

Thank you for the great review. Our staff prides themselves on helping patrons and creating a positive place for people to gather. Our libraries have something for everyone!

[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Community Library Network at Hayden [📍](#)

8385 North Government Way, Hayden Lake, Idaho 83835



Valerie Jackson

★★★★★ 4 weeks ago

Clean and quiet place to study



(owner)

4 weeks ago

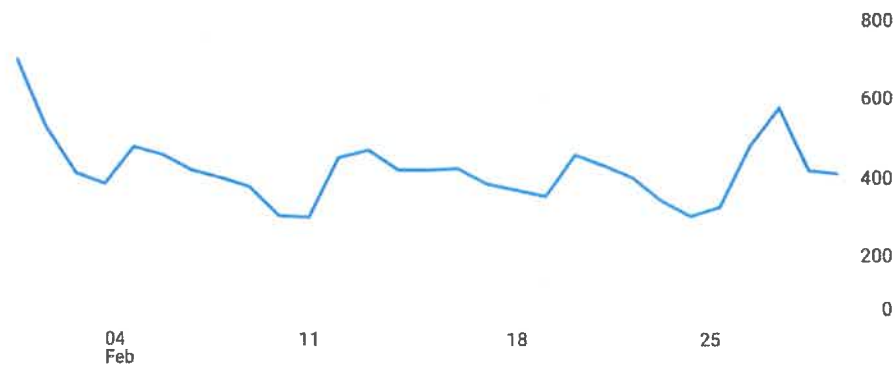
Thank you for the 5-star review Valerie. We are happy you found a great place to study. We appreciate you being a library patron!

[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Website

Overview

Users New users Average engagement time [?] Total revenue [✓]
7.3K 5.9K 57s \$0.00



Demographics

Users [▼] by City



CITY	USERS
Seattle	2K
Coeur d'Alene	926
Post Falls	897
Hayden	589
Rathdrum	332
San Jose	277
Santa Rosa	249

[View cities](#) →

Traffic Acquisition	
Unassigned	42
Google Search	4,307
Direct	2,531
Facebook	277

User Platforms	
Desktop	3,300
Mobile	3,800
Tablet	169

Top Visited Pages

		↓ Views	Users
		22,378	7,279
		100% of total	100% of total
1	Community Library Network – We Empower Discovery	7,987	2,659
2	Hayden – Community Library Network	4,228	1,958
3	Post Falls – Community Library Network	2,581	1,285
4	Borrow – Community Library Network	1,415	862
5	Rathdrum – Community Library Network	1,030	561
6	Programs & Events – Community Library Network	655	439
7	FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 31, 2024 – Catastrophic Damage at Post Falls and Athol Libraries – Community Library Network	572	503
8	Board of Trustees – Community Library Network	507	254
9	Services – Community Library Network	476	339
10	Digital Resources – Community Library Network	453	299

February Media Coverage

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March 6: Readers Write: Damage It Follows “Elected” Leaders	CDA Press
March 6: Post Falls Library Asking for Volunteers to Help Clean Up Severe Damage	KXLY

10 news articles

Harrison

Ani Matosian



Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Ani Matosian
Library: Harrison
Monthly Door Count: 899
New Cards Issued: 1 adult card.
Total Circulation: 1,975
Study Room and Meeting Room Usage: N/A

Public-facing: Several patrons have suggested programs for kids, such as ASL, science tutoring, & a current events club for adults. We appreciate that they are so creative & feel comfortable sharing their ideas with us.



Hayden

Nick Madsen



Month:	February 2024
Manager Name:	Nick Madsen
Library:	Hayden
Monthly Door Count:	13,519
New Cards Issued:	207
Total Circulation:	41,480
Meeting Room Usage:	
Patron Reservations:	28
Patron Users:	232
Staff Reservations:	10
Staff Users:	48
Study Room Usage:	49

Compounding the closures of Athol, the Bookmobile and Post Falls, the city of Coeur d'Alene suffered a cyber security breach in February. Many members have been able to meet their technological needs at the Hayden Library during the month of February.

Since internet access became widespread, libraries have offered public computer access to our communities. The Hayden Library has offered computer access to our communities since 1996. Among countless other tasks, members connect with their loved ones, research medical questions and complete school assignments.

While a similar number of folks utilized our wi-fi, we had a 31% increase in the amount of time members spent on Hayden computers during February. The tasks that members needed to complete were taking longer and were more complex.

We saw a 19% increase in the number of members that visited the Hayden Library compared to our January door count.

While members do not have access to as many library locations, many have been able to find a temporary home at the Hayden Library.

Pinehurst

Brenda Ludwick



Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Brenda Ludwick
Library: Pinehurst
Monthly Door Count: 1,758
New Cards Issued: 15
Total Circulation: 7,698
Meeting Room Usage: 23 programs Attendance: 200 for library programs
3 times Attendance: 130 for non-library programs

Pinehurst Library is getting a fresh coat of paint on the inside. The new paint has really brightened the space. Comments from the public have been very positive.



Post Falls

Jennifer Craft



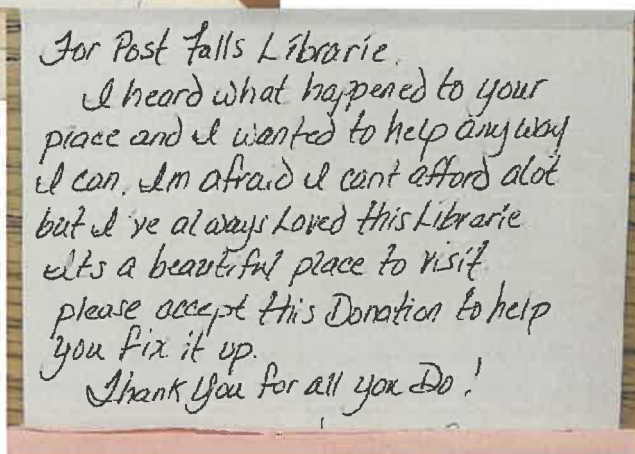
Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Jennifer Craft
Library: Post Falls Library
Monthly Door Count: 1,186 (staff and vendors)
New Cards Issued: 12
Total Circulation: 10,762 (renewals, Freegal, Overdrive, wireless use)
Study Room Usage: 0 uses; 0 attendees
Meeting Room Usage: 18 (Managers' Meeting and CIN meeting)

During February 2024, Post Falls staff continued the difficult work of deleting damaged items, shelving returns in preparation for boxing and storage, cleaning and gathering work materials for storage, etc. We worked with the Admin team to investigate options for offering services to patrons, opened the book drop for returns, and began working on schedules for staff and volunteers to clean and pack the collection for storage. We appreciate the outpouring of support and appreciation from our community as we work through this process.



Damaged books

\$20
donation
enclosed



So sorry to hear about PF + Athol. I'm thinking of you all. You're all amazing and I know you'll overcome anything that gets in your way!

Best,
I'm saddened to learn about the damage your libraries have gone through. Sending my support + well wishes to everyone involved.

Post Falls and Athol we are so sorry about the damage to your libraries. We are all thinking of you and hoping resolutions come soon for all involved. We are here for you.

So sorry about the damage to your libraries. Remember that we are here to help you however we can. You are all in our thoughts.

Sorry to hear about the PF & Athol libraries' damage. Sending support & speedy recovery/fixes.

^{we}
...and ~~I~~ do!

It was so heartbreaking to hear about what happened to both Athol & Post Falls Library. You have such beautiful spaces!

Sending all my positive thoughts your way + best to all the staff.

So sorry for what happened @ your libraries!

So sorry to hear about the damage to your libraries. Hopefully you'll be back up and running soon.

Rathdrum

Linda Mahon (retired) / Karin Hall (Interim Manager)



Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Linda Mahon / Karin Hall
Library: Rathdrum
Monthly Door Count: 4,671
New Cards Issued: 66 (48 adult, 11 minor, 7 minor limited access)
Total Circulation: 12,734
Meeting Room Usage: 19 Groups; 143 attendees

Rathdrum has been busier because of the Post Falls and Athol closures, but they have also been adjusting to a new manager. While I have been with the district for twenty-three and a half years, and the Bookmobile and Outreach Manager for seven and a half years, managing a library building is very different from managing vehicles and staff that is out and about. The staff have been extremely helpful and welcoming, and they do a great job! I am in the early stages of learning many things and am enjoying working in this beautiful little library and getting acquainted with the Rathdrum community.

Spirit Lake
Carol Ferguson



Month: February 2024
Manager Name: Carol Ferguson
Library: Spirit Lake Library
Monthly Door Count: 2,306
New Cards Issued: 10
Total Circulation: 3,320
Study Room Usage: 5
Meeting Room Usage: 231 people

Goal 1: Deliver unique and responsive programs driven by community needs and interest.

Our "Library Things" has become very popular with our patrons. We have one patron who jumped for joy when he saw all of items that are offered in "Library Things." He checked out a solar generator and was excited to use it.

This month our elementary school hosted their STEAM night. They hold this event once a year. We took our circuit boards and magnetic blocks. It is always fun to see the parents and kids work together with the items. Also at the event, they have other people from the community who participate. One year we had Inland Power who demonstrated to the kids how power works in a home. Another year, the school donated cardboard and the kids made a huge castle.

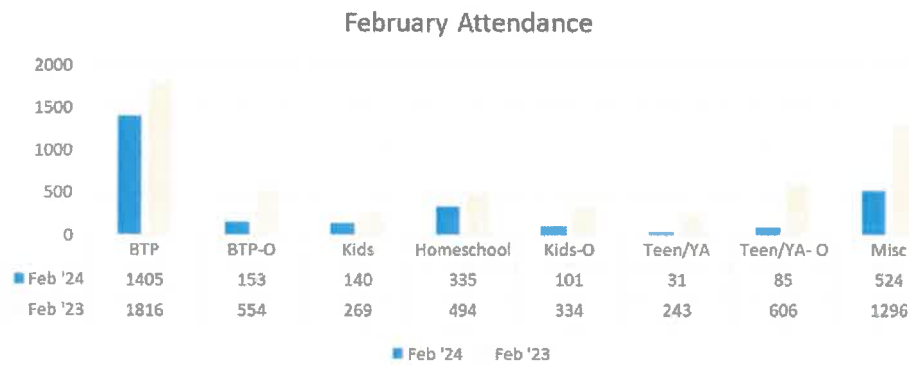


Youth Services

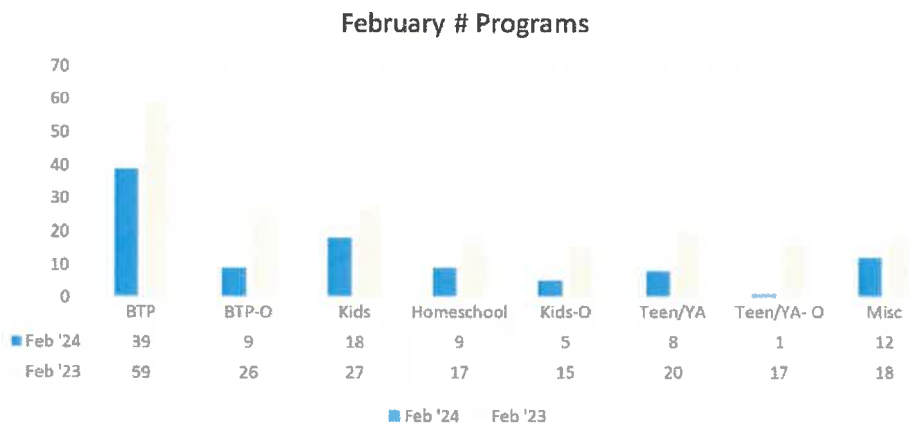
Month: February 2024

Coordinator Name: Karen Yother

Department: Youth Services



The month of February saw a 51% decrease in attendance at programs, from 5,612 in February 2023 to 2,774 in February 2024. In addition to the decrease in our budget, resulting in decreases to in-house and outreach programs, we were unable to hold in-house and outreach programs in Athol and Post Falls due to flood damage.



We saw a 49% decrease in the number of programs offered this month, compared to February 2023, from 199 to 101.

Public-facing prompt:

The pinnacle of this month was the 2nd Harvest food distribution at the Hayden Library which saw active participation from both staff and volunteers, emphasizing community engagement and aligning with the library's mission. The partnering agency for this event is Second Harvest, a national non-profit organization with a local distribution center in Spokane. Second Harvest's mission, closely aligned with the library's goals, focuses on empowering communities through education and partnerships to alleviate food insecurity. Eight to ten community volunteers ran

the event. One Youth Services staff member was there for the full five-hour event and about four to five circulation/YS staff helped out for an hour at a time promoting literacy within the community. One of our YS specialist's shared, "As we were loading cars, I realized a sweet older woman missed receiving her bag of oranges but saw she had parked. I ran over with the bag and let her know we missed something. She said, 'I had to pull over for a minute to cry. This means so much to me. I live in a senior living community. What I don't use will be taken by others. Thank you so very much.' When I left, we both had tears in our eyes. Helping with the food distributions always leaves me deeply humbled and honored to serve our community."

Our YS specialist in Pinehurst received a great compliment from one of the moms who said that her son wakes her up early every Wednesday to make sure they come to story time.

The Homeschool Exchange shelf at Hayden had an increase in use this month. One mom shared with a staff member that she was just about to order the second edition of a reading program she'd been doing with her boys, but she looked at the Homeschool Exchange shelf and found that volume and the next level after that on the shelf! She was so excited about it that she sought out a staff member just to tell her. Items on the Homeschool Exchange are donations from homeschool families and educators, and through grants from the Friends of the Library.

Library staffing prompt:

Two YS specialists were able to visit several outreach sites from Athol and Hayden and fill-in for programs in Spirit Lake. The highlight was Spirit Lake Elementary's Family STEAM night. This event allowed our Athol YS specialist to reconnect with the STEM coordinator for the Lakeland School District, and families from Spirit Lake & Athol libraries.

Youth Services staff continue to collaborate and work with community partners to identify locations for summer programs. Summer planning is nearly complete, and staff will begin discussing fall in the coming months.

While freezing rain fell, our YS programming specialist sights were set on spring and summer program and kit prep. Summer supplies began arriving and got tucked away until needed. This staff member also relocated our supplies from Athol and Post Falls, which will be needed in the coming months.

Community impact prompt:

Harrison provided 100 books from the library collection to Kid's College, the Kootenai Elementary Afterschool program. The school has limited access to books and has requested a monthly collection to encourage kids to read during their after-school time.

Skyway Elementary hosted a school media specialist collaboration event, where our Post Falls YS specialist provided training for teachers and school librarians on storytelling tips and techniques for students in grades K-2. Attendees were so inspired by the information they requested library staff come back every month.

Christian Center School held its Family STEM Night, which provided hands-on STEM activities for elementary-age children and their families. We were able to engage with families and share some of our resources, including circuit blocks, marble runs, and magnets.

Lastly, we attended Parent Night at Canfield Middle School. During this event, we updated and issued library cards, chatted with students and parents about library resources, and provided a

hands-on activity for students. Each event provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with our local community.

I attended the Mountain States Early Head Start Policy Council meeting. This month we discussed the scope and mission of the organization.

Post Falls Parks & Rec reached out to discuss partnering on upcoming programs. I met with two staff members to talk about the current closure and their upcoming STEM programs. We planned to attend their Mother Son STEM Night in March.



1. Drop Spindle workshop, Spirit Lake
2. Valentines for the Rathdrum Library from young members.

Media Coverage

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March 6: Post Falls Library Asking for Volunteers to Help Clean Up Severe Damage	KXLY

MY TURN: Stormy CLN trustees

By PAT RAFFEE
Guest opinion

Burst pipes during January's freeze caused significant flooding at Athol and Post Falls libraries. The buildings are closed while staff members assess and document damage to facilities and collections. We are fortunate Director Alexa Eccles and two of her senior team have prior experience with major logistical

and construction projects in libraries. They're working hard and will keep us informed as this situation unfolds. Everyone is acutely aware of the public's inconvenience.

Board reaction has been mixed. Trustees Katie Blank and Vanessa Robinson are flexible; they trust and support staff. The board majority is micromanaging staff and trying to force decisions. You can see videos

here: <https://communitylibrary.net/board/#agendasandminutes>.

Unsettling Practices

The board majority likes imposing their power over others. Back in June, they manipulated a joint decision with their colleagues just

See MY TURN, C3

MY TURN

from C1

because they could. Ever since, Chair Rachelle Ottosen, Vice Chair Tom Hanley and Trustee Tim Plass have shown low emotional maturity.

These are three strong individuals. Sometimes they vote together, but they rarely cooperate. None likes to listen. All prefer speaking. They regularly read written statements into the record. They seldom ask questions, often make demands and regularly blame others.

Chair Ottosen creates meeting agendas allocating hours to topics of interest to Plass, Hanley and herself, but only 10 to 15 minutes for Ms. Eccles and attorney Colton Boyles. Ms. Ottosen regularly cuts off remarks from both, as well as from trustees Blank and Robinson.

The majority consider themselves productive. However, since July, Mr. Plass and Mr. Hanley have been leading discussions on a materials selection policy. After 11 meetings, they are still working on page one.

Mr. Plass dominates airtime. When he's not

speaking, Mr. Plass's hand is up so Ms. Ottosen can return the floor to him. He is regularly dismissive of policies, strategic plans and bylaws. His behavior is sometimes volatile. His challenges to Ms. Eccles and Mr. Boyles have been particularly antagonistic. In an apparent attempt to evade Mr. Plass's wrath, Mr. Boyles has begun delaying his answers to legal questions. Ms. Ottosen moves along, and Boyles lets the requested board guidance go undelivered.

CLN's board meetings have been dysfunctional for eight months. It's time the majority noticed their behavior is unprofessional, legally risky and demoralizing to colleagues and staff. Citizens have certainly noticed.

Can the board majority stop floundering and learn how to function more effectively?

Working well with others is a set of learnable skills. Trustees appear to possess above-average intelligence and the capacity to grow. What if the board hired a facilitator? What if they got help to increase their self-discipline and expand their cognitive flexibility?

What if Ms. Ottosen learned how to run collaborative meetings? What if Mr. Hanley helped her craft more streamlined and purposeful agendas? What if Ms. Ottosen and Mr. Hanley persuaded Mr. Plass to stop his outbursts and dial down his hostility?

What if every board member treated staff as invaluable professional colleagues? What if trustees worked together as a team?

Ms. Blank and Ms. Robinson pay close attention to legal matters. What if they monitored pending legal questions and helped Ms. Ottosen remember to circle back for Boyles' answers?

Reckless decisions have been made for months, but the board majority has now begun making motions to contract for services they intend to cancel later. This behavior is unethical. Lawyers across America are helping conservative officials keep their impulses in check and their institutions protected now. What if Mr. Boyles showed his duty of care for CLN by designing an RFP/RFQ process with objective evaluation criteria? Staff has requested it, and

the board majority has shown they could use some guardrails.

During her Jan. 18 report, Director Eccles asked the board to temporarily hold fewer meetings so staff could focus on facilities damage. The board majority instead decided to hold two special meetings early in February. At their regular meeting Feb. 15, the board will take public comment. What if citizens conveyed their desire for the board to change? (Email link below; public comment is limited to 10 people.)

What if trustees showed their support for staff by holding only one March meeting?

CLN's board majority has been struggling, but they could learn to do better.

Please talk about this with other community leaders, especially those who may be able to influence the Board majority.

Email trustees here: <https://communitylibrary.net/board/#board-contact>
...

Pat Raffee lives in Post Falls. She consulted on managing change with organizations including Citicorp, MasterCard and US West.

Readers Write

RESPONSE: Miller got it right

I want to thank Doug Miller for addressing this awful problem concerning our children. The Press assuredly is part of the problem. They do not have the moral compass that conservatives have as with all liberals. The editors of The Press slam the newly

elected leaderships of the library as often as they can.

Obviously to get rid of them. As Mr. Doug Miller says leave our kids alone. It is long past time to replace the editorial board of The Press.

Mr. Miller hit the nail on the head and then drove it in.

Thank you sir.

SHARON ALWIN
Coeur d'Alene



Attendees hold books in support of Idaho libraries at the "Idaho Freedom to Read-In" event held at the Idaho Capitol Building on Jan. 13. The event was organized by the Idaho Library Association, alongside the Meridian Library Alliance, the North Central Idaho Alliance, the Community Library Network Alliance and Rediscovered Books.

Bill to remove 'harmful materials' from libraries heads to Senate

By KYLE PFANNENSTIEL
Idaho Capital Sun

After largely negative public testimony, Idaho legislators advanced a bill Monday that would require public and school libraries to create a review process and to restrict children's access to harmful materials following complaints.

The Idaho Senate is set to consider Senate Bill 1289, sponsored by Sen. Geoff Schroeder, R-Mountain Home. The bill would allow people to sue Idaho libraries for allegedly exposing children to "harmful materials" after a new review reporting process that the legislation outlines.

The bill would rely on Idaho's existing legal definition of harmful materials, which defines sexual conduct as including homosexuality.

Public testimony at Monday's hearing was largely critical of the bill, including from representatives of two conservative think tanks.

The bill is "a solution in search of a problem," said Boise Public Library Director Jessica Dorr, but she said it does provide a path forward to local libraries to provide access to a diverse range of materials. Dorr said the library was neutral toward the bill.

The bill mirrors processes already in place in most Idaho libraries, Idaho Library Association lobbyist Sarah Bettwieser told the committee. The group also doesn't oppose the bill, but Bettwieser said it is still concerned.

"After years of trying to get at this issue, this is about as good as it's going to get for all involved," Bettwieser said.

Idaho Senate Committee advances library harmful material bill to full Senate

Co-sponsor Sen. Geoff Schroeder, R-Mountain Home, had said the bill is not a compromise; it is a combination of previously proposed legislation and House Bill 384, a bill that Rep. Jaron Crane, R-Nampa, previously proposed. Schroeder previously said the main difference between his previously proposed legislation and the new bill is that the new bill would require patrons follow procedures outlined in the bill before they could sue a library.

The Idaho Senate State Affairs Committee voted 6-3 to send the bill to the full Senate and recommend that it pass. The committee's two Democrats voted against advancing the bill, along with Sen. Ben Toews, R-Coeur d'Alene.

Before the vote, Toews said his family is spending less time in their local library after his child found a book that he didn't feel was safe for children. Toews said he later

found it again on the library's shelf after asking librarians to put it behind the counter.

He praised Schroeder's efforts on the bill. But, "I think we've successfully found a compromise that virtually everyone opposes," Toews said.

Sen. Treg Berni, R-Meridian, said "95% of this bill makes sense," but he opposes the bill's private right of action — allowing lawsuits against libraries. Berni, who voted to advance the bill to the Senate, said he may vote differently on the floor.

Sen. Melissa Wintrow, D-Boise, said protecting children means protecting all kids. She recalled how she wasn't taught what sexuality meant growing up in an evangelical household. When she got to college, she said she didn't even know how her body worked.

"That is scary. Because I had other people — boys — telling me how it works, and I should trust them. That was my first lesson as a young adult, that it's so important to provide information," Wintrow said.

The bill now heads to the full Idaho Senate for possible debate.

If the full Senate passes the bill, that would pave the way for another committee hearing with public testimony before the full Idaho House considers it.

New bill would create reporting, review process for 'harmful materials' claims

If a patron finds a child has access to an item previously deemed "harmful to minors" under a decision from the committee or board, they could sue a library for \$20 in statutory damages as well as actual damages and other relief.

The bill would require Idaho libraries to establish a "Materials Review Committee" with at least three people who live in the school or library district, and contain at least one parent of a minor. Libraries must also,

under the bill, provide a relocation form for patrons who believe materials are harmful to minors. Patrons who file such a form would be entitled to a public hearing by the committee.

Libraries would also be required to provide at least one week public notice for the hearing in a newspaper.

The review committee, under the bill, would provide an explanation in writing about the material. Patrons can appeal committee decisions to the library or school board of trustees.

Meridian Library District Trustee Jeff Kohler said he was wary about the review committee requirement. People who have paid attention to the "culture war" in recent years, he said, "would think twice" before getting involved in the committee.

Megan Larsen, chair of Meridian Library District's board of trustees, said it's also unclear how review committees should determine community standards that the bill says would be used to assess whether materials should be moved.

"The legal risk to the library is significant, and it is a lose-lose situation," Larsen said.

Schroeder in the hearing defended critiques to the bill's implementation, saying libraries can group requests for hearings together and discuss community standards through testimony at those hearings.

Idaho Family Policy Center policy assistant Grace Howat said the center looks forward to supporting the bill if crucial amendments were made. Idaho Freedom Foundation President Ron Nate, who opposed the bill, said the bill creates a "complicated and arduous process" for parents. Brian Almon, a conservative blogger who is also trustee for the Eagle Library board, supported the bill.

See BILL, C6

Families Feeding Families
FEBRUARY FOOD DRIVE

HELP STOCK SHELVES OF LOCAL FOOD BANKS!

Food banks experience extremely limited supplies after the holidays. The Kroc Center is accepting food and monetary donations until Feb 16 to support community members in need!

KROC CENTER
COEUR D'ALENE, ID
SEE DETAILS AT KROCCDA.ORG

BILL from C5

“This is perhaps the most workable policy that we’ve seen come forward during the legislative session,” said Kathy Griesmyer, government affairs director for the city of Boise, which she said was neutral on the bill.

Opponents argue library bill isn’t needed, and could cause harm

Meridian Library District director Nick Grove said his community supports libraries, referencing the failed petition to dissolve the library district last year.

“This is not what your communities are

asking for. This might be what people show up in your office and shove in your face ... one page of a book. But this is not what your community is asking for,” Grove said.

Heather Stout, a retired librarian from North Idaho, also said the bill isn’t needed. It’s fair for parents to take issue with subjects in the library, she said, but they can’t parent other people’s kids. And allowing fines for librarians will only “intensify the exodus” of Idaho librarians, she said.

“This bill seems to be responding to an entirely politically manufactured crisis that was both created by and will now be solved by legislators with little or no concern for the reality of what’s happened in

these important public institutions,” said West Ada School District Education Association President Zachary Borman.

“Idaho libraries and librarians are not OK. In the midst of waging war against books, the shelves of our library have become the battlefield. Our patrons must not become the casualties,” said Dorajo Messerly, a children’s librarian in Soda Springs.

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Idaho Capital Sun is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. Idaho Capital Sun maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Christina Lords for questions: info@idahocapitalsun.com.

Readers Write

CAUCUS: Many will not be able to participate

Reading on the various things to expect with the caucus drew me to the conclusion that many will be denied the opportunity to not only vote in a presidential primary but also in the caucus. Seriously, sign-ins from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. In most cases more than one precinct in each caucus location. Of course, already many have been eliminated due to no absentee, no one who is working during that time, military, elderly unable to get transportation as well as those that may be ill. According to the paper, if you're in line at 12:30 you will get in — very encouraging, right. I love lines, don't you? But no matter what you may think the die has probably been already cast for Trump in our area.

According to Ms. Cochran's letter this morning, the KCRCC has done the work of vetting and have determined the best candidates. Just look how well NIC, The Community Library Board and the Assessor's office are doing. I will say, that not all of their candidates have been bad — the Coroner's office seems to be doing quite well. At any rate, do your homework don't just vote for everyone the KCRCC endorses. Another thing to keep in mind, we are all Americans — Republicans, Democrats, Independents and the unaffiliated and all may have some good ideas just listen. As the Proverb 18:2 says "Fools have no interest in understanding; they just want to air their own opinions."

This Wednesday (Feb. 14) is a day for love. Observe it with

your loved ones and those you may not agree with. Be kind and respectful to others.

KATHY VERBURG
Hayden

CDA SCHOOLS: Why is enrollment down?

On Jan. 28, this newspaper published an article regarding the \$6 million (even with an additional levy funded \$5 million) shortfall the Coeur d'Alene School District is due to experience. Four of the six million is a lack of federal funding due to a decrease in student enrollment. While the wordy article went on to explain potential cost saving measures, one key point was never addressed. Student enrollment. It seems safe to say that we can no longer blame COVID. So why is student enrollment down and why isn't the school district making it a priority to find and address the root cause? What has caused parents to seek alternatives to public education? Shortfalls will likely be a perennial concern until enrollment issues are addressed.

KAREN MILACEK
Post Falls

OPEN PRIMARIES: Deny parties' right to choose candidate

Separate Voter Fact from Fiction: Post Falls Press Sunday, Feb. 4. The editorial gives an interesting version of primary voting in the state of Idaho, laying out a system that closes the right of each party to choose its own candidate, calling it an open system.

What the editorial does not tell us is that their system of

primary voting denies each political party the right to choose its candidate.

Right now, The Democrat party has the right to choose its candidate and the Republican party has the right to choose its candidate. Then in the General Election, the people decide. In the system portrayed as Open in the editorial, the Democrat party can cross over and choose the Republicans' candidate and the Republican party can cross over and choose the Democrat's candidate. This is not open, it closes each political party's right to choose their desired candidate.

In rank voting, again, the candidate favored by the people can be third on the list and does not win, even though that person is the people's choice. It's a clever system to deny the people their choice in both instances. In either case, the political party can gang up and push through their desired candidate and the people's candidate loses.

JEANNE SAPPINGTON
Post Falls

CLN TRUSTEES: Last two should be removed

I can only add one thing to Michelle Lippert's letter about the library board and that is "recall." It is the process of getting rid of an elected official that is not doing the job he was hired to do. The library system CLN, was doing a pretty good job prior to the addition of the last two members. They should both be removed. The board should make the opening of the Athol and Post Falls libraries a priority as they are sure missed.

NANCY DOLPH
Post Falls

Library insurance deal done

Trustee Blank deems decision reckless, insane

By DEVIN WEEKS
Staff Writer

While two libraries remain closed due to catastrophic water damage, Community Library Network trustees are poised to change CLN's insurance policies.



Blank

If no other quotes come in before Friday, library trustees will accept insurance quotes from Wright Specialty Insurance and American Family Insurance and cancel current policies with the Idaho Counties Risk Management Program and the Great American Insurance Group. These changes will nearly double the library network's insurance costs.

Chair Rachelle Ottosen, Vice Chair Tom Hanley and Trustee Tim Plass approved the plan of action during the Feb. 15 board meeting at the Hayden Library.

Trustees Katie Blank and Vanessa Robinson voted against the motion, first presented by Plass with an alternative motion substituted by Ottosen.

See LIBRARY, A9

LIBRARY

from A1

"This is the most irresponsible board I have ever seen," said Blank, a longtime member and past chair of the board, noting how this change will cost the library network \$3,500 more a month.

"It's reckless," she said.

Blank also called the move "insane."

"I have absolutely no idea why you would want to spend \$3,500 more a month for policies that we don't even know are better than what we have," she said.

The Wright and American Family Insurance quotes were presented to the board via correspondence from Redman and Company Insurance, owned by Idaho Rep. Jordan Redman, R-Coeur d'Alene. Redman and Company provided three options for the library network's consideration, advising the board to accept the first option in the list.

The first option states the network should stay with ICRMP and Great American for the rest of the year, with the Great American premium costing \$7,362 and the ICRMP premium costing \$51,293 for a total of \$58,655 per year.

Redman and Company said the following in its letter to the board:

"If the Community Library network wishes to stay with ICRMP and Great American for the remainder of the policy term, and shop out insurance coverages for their 2024-2025 Policy term we advise the following:

• Applications must be filled out and submitted by Thursday, March 14, 2024, so they can be submitted to carriers.

• The Community Library Network will begin receiving bids for

insurance 60 days before renewal on October 1, 2024 (a Tuesday).

• When CLN finds a suitable quote, per the ICRMP contract, CLN needs to reject ICRMP renewal 45 days before October 1, 2024, which would be Saturday, August 17, 2024."

However, the board chose the third option, which replaces the ICRMP and Great American policies with those from Wright and American Family.

Redman and Company provided the following in its third option:

• Wright/American Family: \$87,263.00

• ICRMP Cancellation Charge (35% of policy Premium) Total \$17,952.55

• Total Cost \$105,215.55

"If the Community Library Network goes with option three, they will be receiving better liability coverages in their Auto Coverage, Abuse or Molestation, Medical Payments, Employee Benefits Liability, and General Liability," Redman Insurance said in its correspondence.

Plass, who first recommended the network hire Redman and Company in early September 2023, said the board has known for six months that ICRMP dropped the library network's liability coverage to \$500,000.

Last August, ICRMP cited "increasing risk exposures" when it notified the CLN board of significant reductions to the library network's coverage beginning Oct. 1, 2023.

Those changes included removing employment practices liability coverage and reductions of per claim limits for other types of coverage from \$3 million or \$2 million to \$500,000.

Plass said changing insurance is an opportunity to restore the network's liability.

"I am frustrated with ICRMP that they think

they can lower our limits and keep the exact same premiums and not even give us a quote for restoring it," he said.

Library Director Alexa Eccles, who has been working to retrieve insurance quotes at the request of the board majority, said a mid-year policy quote is not impossible, but it is irregular.

"I think the board is so ignorant about the insurance process that they don't understand



Plass



Eccles

that you get insurance quotes on an annual renewal basis," Eccles said.

Eccles urged Plass to instead "act more conservatively" and "more responsibly."

Ottosen indicated she believes unspecified people are "champing at the bit" to sue the library network.

"Keep our policies in line, keep our actions in line," Eccles said. "Stop taking these risks that are going to continue to make us

less insurable and think about the entity and the money that we don't have and that we may be very shortly called on to expend from our reserve."

This change in insurance carriers is expected to happen as CLN addresses damage at the Post Falls and Athol libraries, which have been closed since mid-January due to damage caused by extreme cold that ruptured the fire suppression systems and flooded the buildings.

"Stop for a second and realize that we are in the middle of a multimillion dollar claim that is pending," Eccles said. "We are not

highly insurable until that is resolved."

Eccles said library trustees have never taken the lead on selecting an insurance carrier. Doing so is normally a responsibility of CLN staff, she said.

"The selection criteria is made by staff and then a recommendation is made to the board, so this action is another opportunity for us to be sued and I find it reckless, absolutely reckless that we're talking about this in this way without legal counsel," Eccles said.

View the Feb. 15 meeting here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAcziZVg1IM

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ON SHIMMERING LAKE COEUR D'ALENE

WEDDING OPEN HOUSE!

Celebrate your special day with a unique and picturesque wedding on the

Readers Write

EVENT: Cleared up confusion, misinformation

During his presidency, George Washington witnessed the friction between the Democratic-Republican Party in opposition to the Federalists. It concerned Washington that this friction would ultimately undermine all the efforts made to establish popular sovereignty, unity and productive patriotism in our nation.

Washington stated in his farewell address: "However [political parties] may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely in the course of time and things, to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people and to usurp for themselves the reins of government, destroying afterwards the very engines which have lifted them to unjust domain."

I would like to thank the League of Women Voters for providing our community an opportunity to gather factual information pertaining to the Open Primary and the Ranked Choice Voting Initiative.

The event in Coeur d'Alene was heavily attended by folks of various political persuasions. The questions from the audience were thoughtful and relevant. The panelists did an excellent job of clearing up voter confusion about the initiative.

Furthermore, the panelists aimed to debunk the disinformation and propaganda being spread across social media and by opinion pieces being published across the state seeking to disenfranchise voters they fear who may not be in agreement with their political ideology.

Every effort made to ensure every eligible United States citizen an equal voice in our elections calms Washington's concerns and supports the objective behind the founding documents of our nation.

Every effort to respect those who have fought, died and otherwise have suffered to defend our freedoms, as this initiative does, deserves the support of each and every one of us.

DEBORAH ROSE
Kootenai County

BIDEN: Gratitude for essential funding

Thank you, President Joe Biden, for signing the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 economic stimulus package. Citizens of Kootenai County should be especially grateful for the \$24 million provided by this law for the courthouse and jail expansion.

There were no cries about a socialist giveaway or communist plot by the deep state.

Sadly, every House Republican and every Senate Republican voted against this aid bill.

Shamefully, Senators Jim Risch and Mike Crapo, and Representatives Russ Fulcher and Mike Simpson chose to deny Idaho's citizens recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and Trump recession.

Thank you, President Biden and Democrats for placing the welfare of Idaho citizens over partisan trumpism.

GERI DOUGLAS
Post Falls

CAUCUS: Urgent call to all Republicans

In case you haven't heard, the Republican presidential caucus is Saturday, March 2. This is the only opportunity that Idaho Republicans will have to weigh in on who the party nominee for president will be.

It is imperative, therefore, that ALL registered Republicans show up, if they can, and express their opinion, recognizing that the caucus rules were devised in such a way as to exclude a sizable number of eligible Republicans from the process.

Whether you agree with the Idaho Freedom Foundation, KCRCC, Dorothy Moon and Brent Regan, and especially if you don't, please show up and cast your vote. Do not allow a small minority of the extreme right wing faithful to choose the candidate for you.

DAVID ST. AMAND
Post Falls

CLIMATE: Activists more like Thought Police

A recent letter to the editor bemoaned the lack of faith that many of us have in the messages of doom touted by environmental activists. If only we truly believed more fervently, we would be able to avert an otherwise inescapable ecological catastrophe.

Belief must be earned, especially when what we are being told to believe is so ludicrously self-destructive. Science is a methodology that tests hypotheses with experiments, producing theories. Science does not deal in truth. Truth is a matter of judgment. Facts never speak for themselves.

Despite this, advocates of policies intended to "combat man-made climate change" act more like Torquemada than Einstein. These latter-day inquisitors deal in charges of heresy and punishments for apostasy from their "settled science."

For decades, these Thought Police have purged the scientific professions of

"deniers." This conduct is not scientific. It is the behavior of a cult desperate to attain control over the minds and lives of others.

Their sustainable climate-friendly policies are as totalitarian as Xi's China and Kim's North Korea. Hostile to human life, these policies are intended to reduce human populations and eliminate the Western living standard. This is why farmers across the world are standing up to their policies of famine and control.

Of course we do not believe! We shall not conform to the crabbed visions of sustainable utopias touted by would-be social engineers. We prefer freedom to slavery, plenty to famine and adapting to changing circumstances to the illusion that we can control our climate.

RALPH K. GINORIO
Coeur d'Alene

CHILDREN: Let's work on what matters

Senate Bill 1289 (SB 1289) is promoted as legislation to protect children from harmful materials in libraries. It is similar to the 2023 Idaho legislative session House Bill 139 (HB 139) which Governor Little vetoed.

SB 1289 has been described as a solution in search of a problem. Where is the evidence of the problem this bill is attempting to solve? How many children have been harmed by library materials?

In contrast, Idaho has numerous problems that are harming thousands of Idaho's children. Here's evidence of some of those problems:

Insufficient public school funding. Idaho ranks dead last in the nation for per pupil spending per U.S. Census 2020.

Unhoused children. The Idaho State Department of Education states that over 9,100 (about 3%) of Idaho students experienced homelessness in the 2022-2023 school year.

Food insecurity. According to the Idaho Food Bank, 40,410 of Idaho's children (8.6%) experienced food insecurity in 2021.

The fiscally prudent step is to use public resources to address documented, serious problems that affect children before using public resources for a perceived issue from local and out of state special interest groups with agendas.

Until legislators have demonstrated that they have wisely utilized public resources to solve REAL problems that affect too many of Idaho's children, bills such as SB 1289 are nothing more than political theater and performance art. They will certainly be remembered as such come Nov. 5, 2024.

KARA KRALL
Coeur d'Alene

Wright declines CLN coverage

Insurance company cites unresolved claims; alternative unclear

By DEVIN WEEKS
Staff Writer

After trustees voted to change the Community Library Network's insurance policies, the insurer they sought to contract with has declined coverage, citing current unresolved claims.

Redman Insurance notified library staff and trustees Tuesday that Wright Speciality Insurance will decline the mid-term insurance policy for CLN, Library Director Alexa Eccles said. A formal letter is expected from Wright this week.



Eccles

Family Insurance, as presented by broker Redman and Company Insurance, and cancel the network's present coverage with the Idaho Counties Risk Management Program and Great American Insurance.

"The network cannot move forward with this," Eccles said Wednesday.

During the Feb. 15 board meeting, Chair Rachelle Ottosen, Vice Chair Tom Hanley and Trustee Tim Plass voted to accept insurance from Wright and American

Trustees Katie Blank and Vanessa Robinson cast dissenting votes.

Because the board voted to accept insurance from both Wright and American Family Insurance, Wright's denial means the library network cannot move ahead with only American Family Insurance.

The vote took place as Post Falls and Athol libraries are closed and undergoing mitigation from water damage that occurred in January when extreme cold caused fire suppression systems to burst, flooding the buildings.

See CLN INSURANCE, A6

CLN INSURANCE

from A1

The two facilities have been closed since mid-January. Restoring them to full functionality will be no small feat — nearly 6,000 boxes are ready to pack up and temporarily store the more than 63,000 books and materials housed at the Post Falls Library alone.

“Stop for a second and realize that we are in the middle of a multimillion-dollar claim that is pending,” Eccles said to the trustees at the Feb. 15 meeting. “We are not

highly insurable until that is resolved.”

The library network, which includes libraries in Post Falls, Hayden, Rathdrum, Spirit Lake, Harrison, Pinehurst and Athol, as well as a bookmobile, is fully insured under its current plan.

“We’re fully covered and we’re good through Sept. 30,” Eccles said. “There’s no crisis or concern when it comes to being fully insured. We are.”

Considering the CLN’s current issues, Robinson told The Press via email she is not surprised by this development.

“I hold on to hope that the board will make responsible



Robinson

decisions moving forward,” she said.

The other trustees did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Eccles said in a statement that will go out in the network’s March newsletter that ICRMP is expected to cover most repair costs for the Post Falls Library but will not provide enough funds to cover moving and replacing all of the books and materials that were

a loss due to water damage.

The Athol Library is a much smaller facility with only a handful of books destroyed.

“It appears the library’s insurer will fund the expense of moving books, which will allow us to fast track this library’s repairs and reopening,” she said.

Staff members are exploring options to restore convenience services such as pickup of holds and a book return prior to a full re-opening. The Post Falls Library is expected to be closed for as many as eight months for repairs. The Athol

Library may reopen late summer.

Community volunteers are needed to help library staff box up and move the Post Falls Library collection. Work will begin around March 11. Monetary donations to the library’s foundation are welcome. Funds can be dedicated to assist the library in replacing books and DVDs lost in the calamity. The Post Falls Library lost about 7,100 items, mainly large print books, books on CDs, mp3 players and DVDs due to water.

Call 208-773-1506 or email postfalls@communitylibrary.net to volunteer at the Post Falls Library.

Readers Write

LIBRARIES: End the book wars

Parents deserve to lead their children in reading choices and NO government body of meddling fanatics with a political, religious or omnipotent sense of righteousness should determine those choices.

This symbolic book burning, censorship and removing self-directed choice is "1984" fear mongering. Do not presume to parent our offspring or remove the ability to make sensible decisions for parents, kids or grandkids.

Librarians are not Salem witches as so many Idaho Republicans, particularly our North Idaho, have cast these educated and helpful people who love books, educating the public and broadening the Idaho citizens exposure beyond our borders.

For a Republican state that trumpets "Limited Government," this is way beyond over reach.

Sit back in your seats and find how you can HELP our lower income, ALICE and Workforce find AFFORDABLE HOUSING. Or focus on safe roads as our state grows at an alarming rate and cannot keep up to truck, auto and tourist traffic demands.

Stop creating wars over books that fewer and fewer students think to open or have capable reading skills at grade level in this rapidly more ignorant and under-educated state due to miserable public education funding.

LYNN FLEMING
Coeur d'Alene

CAUCUS: The end is finally here

Very soon — March 2 — Idaho Republicans will caucus to determine who will be given our state's presidential votes.

If you're disabled and can't attend, don't worry. If you are out of town and can't be at a specific place at a specific window of time and duration, don't worry. Caucus attenders will represent your wishes in the manner of a republic, right? You think?

Speaking of think, I wonder what most folks out here think is required to take part in a caucus. Some select politically savvy few who are designated as caucus members? No.

Actually, if I read this right, any Republican who registered by year's end and shows up with ID at the specified time, duration and place can vote. Nobody special, just us voting citizens. But considering the tight time constraints and eliminations of absentee

voting, how many will actually show up? Darned few, I'd guess, limited mainly to those representing the views of those who "mistakenly" eliminated primaries and brought about this circus — oops, caucus.

PATRICK TEBO
Hayden Lake

FEDS: Don't forget funding strings attached

Regarding Geri Douglas' letter published Feb. 25 "Biden — Gratitude for Essential Funding." \$1.9 trillion — wow.

I invited people to read the act's components which are spelled out pretty well on Wikipedia. Hundreds, if not thousands of giveaways for just about everything and everyone. You ever wonder why everything under the sun costs so much? The government pumping huge amounts of money into the economy.

Sure, nice to get some money for the jail, etc., but it's not free just because it came from the feds. I applaud those leaders who chose not to rubber stamp every item in this bill.

And let's not get into the hundreds of billions spend on the Inflation Reduction Act (all green new deal stuff) the following year.

RICK STRAUB
Hayden

PARTIES: What primaries are all about

Words mean things. We use vocabulary to clearly communicate a thought, idea or perspective. Political parties are a type of vocabulary. When we say Republican or Democrat, it puts a label on a set of principles, goals and strategies designed to address pressing issues.

Last I checked, the Republican and Democratic platforms are very different. Knowing a candidate's party affiliation helps a citizen differentiate between those on the ballot. The purpose of a primary election is to narrow the choices of candidates within a party.

In Idaho, when one registers to vote, they may select a party: Constitution, Libertarian, Democratic or Republican. Those who choose Unaffiliated are not aligning with a party; therefore, they do not vote in the primary.

By the way, the correct term is unaffiliated voter not independent voter. If an unaffiliated voter comes from another state, they may have a misconception that unaffiliated means independent. Maybe they think it is unfair that they

don't get to vote in the primary. Possibly, they don't understand the value of political parties. Party labels actually increase voter confidence because it helps the voter make decisions.

If you would like to vote in the primary but are unaffiliated, you can change that. Go to the elections office and select the political party of your choice.

And finally, election integrity is an excellent reason to keep the primary closed. It compels citizens to vote for who they really want to win. A closed primary prevents manipulation of the outcome by nefarious players. We don't want any shenanigans here in Kootenai County, so let's continue with a closed primary.

JENNY HOLMES
Post Falls

LETTER: Logic seems to be absent

In a recent letter, Ralph K. Ginorio bemoans environmentalists' belief in man-made climate change. He states, "Science does not deal in truth. Truth is a matter of judgement. Facts never speak for themselves."

These statements don't seem logical to me. Facts, by definition, speak where judgment or opinions do not. And they produce truth.

So I would say that facts produce truth, and that judgments do not always produce truth.

Quite often we have one court of law overturning a judgment that was made by a lower/different court. The Supreme Court of our land has overturned previous judgments. Which of these judgments were the truth, I wonder?

One definition of judgment is "something believed or asserted." We are aware of the many conflicting beliefs or assertions that are prevalent today — and have been for some time. Which of these beliefs are "the truth" as cited by Ginorio?

On the other hand, scientists are using various evidences in their search for the truth. A good scientist will not put forth a theory without much evidence to back it up. And a scientist is much more likely to be dealing in truth with the search for answers to what's happening around him than someone who hasn't taken time to form an educated opinion, or judgment.

And ... truth isn't automatic with opinion or judgment. Truth must be based upon fact. These days facts seem hard to come by.

LADONNA BOOTHE
Kingston

Readers Write

DAMAGE: It follows elected 'leaders'

The three Stooges (Trustees Ottosen, Hanley and Plass) who are piloting the Clown Car known as the Community Library Network continue their erratic drive to demolish our wonderful local library system.

Having completely ignored staff advice, common sense and the practical and business implications of considering a change in insurers while dealing with major damage claims arising from severe water damage to two of our important community libraries, these folks canceled the library's existing insurance coverage through the well regarded Idaho Counties Risk Management Program, and selected a more expensive alternative only to find that the insurer they chose now declines to provide the coverage, due to the consistently irrational mismanagement that these three Trustees have brought to the Community Library Network Board of Trustees.

One of those three has proposed running for County Commissioner. Really? Will that individual run on their record of sound management and rational decision making?

Based on their mismanagement of the library, will these "rated and vetted" folks be considered for higher office? If so, they can join our "rated and vetted" Assessor, who continues to blame everyone except the janitor at the county building for the errors in our tax bills.

LEN CROSBY
Post Falls

PUTIN: A vote for My Turn writer

Reid Harlocker's My Turn article from Feb. 29 was right on target! Reid, you have hit the nail square on the head. History is the proof of what you pointed out in your illustration of religious nationalism. Please, run for office!

GORDON SANDERS
Coeur d'Alene

BORDER: Two visits, one lopsided story

Last week both Trump and Biden went down to the southern border. What a disgraceful debacle on Biden's part. As expected, he went after Republicans for this crisis which he single-handedly and deliberately created.

The mainstream liberal media didn't cover DT's in depth visit with the Border Patrol and their statement to JB: "Keep our name out of your mouth!" I guess that wasn't important to mainstream media?

And I always check local news first to get weather and local sports before the netwoke hacks take over and Thursday night before I switched to real news, David Muir came on to say, President Biden offers a challenge to former President Trump on border challenge. So I took the bait and waited for this challenge.

It was nothing, just another rambling on by JB for Republicans to eat the poop sandwich that he claims is a bipartisan bill

for border reform and if we didn't eat his poop sandwich disaster looms. Funny stuff, Joe ... How about a real challenge unlike David Muir's and ABCs woke BS challenge? How about a debate, face to face debate, Joe? How about that, a debate, face to face and fact to facts?

JOHN C. MUNDY
Coeur d'Alene

PRIMARIES: Open is better for Idaho

We The People. It's not we the Republicans.

Over the last couple decades, the Idaho GOP has spent more time on legislation favoring their party than they have any other issue. You know, the issues actually pertaining to the state of Idaho. And politics ain't one of them.

[Well, it is now. Idaho's GOP is being taken over by out of staters with gobs of money but little genuine interest in the state of Idaho. Brent Regan and his KCRCC puppets are a prime example.]

Consider Idaho's primaries. The GOP has manipulated that system to their benefit, and they like it. Want to guess who's behind every anti-open primary ad and commentary? That's right.

You wonder why people don't vote because they think it doesn't matter. Under this system it hardly does.

We The People. The People. Not the politicians.

Vote yes for open primaries in Idaho.

DAVE WALKER
Coeur d'Alene lifer and former city councilman

https://www.kxly.com/news/post-falls-library-asking-for-volunteers-to-help-clean-up-severe-damage/article_96a4de74-d821-11ee-9eae-a3e3217456fa.html

Post Falls Library asking for volunteers to help clean-up severe damage

Rob King, Maryssa Rillo
Mar 1, 2024

POST FALLS, ID. -- The damage caused by January's cold snap to the Post Falls Library is more expensive than previously thought.

According to the library, the damage exceeded \$1 million and exceeded what their insurance will cover.

The library says it can't afford to hire a clean-up crew and is asking for volunteers to help with different facets of that process.

Officials say over 1,000 people used to come in and out of the library every day. One says she misses the shrieks of laughter she'd hear during story time.

Staff are ready for repairs to begin, but they first need to clear out the entire library.

"We have 63,000 items here at the Post Falls library, and we have about four to six weeks to pack everything up so that we can get construction started on the library to repair all the damage that happened in January." Alexa Eccles, executive director of Community Library Network, said.

The Post Falls Library has less than 10 staff members, and that's over 300 boxes of items that they need to pack a day in order to get the job done.

ADVERTISING



"We have tasks for everybody," Eccles said. "So, if you can't lift heavy boxes, that's okay. We have some book washing stations and things like that. We need help making the boxes so 6,000 boxes [is] a lot of boxes to make so people can come and help us with that."

Staff hope they can get enough volunteers so that they can finish this job as quickly as possible.

The Post Falls Library is also asking for donations. If you have books or other small items, you can stop by and drop them off in their book return box right out front.

They are also taking monetary donations to help replace items like audio books, baby board books, puppets they used to use during storytime and more.

"A lot of people think, oh why does the library need toys, and toys are so vital in early learning development and fine motor skills and things like that, that all impact reading as they grow," Megan Ward, Youth Services Programming Specialist, said. "And so being able to replace those items. So yes, the families can have the same experience that they did before we had to close."

If you're interested in helping, you can find more information at [CommunityLibrary.net](https://www.communitylibrary.net).

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MATERIALS SELECTION AND ACQUISITION POLICY
DRAFT
03/10/24

Statement of Purpose and Intent for Policy

The vocation of a librarian requires a commitment to freedom of speech and the celebration of diverse viewpoints unlike that found in any other occupation. The librarian curates and curtails the collection of reading materials for an entire community in a sense, and in doing so, he or she reinforces the bedrock principles on which this country was founded. According to the United States Supreme Court, "Public libraries pursue the worthy missions of facilitating learning and cultural enrichment." *United States v. Am. Library Ass'n. Inc.*, 539 U.S. 194, 203, 123 S. Ct. 2297, 156 L. Ed. 2d 221 (2003). To fulfill those worthy objectives, "public libraries must have broad discretion to decide what material to provide to their patrons." *Id.* at 204.

This policy defines the Community Library Network's responsibility to establish and maintain a balanced and diverse collection of materials that meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of our residents, and to openly afford the public access to discussion, debate, and the dissemination of information and ideas.

Objective and Scope of Policy

This policy pertains only to the selection and new acquisitions of books and materials, [regardless if previously acquired, except for material that has been lost or damaged,] for the library's collection, not removal of existing library materials. Policy regarding retention, removal, or relocation of existing materials is outside the scope of this policy.

Responsibility

The elected board of trustees ultimately guides the selection process through this policy. The Library Director implements policies set by the board. Under the Director's guidance, selection is delegated to professional collection development library staff who are qualified by education, training and experience. All staff members and the general public are encouraged to recommend materials for consideration. Suggestions are evaluated by the staff based on the Library's criteria for selection.

Definitions- As Used in this Policy

Under this section "Harmful to minors" means that quality of any description, exhibition, presentation, or representation, in whatever form, of nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sadomasochistic abuse, when the material or performance has any of the following characteristics:

(A) The average person eighteen (18) years of age or older applying contemporary community standards would find that the material or performance has a predominant tendency to appeal to a prurient interest in sex to minors;

(B) The average person eighteen (18) years of age or older applying contemporary community standards would find that the material or performance depicts or describes nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sadomasochistic abuse in a manner that is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with respect to what is suitable for minors; and

(C) The material or performance lacks serious literary, scientific, medical, artistic, or political value for minors.

"Minor" means any person under eighteen (18) years of age.

"Material" means any book, magazine, newspaper, pamphlet, poster, print, picture, figure, image, description, motion picture, film, record, recording tape, CD-ROM disk, magnetic disk memory, magnetic tape memory, video tape, or other media, or any down-loadable or on-line digital content.

Nudity" means a:

(A) Showing or description of the human male or female genitals, pubic area, or buttocks with less than a fully opaque covering:

(B) Showing or description of the female breast with less than a fully opaque covering of any portion of the female breast below the top of the nipple; or

(C) Depiction or description of covered male genitals in a discernibly turgid state.

"Performance" means any motion picture, film, video tape, played record, phonograph or tape, preview, trailer, play, show, skit, dance, or other exhibition performed or presented to or before an audience of one (1) or more, with or without consideration.

"Sadomasochistic abuse" means flagellation or torture by or upon a person clad in undergarments, a mask, or bizarre costume, or the condition of being fettered, bound, or otherwise physically restrained on the part of a person so clothed, or mutilation or physical alteration of genitals by or upon a person;

"Sexual conduct" means an act of masturbation, homosexuality, sexual intercourse, or physical contact with a person's clothed or unclothed genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast; and

"Sexual excitement" means the condition of the human male or female genitals when in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal.

Selection Process

The Community Library Network seeks to purchase a wide range of materials that meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of our residents in a variety of acceptable formats. The selection of materials is generally made by library staff based on clear and unambiguous written policies that infuse our

Draft 03/10/24

mission statement and accepted goals and priorities, published reviews, recommendations from library users, availability of materials at other libraries, an item's relation to the Library's existing collection, use analysis, space, price, and staff judgment and expertise.

Books and material with content that is "harmful to minors" as defined in this policy, shall be excluded from selection and acquisition for the library's non-adult collection.

The Community Library Network uses several criteria to determine the addition of an item whether purchased, requested, or donated.

- Authority and competency of presentation, author, or publisher
- Favorable reviews and inclusion in, but not limited to, reputable resources such as professional or trade journals
- Relation to existing collection
- Adequate standards of quality and durability in content, format, and physical appearance
- Current usefulness or lasting value (e.g. time-tested classics)
- Popularity and user demand, including hold demand counts on materials selected by other libraries in our consortium (CIN) that do not conflict with CLN policy
- Availability of materials through other libraries (Interlibrary Loan) or electronic resources
- Space requirements
- Representation of trends, subjects, or genres of local or national interest
- Price
- Format
- Appropriateness of subject and style for intended library users. For purposes of this criteria, **related to the library's non-adult collections**, "appropriateness" means a determination of whether such content is, in the opinion of the Board or Library staff, "harmful to minors as that term is specifically defined in this Policy.

Gifts

The Community Library Network welcomes donated books and other materials that are in good condition. Donated items may be used or disposed of in any way deemed appropriate and no conditions by donors can be made on materials donated. Donations are evaluated using the same criteria as purchased items. A receipt may be given to donors if requested with a number of items donated but no assessment of value will be made by library staff.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed and revised every three years or updated as necessary. Approved by the Community Library Network Board of Trustees, **November xx, 2023**.



MATERIALS WITHDRAWAL AND RECONSIDERATION POLICY

Draft 1-18-24

This policy defines the Community Library Network's review criteria and disposition process for material to be removed from the collection. Materials are defined in the Materials Selection and Acquisition Policy.

Withdrawal of Materials (Weeding)

The Community Library Network attempts to keep its entire collection in a condition that is attractive and inviting to the user. The Collection Development Librarian and other staff use the CREW (Continuous Review and Evaluation for Weeding) method to keep the collection weeded. Criteria for selecting materials for withdrawal include:

- Damage and poor condition; material that is out of print and considered a classic will receive special consideration for retainment.
- Copies in excess of demand
- Obsolete information or format
- Lack of use or space
- Availability from other sources
- Community relevance
- ~~[Adherence to local community standards]~~

Materials Inappropriate for Minors

Notwithstanding Idaho Code 18:1517(d), Materials that violate Idaho Codes 18-1513, 18-1514, and 18-1515 shall be removed from ~~the juvenile and young non-adult~~ collections.

Disposition of Materials

Material which has been selected for removal from the collection during the weeding process will be relocated or disposed of using one of the following options:

- Dispose of materials
- Donate to friends of the library groups, other non-profit groups or other government agency
- If material is inappropriate for minors, but produced for adults, move to adult collection area

- If material is inappropriate for minors, but not produced for adults, move to a library location (other than the regular adult collection area) not accessible or displayed to minors and only made available to adults

Reconsideration of Material

If a library patron concludes that a specific item does not meet the guidelines set forth in this policy, they may fill out a Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Material form. The completed form will be submitted to the District Director who will review the form for evaluation and recommendations. The Community Library Network is a member of the Cooperative Information Network (CIN) consortium, sharing and receiving materials from the other member libraries. Requests for reconsideration are only accepted from Community Library Network residents for Community Library Network owned materials. A review team of library staff will be selected to review the item fully using the material selection policy. The decision will be submitted to the library user within 30 days, if possible. If the patron is not satisfied with the decision, they may appeal the decision to the board of trustees in writing within 10 business days. The board will evaluate whether staff appropriately used the selection policy as a guide during the review process. The patron will be notified of the outcome. The board's decision is final. The item in question will not be removed from the shelf during the reconsideration process (except, as necessary, for examination during this process). An item will be evaluated for reconsideration only once in a 3 year period unless the board determines sufficient new compelling evidence is introduced.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed and revised every three years or updated as necessary. Approved by the Community Library Network Board of Trustees, November xx, 2023.



Personnel Policy Manual

Revised and Board Approved: 01-19-2023

5.3.6 HOLIDAYS

(Chair Draft)

5.3.6. HOLIDAYS

Employees in categories 1 and 2 are eligible to receive holiday pay. ~~The district recognizes the federal and state holidays listed below and Christmas Eve Day (as approved on January 19, 2023).~~ Libraries will be closed in observation of the following holidays:

New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr./Human Rights Day	Third Monday in January
Presidents' Day Washington's birthday	Third Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Juneteenth	June 19
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Columbus Day	Second Monday in October
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November
Thanksgiving Friday/travel day	Friday immediately following Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve Day	December 24
Christmas Day	December 25

Easter is the exception to the above policy. Libraries are closed Easter Sunday, but it is not an official paid holiday. Only the employees in categories 1 and 2 who would normally be scheduled to work on Easter Sunday are paid for that day.

Holidays falling on a regular, scheduled workday will be entered on the employee's timesheet as "Holiday Pay". Additional time off will be added to an eligible employee's vacation accrual for holidays that fall on non-scheduled workdays. For Category 1 employees, a paid holiday will equal 8 hours. For Category 2 employees, a paid holiday will equal 6 hours.

If a holiday falls during an employee's vacation, or other approved absence (including FMLA Leave), the employee will receive holiday pay. Employees on leave without pay or on disciplinary suspension without pay are not eligible for holiday pay.

**Community Library Network
Board of Trustees Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 29, 2020
Post Falls Library/virtual/phone**

We Empower Discovery

Trustees present: in person: Katie Blank, Regina McCrea, Michele Veale; by phone: Bob Fish and Judy Meyer

Staff present: John Hartung, Rebecca Melton, Janelle Sells

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 2:11 p.m. by Katie Blank, Chair

Roll call: Katie Blank, Bob Fish, Regina McCrea, Judy Meyer, Michele Veale

Discussion of partial reopening of the library beginning May 11: action item

The Director discussed the steps in place for CIN to begin to offer library service again:

- CIN courier will restart delivery on Monday, May 4
- Coeur d'Alene Public is resuming curbside service
- A few small libraries have not been completely closed or have left book drops open
- Washington libraries in CIN will remain closed at least through May

Self-serve pickup of holds at District libraries:

A self-service procedure is being developed for each library in the District:

- Each community and building is different so there will be some variations to the process.
- A schedule will be set for members to pick up materials at their library
- People will call in or email to ask staff to prepare item delivery to outside location
- Returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours
- A press release will go out along with newsletter and website updates

Board members asked:

- Is it possible to reduce the use of disposable bags for pickup? No. Reusable items are too risky.
- Will items still be cleaned after quarantine period? If time is available, but the 72-hour quarantine should eliminate the virus.
- Do we have a plan for high risk staff? Yes. There are tasks that will not expose staff to dirty materials or the public and FMLA is available if staff members are very concerned.
- Do we have enough staff to carry out the plan? Yes

The Board authorized staff to reopen library buildings to offer self-service pickup service beginning May 11, 2020
M, C, Meyer

Discussion concerning Board action reaffirming commitment to COVID-19 protections: social distancing, personal protective equipment (PPE): action item

The Director restated that staff is appreciative of Board support for maintaining health and safety protections. Some orders for supplies are backordered, making it hard to get the personal protective equipment that we need for staff protection. It may also be necessary to close if there is a spike in local cases or the governor orders another closure of non-essential services. If the situation were to change and demand quick action, staff would like permission to make critical decisions, following established guidelines, without prior Board approval.

The Board authorized District staff to continue to take all necessary precautions consistent with all state and national guidelines to protect staff and the public. The Director is authorized to take emergency action as needed without Board approval.
M, C, McCrea

Agenda discussion and requests:

None

Set Special and regular meeting dates:

None

Meeting review:

None

Discussion of video meetings: Teams and Zoom.

As part of the Microsoft Office Suite, District staff has access to and has used Teams, virtual meeting software. It offers a better level of encryption than Zoom. Trustees are encouraged to start using Teams for virtual meetings. Staff will train trustees as necessary with the goal to hold the May 14 meeting on Teams. That special Board meeting will include a discussion of director candidates and the Director's evaluation.

Adjournment: action item

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

M, C, Fish

Respectfully submitted,

John Hartung, Rebecca Melton

Calendar of events:

May 14:	1 - 5	Post Falls/virtual	special meeting
May 21:	2 - 5	Post Falls/virtual	regular meeting
June 18:	2 - 5	Post Falls/virtual	regular meeting

Please let us know if you need auxiliary aids or services to enjoy our libraries. This includes providing a sign language interpreter, assistive listening devices, or print materials in a digital format. We can also modify programs, services, or activities, within reasonable limits. Please request these services through Randy Zepeda, ADA Coordinator, preferably 15 days in advance, but no later than 72 hours before the event.
Phone: 208-773-1506 ext. 329

Email: ADAcordinator@communitylibrary.net

The Community Library Network does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services, activities or employment practices. The Library Network has a policy on ADA compliance and the complete policy is available for review upon request. In addition, a grievance procedure is available to resolve complaints. If you need this notice in print or Braille, let us know.



INTERNET USE SAFETY POLICY

Board Approved February 18, 2021

The Community Library Network provides access to electronic information, services and networks in a manner that is readily, equally and equitably accessible at no charge to all library users. The library provides computer equipment and encourages patron use of personally owned digital devices and laptops, connected to the District's Wi-Fi network.

It is the policy of Community Library Network to:

1. Prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, illegal material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
2. Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
3. Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors;
Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No.106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)];
4. Comply with Idaho Code 33-2741 Public Library – Internet Use Policy Required.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Examples of library Internet use prohibited activities include but are not limited to:

1. Viewing of obscene materials, child pornography and/or materials harmful to minors as defined by [Idaho Code](#) and the [Child Internet Protection Act](#);
2. Libeling or slandering of others;
3. Bypassing the reservation and time control software used for logging computer usage;
4. Use of computer accounts, library accounts, access codes or network identification codes assigned to others;
5. Harassment or bullying of staff or members of the public, especially in matters of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation;
6. Violation of software licensing agreements;
7. Unauthorized copying of copyrighted materials;
8. Storage of personal data on library owned computer hard drives;
9. Use of computer-generated sounds and/or visuals which might be disruptive to others;

10. Spamming, phishing or sending any unsolicited emails;
11. Uploading software or other programs onto library computers;
12. Unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; disruption or unauthorized monitoring of or interference with electronic communications or activities of others;
13. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors;
14. Destruction of or damage to equipment, software or data belonging to the library
15. Disruption or unauthorized monitoring of or interference with electronic communications or activities of others.

Please note the following:

- The Community Library Network is not responsible for any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from the use of library owned electronic equipment and services or with a user's portable storage media and other personally owned devices;
- All Internet access is filtered in compliance with local, [state](#) or [federal](#) codes but no filtering software is perfect or totally secure;
- Adults over the age of 18 may request unfiltered Internet access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes as long as the users comply with this policy and have a valid ID;
- Wireless access users are responsible for maintaining the security of their personal information and protecting their devices against viruses and spyware;
- Staff can facilitate access to the Internet but may not be to provide individual Internet or software training;
- The library cannot ensure privacy for computer users in a public computing environment. The user should be aware that electronic transactions and records are vulnerable to interception by unauthorized parties;
- The Community Library Network does not endorse the viewpoints or vouch for the accuracy or authenticity of electronic information. Users are encouraged to exercise critical judgment in evaluating the validity of information accessed via the Internet.

ACCESS FOR MINORS

The Library Board upholds the needs and rights of minors to access information in accordance with local, [state](#) and [federal](#) codes. A parent or legal guardian is responsible for his or her child or children's computer use behavior.

INTERNET TIME LIMITS

There are limits to the amount of time patrons can access the Internet. Time limits vary slightly at different libraries. Access through the library's wireless connection is not be subject to time constraints available.

PRINTING COSTS

All computer-generated printing will be charged at a rate established by the Library Board.

POLICY VIOLATION

Any person found in violation of this policy will:

- A. Receive a verbal or written warning to desist;
- B. If the behavior persists, the user's computer use privileges will be revoked and they may be asked to leave the library;
- C. Decisions may be appealed to the Library Director.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Use of the Internet stations is validated through the library's circulation system and access to Internet stations will be treated as circulation records. The privacy of these records is protected under Idaho law and the policies of the Community Library Network. Patrons should be aware that the Internet is not a secure medium and that third parties may be able to obtain information regarding a user's activities. The library will do its best to protect the confidentiality of computer users accessing databases and Internet sites that do not violate this policy.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Community Library Network's Internet Access Policy complies with Idaho Code 33-2741 Public Library – Internet Use Policy Required and with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

The Community Library Network has in place a policy of Internet safety for all computer users, including minors, which includes the operation of a technology protection measure, hereafter called "filtering software," on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access. The filtering software protects against access to visual depictions of child pornography, to visual depictions that are obscene or harmful to minors, as defined in I.C. 33-2741 and the Children's

Internet Protection Act. The filtering software will be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer by a minor. Authorized library staff members may disable the filtering software at the request of an adult patron for lawful purposes. [I.C. 33-2741(3)].

SUPERVISION & MONITORING

Subject to staff supervision, filtering software may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Library Managers and their designated representatives.

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

A notice of the availability of this Policy will be posted in a conspicuous place within the library for all patrons to observe.

The Library Board has established procedures and guidelines to handle complaints about this policy, enforcement of this policy by library staff, and what a patron should do if they observe inappropriate behavior by another library patron. A notice of the availability of these procedures for public review will be posted, as well as the policies made readily available to all staff members. These procedures and guidelines will be adhered to by library staff to enforce the requirements of Idaho Code 33-2741 and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Developed under the direction of the Library Board of the Community Library Network, this Internet and Online Access Policy was discussed and adopted, following public notice required by Idaho code, during an open meeting of the Library Board on 16 October 2014. This policy supersedes all previous Internet and Online Access Policy statements of the Community Library Network and is effective on 16 October 2014.

This Policy document will be reviewed by the Community Library Network Board at least every three years.

Katharine T. Blank
Library Board Chairperson

John W Hartung
Library Director

The effective date of this policy is 16 October 2014

Adoption date: 14 September 2011.

First review date: 16 October 2014

Second review date: 18 December 2017

Third review date: 21 January 2021

Addendum

TITLE 33
EDUCATION
CHAPTER 27

PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICTS

- 33-2741. PUBLIC LIBRARY — INTERNET USE POLICY REQUIRED. [EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2012.] (1) Public libraries receiving public moneys and governed by the provisions of chapters 26 and 27, [title 33](#), Idaho Code, that offer use of the internet or an online service to the public:
- (a) (i) Shall have in place a policy of internet safety for minors including the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to any publicly accessible computers with internet access and that protects against access through such computers to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography or harmful to minors; and
 - (ii) Shall enforce the operation of such technology protection measure during any use of a computer by a minor.
 - (b) (i) Shall have in place a policy of internet safety, which may include the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to any publicly accessible computers with internet access and that protects against access through such computers to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography; and
 - (ii) May enforce the operation of such technology protection measure during any use of a computer.
- (2) The provisions of this section shall not prohibit a public library from limiting internet access or otherwise protecting against materials other than the materials specified in this section.
- (3) An administrator, supervisor or other authorized representative of a public library may disable a technology protection measure described in subsection (1) at the request of a library patron to enable access for lawful purposes.
- (4) Each public library's policy shall be developed under the direction of the library's board of trustees, adopted in an open meeting and shall have an effective date. The board of trustees shall review the policy at least once every three (3) years. The policy shall reflect the most recent date of review.
- (5) Notice of the availability of the policy shall be posted in a conspicuous place within the library for all patrons to observe. The board of trustees may issue any other public notice it considers appropriate to inform the community about the policy.
- (6) The policy may:
- (a) State that it restricts access to internet or online sites that contain material described in subsection (1) of this section and how the policy meets the requirements provided for in this section;
 - (b) Inform patrons that administrative procedures and guidelines for library staff to follow in enforcing the policy have been adopted and are available for review at the library; and
 - (c) Inform patrons that procedures for use by patrons and staff to handle complaints about the

policy, its enforcement or about observed patron behavior have been adopted and are available for review at the library.

(7) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Child pornography" means any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means, of sexually explicit conduct, where:

(i) The production of such visual depiction involves the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;

(ii) Such visual depiction is a digital image, computer image, or computer-generated image that is, or is indistinguishable from, that of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct; or

(iii) Such visual depiction has been created, adapted, or modified to appear that an identifiable minor is engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

(b) "Harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that:

(i) Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or excretion;

(ii) Depicts, describes or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and

(iii) Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors.

(c) "Minor" means anyone who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years.

(d) "Obscene" means a depiction that:

(i) The average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find to appeal to the prurient interest;

(ii) Depicts or describes sexual conduct in a patently offensive way; and

(iii) Lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

(e) "Public moneys" means any and all moneys belonging to or collected by the state or any political subdivision thereof including, but not necessarily limited to, any city, county, town or district therein.

(8) The provisions of this section shall have no effect on the provisions of section 33–132, Idaho Code.

Children's Internet Protection Act

Background

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers. CIPA imposes certain types of requirements on any school or library that receives funding for Internet access or internal connections from the E-rate program – a program that makes certain communications technology more affordable for eligible schools and libraries. In early 2001, the FCC issued rules implementing CIPA.

What CIPA Requires

- Schools and libraries subject to CIPA may not receive the discounts offered by the E-rate program unless they certify that they have an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures. The protection measures must block or filter Internet access to pictures that are: (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors (for computers that are accessed by minors). Before adopting this Internet safety policy, schools and libraries must provide reasonable notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address the proposal.
- Schools subject to CIPA are required to adopt and enforce a policy to monitor online activities of minors.
- Schools and libraries subject to CIPA are required to adopt and implement an Internet safety policy addressing: (a) access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet; (b) the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications; (c) unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities by minors online; (d) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and (e) measures restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

Schools and libraries are required to certify that they have their safety policies and technology in place before receiving E-rate funding.

- CIPA does not affect E-rate funding for schools and libraries receiving discounts only for telecommunications, such as telephone service.
- An authorized person may disable the blocking or filtering measure during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
- CIPA does not require the tracking of Internet use by minors or adults.

You can find out more about CIPA or apply for E-rate funding by contacting the Universal Service Administrative Company's (USAC) Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) [1]. SLD also operates a client service bureau to answer questions at 1-888-203-8100 or via email through the SLD website.

For More Information

For information about other telecommunications issues, visit the FCC's Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau website [2], or contact the FCC's Consumer Center by calling 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) voice or 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY; faxing 1-866-418-0232; or writing to:

Federal Communications Commission [1] Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau [2] Consumer
Inquiries and Complaints Division [3] 445 12th Street, SW [4] Washington, D.C. 20554.

Source URL: <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/childrens-internet-protection-act>

Links: [1] <http://www.sl.universalservice.org> [2]

governmental-affairs-bureau[3] <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.pdf>[4]
<http://www.fcc.gov/category/bureau/consumer-governmental-affairs>



PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

Board Draft: xx/xx/xx

The Community Library Network Board of Trustees operates under the Idaho Code Open Meeting Law. The Board will be pleased to take comments under advisement, although they will not be responding at the meeting. Public comment will be addressed at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Comments may be submitted by writing or oral presentation or both. The Board is committed to conducting its meetings in a civil, orderly, efficient, and productive manner.

ADD

Members of the public may display signs; however, the signs must not interfere with Board business or audience members' involvement and/or observation of the meeting.

OR

Signs, placards, banners or other similar items shall not be permitted in the audience during a public meeting if Chair determines that the presence of such items disturbs, disrupts or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting or the ability of members of the public to view presentations.

OR

No voice or noise amplification devices, flags, signs, or banners shall be permitted in library Board meetings.

OR

No person attending a public meeting shall engage in disorderly or boisterous conduct—including but not limited to applause, whistling, feet stamping, booing or making any loud, threatening, profane, abusive, personal, impertinent or slanderous uttering or comments. No person is allowed to disturb, disrupt, or otherwise impede the orderly conduct of the meeting.

OR

Members of the audience and speakers shall not wear or display signs, placards, banners, hats, costumes or similar items at any time during the library's Board meeting if it obstructs the view of the Board or audience members, or which creates sufficient disruption to impede the orderly conduct of the meeting or to intimidate other attendees of the meetings.

OR

Out of respect for the proceedings and in consideration of others, all cell phones, tablets, or other noise-emitting devices should be turned off or silenced prior to entering the Board meeting. Aisles and doorways must remain clear and room capacity limits will be enforced to ensure compliance with fire code and safety regulations. Placards, banners, signs, flags, or other large objects are not permitted in the Board meeting.

OR

The use of posters, banners or other items may be generally acceptable. However, if such items, at the discretion of the board president or presiding officer, disrupt the proceedings of the meeting, pose a safety concern, or block the view of the meeting from other audience

members or the cameras used to webcast the proceedings, the board president or presiding officer may request speakers and audience members to refrain from using them.

When addressing the Board, please follow the guidelines below:

- Public comment at Board meetings is limited to the public comment portions of the meeting as indicated in the published agenda.
- Sign in before speaking, giving name and community.
- The speaker may address only library-related topics at regular and special meetings, only budget related topics at budget hearings. Comments should be addressed directly to the Board and not to the audience.
- A time limit of three (3) minutes is allowed for each speaker.
- A person may speak one time during the meeting.
- In cases of disagreement, the speaker must use grace and tact.
- Persons addressing the Board are expected to observe a level of civility and decorum appropriate for a public meeting.
- No personal attacks or disruptions from audience members will be tolerated.
- Members of the media are welcome at public meetings of the Board of Trustees. Members of the media and media equipment shall be required to video and photograph meetings from a designated media representative area of the room in which the Board of Trustee meeting is being held. Media representatives shall cooperate with district staff regarding placement of equipment, photography and video requirements or be subject to removal from the meeting.
- The Board Chair may terminate or redirect any presentation not adhering to these guidelines.

At the discretion of the Board Chair, these guidelines may be modified at a meeting.