

STATE LIBRARY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
August 31, 2009 – Conference Call

Present:

Council Members:

Steve Benetz  
Wendy Breeden  
John Callahan  
Lannie Corbin  
Jeff Donnelly  
Doris Lewis  
Carolyn McClendon

Staff:

Judi Ring  
Jennifer Womble

**Introductions**

Introductions were made and a quorum was announced.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2009, meeting was made, and they were approved unanimously.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be sometime this fall. Further information on this meeting will be provided at a later date.

**Vote - Council Chair**

A motion to nominate Steve Benetz as Council Chair for a second year was made, and was approved unanimously.

**Division Update**

SFY09-10 Budget

This fiscal year, only two aid to local government grants were funded by the state and will be administered by the Division. The State Aid to Public Libraries grant was funded at the maintenance of effort needed to receive federal Library Services and Technology Act funds and Multitype Library Cooperative grants were funded at half the amount received in SFY08-09. No funding was provided for Library Construction grants or Community Library in Caring grants.

The Division's operating budget was cut by four percent. Additionally, four unfilled positions were lost.

Due to the State's budget shortfall and the perception of wasted funds, all travel must be signed by the Secretary of State and very strong mission-critical justifications have to be given. Out of state travel is prohibited unless it is reimbursable. Professional conference travel is prohibited.

## SFY10-11 Budget

The Division is working on its portion of the Department's Long Range Program Plan, which includes all performance measures, outputs, and outcomes.

The Division has sent a group of funding requests to the Secretary and his staff for consideration to move forward in the Department's Legislative Budget Request. The Division is also working on recommendations to include in the Department's schedule VIII B-2, which is a priority listing of recommended budget cuts included in the LBR.

## Other

The Division has selected the University of West Florida to update the Return on Investment study, which was originally completed in 2004. Library directors statewide were notified about upcoming data collection.

The Division has partnered with Gale to offer a new training program available to all Florida librarians. This training program will provide librarians with innovative learning courses that educate users on the features, functionality, and overall value of the Florida Electronic Library products provided by Gale.

The Division partnered with Florida State University's Information Use Management and Policy Institute to study best practices and strategies to assist public libraries and local communities to better plan for and respond to hurricanes. The final report, *Hurricane/Disaster Preparedness and Response by Utilizing Florida Public Libraries*, helps reduce the state's overall risk by raising the readiness level of all the state's public libraries to meet the challenges posed by hurricane catastrophes.

The Division met with the directors of the Multitype Library Cooperatives on August 26, 2009. The Cooperatives are in a difficult situation due to state budget funding reductions this fiscal year. If no progress is made in increasing their budgets next fiscal year, a few may not be able to stay in existence.

## Legislation

The Division is making some technical changes to Section 257.05, Florida Statutes, which will clarify the Florida Public Documents Program by defining "state publication."

## **Old Business**

### Sunset Review

The Division continues to provide requested information to the Legislative Sunset Review Committee. Committee meetings begin in October.

This spring, the Division surveyed state agencies to collect information on current electronic records management practices. The results of the survey, which was recommended in a report from the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, will be used to develop a statewide strategic plan to address "areas of particular concern, such as outdated technology and the

need to ensure long-term access to electronic records created using such technology.” The strategic plan will be completed sometime in December.

The Division is preparing to revise the Library Services and Technology Act Grant program guidelines and application packet in response to the changes to Section 257.12(3), Florida Statutes, regarding the adoption of an Internet safety education program by public libraries. The first step in the rulemaking process will begin in October.

### **New Business**

In response to Section 81 Proviso of the 2009 General Appropriations Act, a workgroup of members of the Florida Center for Library Automation, the College Center for Library Automation, SUNLINK, and the Florida Electronic Library was designated to gather information on:

- establishing an online union catalog;
- establishing a process for joint negotiations for electronic resources;
- consolidating, as appropriate, online library services and system infrastructure; and
- establishing a statewide approach to contracts with library service providers and memberships in library organizations.

A full report is due to the Legislature on December 1, 2009.

The Division submitted a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program federal stimulus grant application on behalf of 315 Florida public library outlets. The application requested funds for equipment to help libraries provide better Internet access to Florida citizens.

Library Systems and Services, LLC has filed an administrative challenge against the Division. They are arguing against the proposed rule that adds the word “full-time” to a requirement that libraries receiving State Aid funding be operated by a single administrative head employed by the library’s governing body. State Aid can range up to 25% of local funds. A hearing will be held by the state Division of Administrative Hearings on October 8, 2009.

Members recapped what is happening in libraries, archives, or records centers in their areas.

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Judith A. Ring, Secretary  
Approved, November 13, 2009