

MEMORANDUM:

To: Winnefox Library System Trustees
From: Clairelynn Sommersmith, Director
Subject: Report of System Activities
Date: March 19, 2024

Library Statistics and Annual Reports: All 30 libraries completed their Annual Reports. We have one library out of compliance. Endeavor Public Library has been without a certified director for over a year, and this will need to be addressed. The DPI is working on a letter detailing the timeline for the library to hire a director.

The information provided in the Annual Reports provides me with the information I need to begin the county budgeting process. I have sent the libraries their adjacent county use and billing information. Those bills will be sent in June. The April and May LAC meetings will include discussion and drafting the 2025 budget from libraries to their home counties.

I have provided the rural resident usage and reimbursement figures across adjacent counties lines to all Winnefox libraries. Individual libraries are deciding which counties to ask for reimbursement. Final numbers are due to me in May so I can send the billing to those counties in June.

Library Legislative Day: 9 Winnefox representatives attended Library Legislative Day on Tuesday, February 6, highlighting the collaborative, innovative, efficient, and effective services libraries have provided.

Conferences: Angela Schneider and I will be attending the Public Library Association Conference from April 2-5 in Columbus Ohio. Karla Smith and Melisa Klein just returned from Utah where they were attending the first in-person COSUGI conference since 2019. COSUGI is a conference for SirsiDynix, Winnefox's ILS vendor, and users to discuss new product improvements and initiatives and to share colleagues' best practices. The Winnefox mobile app, a product we receive through SirsiDynix, has been reinstalled and patrons can once again use it.

Staff News: Julie Schmude officially retired on March 1. Mary Schneider, Winnefox's new Administrative Specialist II started on February 19. The Winnefox office is currently prepping for the audit; auditors will be on site March 25 and 26.

Pete Hodge and Jeramiah Harland have begun the process of replacing Merakis and switches at member libraries; they will be onsite at libraries to upgrade this hardware in the coming months. Jeramiah also updated three new websites: Wautoma, Oakfield, and Markesan.

Angela Schneider, through Winnefox's NEWI contract, spent three days as a presenter at OWLS (Outagamie Waupaca Library System) and Nicolet Federated Library System's internal workshop day HootCon; she highlighted the resources in BadgerLink.

Library News: The Elisha D. Smith Library in Menasha is set to begin a remodel project. The library will be in a temporary location for six to nine months starting in June before moving back into their library, which will have a redesigned children's and teen area, an expanded maker space, and more meeting rooms.