

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING AGENDA  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009  
4:00 P.M.**

**Downtown Reno Library  
301 South Center Street  
Reno, NV 89501**

PURSUANT TO NRS 241.020, THE AGENDA FOR THE TRUSTEE MEETING HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: WASHOE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, WASHOE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, DOWNTOWN RENO LIBRARY, INCLINE VILLAGE LIBRARY, NORTH VALLEYS LIBRARY, NORTHWEST RENO LIBRARY, SIERRA VIEW LIBRARY, SOUTH VALLEYS LIBRARY, SPANISH SPRINGS LIBRARY AND SPARKS LIBRARY. FURTHER, IN COMPLIANCE WITH NRS 241.020, THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE FOR THE WASHOE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM AT [www.washoecountylibrary.us](http://www.washoecountylibrary.us)

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA PROVIDED TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE DOWNTOWN RENO LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 301 SOUTH CENTER STREET, RENO, NEVADA. WE ARE PLEASED TO MAKE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE DISABLED AND WISH TO ATTEND MEETINGS. IF YOU SHOULD REQUIRE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANY TRUSTEE MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICES AT 327-8341 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING.

Unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk (\*), all items on the agenda are action items upon which the Library Board of Trustees will take action.

- \* 1. Roll Call
- \* 2. Public Comment and Discussion Thereon – Five Minute Time Limit Per Person
- 3. Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting of November 18, 2009
- 4. Old Business
  - \* A. Staff Report Regarding the Budget Reduction Plan for Fiscal Year 2009/10
- 5. New Business
  - A. Discussion and Possible Direction to Staff Regarding Strategies for Potential Budget Reduction in FY 2010/11
  - B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Removal of Mobile Library I from Service
  - \* C. Staff Report on Verdi Community Library Programs, Activities and Operation
- \* 6. Library Administration Report to the Board to Include Library Administration, Library Programs and Activities, Volunteers/Community Collaborations and Media Coverage

- \* 7. Financial Reports to Include the Monthly Expenditure Comparison Reports
- \* 8. Monthly Library Usage Statistics Report
- \* 9. Public Comment and Discussion Thereon – Five Minute Time Limit Per Person
- \*10. Board Comment - Limited to Announcements or Issues Proposed for Future Agendas and/or Workshops
- \*11. Adjournment

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 18, 2009**

The Board met in regular session at the Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, Reno, Nevada. Chair Fred Lokken called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Thomas Cornell, Fred Lokken, Judy Simon and Al Stoess

Board Member Absent: Dianne Drinkwater

Library Staff Present: John Andrews, Brenda Baxter, Shelley Brant, Tammy Cirrincione, Max Conelly, Patti Day, Corinne Dickman, Todd Goatley, Nancy Keener, Barbara Lentz, Carol Lloyd, Julie Machado, Arnie Maurins, Jennifer Oliver, Aurora Partridge, Bonnie Saviers, Margaret Spicher, Dianne Varnon, Scottie Wallace, Beate Weinert and Rocky Badolato

County Staff Present: Deputy District Attorney Herb Kaplan

Public Present: Mark Brant, Friends of Washoe County Library President Len Crockett

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

On motion by Dr. Stoess, seconded by Mr. Cornell, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the minutes of the October 20, 2009, meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Budget Reduction Plan for Fiscal Year 2009/10**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the Board packet.

Mr. Maurins advised the Board that the Finance Department is not anticipating a need to make additional cuts for the current fiscal year at this time unless the Legislature holds a special session after the first of the year and further reduces revenue. Property and sales tax revenues are coming in lower than projected, but more information will be available by late December or early January.

Ms. Simon arrived at 4:01 p.m.

Mr. Maurins reviewed the information submitted in the Board packet that had been requested by the Board. He noted that while revenue from fines and fees is coming in less than projected for this time of the fiscal year, revenue has picked up during the past month.

On questioning by the Board, Mr. Maurins advised that there are offsets to the revenue shortfall that total approximately \$19,000 from a database refund and an unanticipated resignation. Action in the form of additional revenue and/or further spending cuts will be discussed if there is still a deficiency later in the fiscal year.

DRAFT

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Revision of the Gift Fund Policy**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the Board packet.

Mr. Maurins explained the proposed changes. Ms. Simon requested periodic reports of itemized gift fund expenditures.

On motion by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Cornell, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the revised Gift Fund Policy as presented, effective December 1, 2009.

### **Revision of the Fund Raising Policy**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the Board packet.

On motion by Dr. Stoess, seconded by Ms. Simon, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the revised Fund Raising Policy as presented, effective December 1, 2009.

### **Staff Report on Washoe County Library System Environmental Initiatives**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the Board packet.

Mr. Maurins added the following items that were identified after the Board packet was completed:

- o South Valleys Library is a drop-off point for the telephone book recycling program
- o WCLS recycles its telephone books
- o Double-sided printing is done whenever possible to save paper

On questioning by the Board, Corinne Dickman, Spanish Springs Library Manager, explained the reuse of laminated library card applications and reference count sheets.

### **Staff Report on Library Technology**

The Library Board reviewed the information distributed at the meeting.

Nancy Keener Keener, Systems Librarian, distributed and reviewed her report. She added the following:

- o The integrated library system runs circulation, cataloging, ordering, bill paying and many other functions
- o Gerlach Community Library did not receive an ADA station because the Systems staff cannot get there often enough to maintain it
- o The Downtown Reno Library public internet system is out of service due to a problem with the wireless equipment; a new system has been purchased, but we are waiting for Technology Services staff to install
- o An application will be made in the future for the Broadband Stimulus program
- o There will be training for patrons and staff in Open Office
- o The Library System will spearhead a program to get staff workstations on Linux, an open source operating system compatible with Open Office, to save the County money; once successful other County departments will be added to the program
- o Systems staff is evaluating open source integrated library systems

She then gave the floor to her staff to introduce themselves to the Board and explain their duties. Department Computer Application Specialist William Carlin was on sick leave and could not attend.

Max Conelly, Department Computer Application Specialist, job duties:

- Put out technology-related fires at the branches; deal with any software or hardware issues
- Serve as liaison between the branches and the Technology Services Department
- Staff training
- ADA machine installation and troubleshooting
- Serve as back up for other Systems staff
  - William - Envisionware installation systemwide
  - Todd - Open source and server maintenance
  - Maggie - Web duties (minimal)

Max noted that working with the Federation of the Blind and Thomas Kearns of TMCC on the ADA installation was a positive experience, and he looks forward to working with them again on upgrades. Their input was essential and it was a great learning experience for him.

Margaret Spicher, Interim Internet Librarian, job duties:

- Maintain and keep the web site with resources that patrons needs and want
- Configuration of online catalogs
  - Plan to have Enterprise, a new catalog interface, up and running in the near future

Todd Goatley, Department Computer Application Specialist, job duties:

- Server maintenance
- Upgrades and updates
- Open source products

On questioning by the Board, Mr. Goatley advised that over the next six to nine years, the Library could save approximately \$1,000,000 because Linux is less process-intensive than Microsoft, so computers will last longer. On further questioning by the Board, Mr. Conelly advised that the LSTA grant for ADA stations requires that we track how they are used.

Ms. Simon suggested that, if possible, the savings realized from using open source products be applied to meet part of the budget cuts the Library is being asked to make.

Mr. Goatley distributed instructions for Open Office and encouraged the Trustees to try it at home.

Mr. Lokken stated his hope that the County is paying attention because if it was to apply some of these principles, it would save far more than \$1,000,000.

### **Staff Report on Downtown Reno Library Programs, Activities and Operation**

The Library Board reviewed the staff report submitted in the Board packet.

Scottie Wallace, Downtown Reno Library Manager, reviewed her report with the Board and added the following:

- While the Children in Transition Program was established to provide tutoring for at-risk students, no child is turned away
- Internet service has now been unavailable for seven working days, and no estimate has yet been given by the Technology Services Department as to when the hardware will be changed out

Mr. Lokken stated that the Downtown Reno Library is doing a remarkable job under the circumstances, as are all of the branches. He is concerned about the safety issue and appreciates that it is being monitored.

## **LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORT TO THE BOARD**

The Library Board reviewed the report submitted in the Board packet.

Mr. Maurins added the following:

- Northern Nevada Reads is gearing up and should be in full swing after the first of the year, with most of the activity in February and March
- The new Friends of Washoe County Library web site is up and running thanks to an outstanding job done by John Andrews, Senior Center Community Library Manager
- He will be interviewed on the KUNR Nevada Newsline program on December 4
- He distributed a photograph of the state librarians who took an impromptu tour of Incline Village Library

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Library Board reviewed the reports submitted in the Board packet.

## **MONTHLY LIBRARY USAGE STATISTICS REPORT**

The Library Board reviewed the report submitted in the Board packet.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

Mr. Maurins noted that Patti Day, North Valleys Library Interim Manager, is the employee on the far right in the photograph of County employees who received Excellence in Public Service certificates. Her name was not on the copies that were provided.

## **BOARD COMMENT**

Mr. Cornell announced that he recently attended County training on effective meetings and commented that the County's interpretation of the Open Meeting Law appears to be rather strict.

Ms. Simon stated in the strongest terms that she would like to see the County place a higher priority on public internet problems due to the impact to the public.

## **ADJORNMENT**

Mr. Lokken adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m.

**TO:** Library Board Members  
**FROM:** Arnie Maurins, Director  
**RE:** Strategies for Possible Budget Reductions in FY 2010-11  
**DATE:** December 10, 2009

**Background:** At my invitation, on November 30th Board Chair Fred Lokken and Vice-Chair Dianne Drinkwater met with members of the Library's management staff to informally discuss priorities and strategies in anticipation of potential additional budget cuts in FY 2010-11, and in anticipation of future growth in various areas of Washoe County. Representing Library management were Programming Coordinator Beate Weinert, managing librarians Kristin Cannard (Sierra View), Tammy Cirrincione (South Valleys), Patti Day (North Valleys - acting), Margaret Spicher (Internet Librarian - acting), Scottie Wallace (Downtown Reno), and me. At the beginning of the meeting, I presented the following background information:

- The Library's General Fund (GF) budget this year is \$8.1 million, of which \$7.7 million is allocated to salaries and benefits; any further cuts to this budget would of necessity involve layoffs.
- Indications are that the Library will be required to cut at least 10% from its GF budget, which translates to \$811,000 or more in spending reductions and/or new revenues.
- If the Expansion Fund continues to cover all of the additional expenses that have been transferred to it over the last year (positions, materials, technology, etc.), it will be in the red before June 2011. Hence, Expansion Fund expenditures will also need to be reduced significantly during FY 2010-11.
- Future major development and population growth is expected north towards Winnemucca Ranch, east from Vista Boulevard in Sparks and in the South Meadows/Damonte Ranch area of south Reno.

On the topic of which branch libraries should remain open or be closed, both as a response to a potentially large number of layoffs and as a longer-term strategy, these issues emerged in the discussion:

- It may become necessary to choose between keeping either Downtown Reno Library or Sierra View Library open, as they both serve the downtown area. There are valid arguments for choosing either facility over the other as the one that should stay open.
- It is not known at this time whether the property owners at Reno Town Mall and the North Hills Shopping Center will extend their generous lease concessions into FY 2010-11.
- Construction of the Verdi Library was funded in part by a \$200,000 federal grant, the terms of which apparently require it to operate as a public library at least one

day a week, or else the County would be required to repay the grant to the federal government. I will be asking the Library's legal counsel to review and verify the conditions of the grant award.

- Although they serve different clienteles, the Duncan/Traner and Senior Center libraries are located very close to each other, and thus one or the other could be a potential candidate for closure or further reductions in hours.
- Using Mobile Library I as a partial substitute where a branch has closed is probably not a viable option, because it will not draw patrons over a sustained period of time.

Other points and ideas that were brought up:

- The benefit of stronger relationships between individual Trustees and County Commissioners, and also between members of Library management staff and the Commissioners.
- Following up with Commissioners Jung and Weber on the recommendations that came out of the meetings they conducted with then-Board-Chair June Burton, Dianne Varnon and me in 2008. Such a report could include an update on how the Library has done with the Commissioners' recommendations, along with an explanation as to why trained professional librarians and paraprofessionals are needed in order to provide competent library service.
- A report on the economic benefits of libraries for use in any budget-related presentations or communications to the BCC. Scottie Wallace volunteered the information services staff at Downtown Reno to research this information.
- Library staff and advocates need to educate the public about the "shock value" if one or more libraries were to close. The Sheriff and District Attorney always paint dire pictures when their respective budgets are threatened with reductions; the Library needs to be able to do likewise.
- Encouraging the Friends of the Library to establish a division or sub-group to engage local businesses in advocacy efforts on behalf of the Library.
- Library staff, Trustees and the Friends working together to identify the "movers and shakers" in the community who could be enlisted to speak on behalf the Library System.

**Recommendation:** I am providing the information above to brief the entire Board regarding the points that were raised in this meeting, and also to foster additional discussion, thoughts and ideas at the December 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. If you so choose, you can give direction to staff regarding specific priorities, strategies or factors to take into consideration when planning for potential budget reductions in FY 2010-11.

**TO:** Library Board Members  
**FROM:** Brenda Baxter, Collection Development/Youth Services/  
OutreachCoordinator  
**THROUGH:** Arnie Maurins, Library Director  
**RE:** Removal of Mobile Library I from Service  
**DATE:** December 10, 2009

**Background:** I am requesting that the Board approve taking Mobile Library I out of service as of January 4, 2010. In July 2009, the Mobile Library I service route was reduced to the six most popular sites, with each site visited only every three weeks. This minimal level of service has resulted in steeply declining use figures. The decrease in customers from July 2008 to July 2009 was 72%. Unfortunately, the staff time required to maintain the collections, vehicles and patron services has remained at the same level as was needed before the service reduction.

Furthermore, by necessity, Mobile Library staff are working part of their hours to support services in selected stationary libraries. There is inadequate staff time to devote to labor-intensive mobile services. The vehicle itself, now 10 years old, is deteriorating both mechanically and aesthetically. Without fresh, new graphics it is not a vehicle of which we can truly be proud. In addition, the repairs that are being made by the County's equipment services division are now being charged back to the Library. This is money we can scarcely afford to spend.

Shelley Brant, the Mobile Services Manager, has compiled a report outlining the issues relating to continued operation of Mobile Library I (see attached). The good news is that in the nine-plus years we have been serving the community with mobile services, we have introduced libraries to thousands of people who would otherwise not have known about the many free services offered by WCLS. Many of these people now have library cards and most will continue to use libraries even if the Mobile Library is no longer available.

In anticipation of Mobile Library I being taken off the road, staff has been working on other modes of outreach to serve the most vulnerable citizens in our community. Our deposit collections are low-maintenance and greatly appreciated by agencies ranging from Homeless Resource Center to Boys and Girls Club to Sun Valley Neighborhood Center. There are plans in the works to consolidate Outreach services with Community Resource services. Another strategy we are exploring is to use technology to reach out to the underserved as well as to the many people in our community who are suffering from the economic downturn.

It has obviously not been easy for Shelley and her staff to come up with the recommendation to close down Mobile Library I. Shelley and I have spent the past ten years building these services, but those were different times. We firmly believe that, by using staff time more efficiently, there are creative ways to continue serving some of the underserved population now, while we plan ahead for better days.

**Recommendation and Suggested Motion:** Approve removing Mobile Library I from service as of January 4, 2010.

## Mobile Services Overview November 17, 2009

### Mobile Library I

- Due to the size of the Mobile Library I collection, frequent rotation is necessary to provide reasonable browsing access. When MLI provided weekly service, the collection essentially rotated itself through checkout and restocking. Diminished use of the collection now requires MLI staff to manually rotate it, in less time than was available with the pre-May 2008 schedule.
- The vehicle is 10 years old. Farber, the manufacturer, predicted a maximum life of 20 years, but the vehicle is already starting to physically deteriorate, so it is reasonable to expect an increase in maintenance costs.
- The graphics need to be replaced soon to maintain a professional appearance. Estimated cost for graphics replacement is \$5,000.
- Since the introduction of Symphony, connectivity and software response time have been an issue on the bus. Prior to the recent budget cuts, the long-range goal was to evaluate the wiring system and identify equipment that would bring the response time closer to that experienced in the branches (in preparation for an upgrade recommendation to Administration). The ability to serve all patrons within the 1 hour timeslot is decreased when the system slows down. This forces staff to pick and choose which services they can provide now, which they must try to complete at the office (place holds, fill readers advisory requests, etc.), and which we cannot provide at all because most non-direct service hours have been reallocated to direct customer service in other locations.
- The Mobile Services computer hardware and electrical system differs from that of the branches, and so requires different service and attention. With fewer man-hours available from Systems staff and increased technological needs in the bricks-and-mortar branches, Mobile Services has less access to technical support when it is most important.
- County Equipment Services was previously in a position to absorb maintenance and repair costs under the Equipment Services budget. Due to Equipment Services' own budget shortage, all future vehicle maintenance and repair costs are being charged back to the Library, resulting in an increase in operational expenses.
- The Library is paying for more certain services than is needed in order to maintain the MLI vehicle. For example, the vehicle needs to be washed only once a month, but the company that washes it has a twice-monthly minimum; the Library is paying for twice as much as is necessary.
- Reduced service hours have affected our ability to market to site personnel who bring young patrons to the library and advocate for the service, resulting in decreased or sporadic student and teacher visits at some sites.
- Risk Management requires that, for safety reasons, all Mobile Library staff members drive a minimum of one day every two weeks for safety reasons. The current schedule allows staff to drive only once every three weeks, putting the library in violation of Risk Management's mandate.
- Mobile Library I draws on Administrative Support staffer Kathy Atkinson to serve as a back-up driver. As staffing levels constrict Kathy's hours have been reallocated to support other important services; the MLI hours might be better used in other customer service areas.

- Sites served reduced from 17 to 6 as of July 2009
- October 09 average per-site customer count down 45% compared to October 08 - (October 2008 average per-site count – 108; October 2009 average per-site count – 59)

### On-Site (previously Homebound)

- On-Site service is successful only when an active program coordinator advocates for the library, actively encourages the residents to use the service, and develops in-house programs that utilize library services. Ongoing budget constraints have resulted in staffing cutbacks at the facilities we serve and program coordinators have started to feel the impact. There are signs that these changes will result in program coordinators becoming more dependent on the Mobile Service's minimal staff hours for service.
- Unlike MLI, the routine vehicle maintenance tasks (fueling, washing) are performed by Mobile Service staff rather than the Equip Services staff. The time necessary to perform these maintenance tasks are high relative to direct patron service.

### Outreach

- Current staffing levels allow for two outreach days (typically to charter schools, preschools, HeadStarts, etc.) every three weeks. Requested times must fall on one of the two specific monthly dates in order for Mobile Services to fulfill the request. **As a result, the ability to fill outreach requests has diminished significantly.**
  - July through October 2008 - delivered 30 outreach presentations to 1,872 people; 93 sessions/sites to 7,293 people if Third Grade Outreach figures are included.
  - July through October 2009 – delivered 9 presentations to 247 people

### Mobile Services staffing allocation

- 412 hours per month (404 from MS staff, 8 from Administrative Support staff)
- 216 assigned to Spanish Springs/Community Resource Center/Centralized Collection Development
- 196 allocated to Mobile Service
  - 69 to direct customer service
  - 127 to daily operations and customer service (checkin and sort, pull holds, clear holds shelf, and other direct-service maintenance tasks, meetings, training, indirect customer service such as research readers advisory requests, and place overflow holds requested during service days, vehicle maintenance)

### Looking to the Future as the Financial Situation Improves

- Significant expansion of deposit collections
- Offer workshops for teachers in the former MLI school sites to teach holds, online databases, etc.
- Outreach to most vulnerable – book discussion groups at homeless resource centers, workshops at social services agencies

**TO: Washoe County Library Board**  
**FROM: Arnie Maurins, Library Director**  
**RE: Staff Report on Verdi Community Library Programs,  
Activities and Operation**  
**DATE: 10 December 2009**

**There is no written material on this agenda item.**

**Dave Eveland, Verdi Community Library Manager,  
will make an oral presentation  
at the Board meeting.**

## LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION REPORT November-December 2009

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### **LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION**

- **Privatization of public libraries** is being considered as a budget-reduction measure in Nevada County, California. The Board of Supervisors there has asked for recommendations by late January from three committees that are evaluating the two proposals that were submitted for the private provision of library services (see articles).
- Managing Librarians and I have begun working on a **“Continuity of Operations” plan** as part of a County-wide project. The plan’s objective will be to identify where and how each library could “set up shop” and continue delivering services in the event its existing building were unavailable due to fire, flood, etc.

### **LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

- **Food for Fines Campaign (11/9-11/30):** Patrons donated 5,408 pounds of food for the Northern Nevada Food Bank; approximately \$11,500 in overdue fines were waived.
- **Citizenship/naturalization ceremonies** will be held January 29<sup>th</sup> at North Valleys, February 12<sup>th</sup> at Sparks and May 27<sup>th</sup> at Sierra View.
- UNR’s Cooperative Extension will host **radon-awareness clinics** on January 9<sup>th</sup> at Sierra View and South Valleys libraries; January 12<sup>th</sup> at Incline Village Library; January 21<sup>st</sup> at Spanish Springs Library; and January 23<sup>rd</sup> at North Valleys Library.

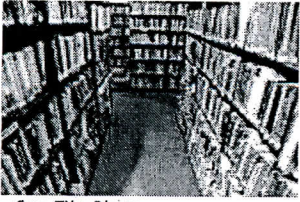
### **VOLUNTEERS/COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS**

- The **Friends earned \$46,524 from their fall book sale**, and offered their thanks to the Truckee River Flood Management Project for the use of the Excel building and to the Sheriff’s Department for their help in moving boxes and setting up for the event.
- At the annual Parasol Community Collaboration awards dinner, **Incline Village Library** was honored for being a “Community Leader in Supporting Diversity” because of its many collections, programs and computer equipment aimed at a variety of audiences. Incline Librarian **Amy Levy** received an award for her commitment to education and youth development in recognition of her work with other agencies in those areas.

### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

- Bonnie Saviers did an interview about Food for Fines on Nevada News Service that was played on more than 20 radio stations throughout the state.
- On December 4<sup>th</sup> I was interviewed by KUNR’s Dan Erwine on “Nevada Newslines” regarding the future of printed books and the changing roles of public libraries.

*Arnie Maurins*  
*Library Director*



- Sun File Photo

## Nevada County: Three committees have Jan. 25 deadline for library decision

BY DAVE MOLLER  
SUN NEWS SERVICE,

GRASS VALLEY, Calif. — Three committees have been established to help direct the future of Nevada County's libraries, with a Jan. 25 deadline for sending their recommendations to County Executive Officer Rick Haffey.

The committees will assess two proposals to run the county's cash-strapped library system. One is from Library Systems and Services, of Maryland, to run the county's six facilities: Libraries at Truckee, Grass Valley, Nevada City, the branches at Bear River High School and Penn Valley, and the Doris Foley Historical Research Library in Nevada City.

The other proposal is from the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries to operate the Foley facility for two days per week at the cost of the group.

The committees will look at the proposals and determine whether they fit the county's needs, according to an in-house memo from Haffey. They also will look at alternative ways to deliver library services.

The staff committee will prepare a financial analysis of the proposals and alternatives, according to Haffey. The staff committee members are Assistant County Executive Officer Laura Matteson, Deputy County Executive Officer Joe Christoffel, Chief Information Officer Steve Monaghan, County Librarian MaryAnn Trygg and Purchasing Agent Mary Ross.

A special Library Management Model committee consists of mayors Reinette Senum of Nevada City, Lisa Swarthout of Grass valley and Richard Anderson of Truckee, plus Jim Meshwart and Mike McDaniel.

The standing Citizens Oversight Committee will also have a chance to contribute to the solutions through members Diane Davis, Ruth Hall, Jack Ricks, Susan Pearson and Christine Trussler.

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<http://www.sierrasun.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20091201/NEWS/912019999&parentprofile=search&template=printart>

## Don't shelve our librarians: Professionalism at risk in Truckee

BY PAM MCADOO  
SPECIAL TO THE SUN,

"My guess is [it will be] about 300 years until computers are as good as, say, your local reference library in search." – Craig Silverstein, director of technology, Google.com

Did you know that the Truckee Library staff has a cumulative 130 years of library wisdom and experience? Seventy-five of those years belong to credentialed professional librarians (who possess a Masters Degree in Library and Information Studies), and 55 of those years belong to high-level paraprofessionals, one of whom has worked for the Truckee Library since the early 1980s!

Did you also know that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors is seriously considering a move to outsource library staffing, which will put our valued and valuable staff in peril? If the Board approves a proposal to outsource, all current library staff will be laid-off with absolutely no guarantee of being rehired by the new regime. Those 130 years of library wisdom and experience could vanish in an instant.

You may be under the impression the days of our library staff are taken up solely with buying books, wrapping them in plastic covers, putting them on the correct shelf, and sitting at the circulation desk to check books in and out. But those duties are the tip of the iceberg compared to the myriad tasks that are performed in the back room, on the phone and online. Librarians are a singular breed of people who revel in the pleasures of finding, organizing, and making information accessible. "Oh," you say to yourself, "I know how to Google." But even the tech director of Google itself offers a profoundly professional nod to librarians (see the quote above), and admits that they blow Internet search engines out of the water.

Before coming to Truckee, our professional librarians worked in a variety of public, private and academic settings. Our branch manager spent the majority of her library career at The LA Times' Library, providing cutting-edge research for writers and reporters, always on tight deadlines. Our children's librarian was the former Head of Public Services at UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library, one of the largest and certainly the busiest rare book/manuscripts and special collections library in the nation. She likes to joke about the irony of her former library not allowing anyone under the age of 18 through its doors! Now the under-18 crowd is her primary clientele. One of our temporary employees worked as a librarian in urban libraries in the Bay Area for more than 20 years before relocating to Truckee. Not surprisingly, all librarians took pay cuts to come work for the Truckee Library, just as many of us have, to make living in our mountain paradise a reality.

Not to be overshadowed by their professional counterparts, Truckee Library's paraprofessionals also possess stellar credentials. Each possesses at least a four-year university degree; most of the staff have also earned advanced degrees, bringing a wealth of varied experience, skills, knowledge and professionalism to their positions. Their knowledge in fine arts, psychology, book editing, foreign languages, technical writing (at Stanford), social sciences, and the law/legal system provide amazing breadth and depth to meet the diverse interests of our library patrons.

We are truly blessed to have such a high caliber staff serving the Truckee public. Let's not lose it!

Visit the Friends' website at [truckeefol.org](http://truckeefol.org) for more information and tools to voice your opinion about outsourcing the management of the library.

All Nevada County libraries will be closed Wednesday, Nov. 18 until 2 p.m. for in-staff service training.

**WASHOE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**DEPARTMENT MONTHLY EXPENDITURE COMPARISON REPORT**

10-Dec-09

F/Y 2009 / 2010

**CURRENT YEAR**

**PRIOR YEAR**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>%</u>
SALARIES/WAGES	\$ 5,185,018	\$ 2,415,313	\$ 2,769,705	47%	\$ 7,270,016	\$ 2,925,083	\$ 4,344,933	40%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 2,521,691	\$ 912,837	\$ 1,608,854	36%	\$ 2,543,755	\$ 1,001,234	\$ 1,542,521	39%
SERVICES & SUPPLIES	\$ 401,154	\$ 131,715	\$ 269,439	33%	\$ 1,655,794	\$ 733,433	\$ 922,361	44%
CAPITAL OUTLAY								
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 8,107,863</b>	<b>\$ 3,459,865</b>	<b>\$ 4,647,998</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>\$ 11,469,565</b>	<b>\$ 4,659,750</b>	<b>\$ 6,809,815</b>	<b>41%</b>

**WASHOE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**DEPARTMENT MONTHLY EXPENDITURE COMPARISON REPORT**

**WC-1**

10-Dec-09

F/Y 2009 / 2010


**CURRENT YEAR**

**PRIOR YEAR**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>%</u>
SALARIES/WAGES	\$ 1,329,922	\$ 550,954	\$ 778,968	41%	\$ 1,354,730	\$ 517,439	\$ 837,291	38%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 494,268	\$ 218,957	\$ 275,311	44%	\$ 479,355	\$ 182,337	\$ 297,018	38%
SERVICES & SUPPLIES	\$ 1,150,070	\$ 282,730	\$ 867,340	25%	\$ 903,648	\$ 203,797	\$ 699,851	23%
CAPITAL OUTLAY								
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 2,974,260</b>	<b>\$ 1,052,641</b>	<b>\$ 1,921,619</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>\$ 2,737,733</b>	<b>\$ 903,573</b>	<b>\$ 1,834,160</b>	<b>33%</b>

# Washoe County Library System

## Systemwide Monthly Library Usage Statistics Report Fiscal Yrs 2008-2009 / 2009-2010

	Accumulative														
	Checkouts			Library Visits			Patron Computer Use			Program Attendance			Internet Library		
	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	% Change	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	% Change	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	% Change	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	% Change	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	% Change
July	190,110	177,157	-6.81%	148,264	119,423	-19.45%	34,970	19,734	-43.57%	7,284	4,375	-39.94%	41,505	58,740	41.53%
August	173,638	177,814	2.41%	146,386	117,435	-19.78%	35,605	24,238	-31.93%	5,153	4,020	-21.99%	40,808	48,974	20.01%
September	175,573	179,386	2.17%	143,115	112,046	-21.71%	35,300	24,000	-32.01%	6,144	4,886	-20.48%	39,910	65,105	63.13%
October	183,513	178,650	-2.65%	183,013	115,190	-37.06%	36,394	22,374	-38.52%	13,182	5,722	-56.59%	40,266	69,008	71.38%
November	173,787	164,223	-5.50%	130,662	98,989	-24.24%	31,969	16,039	-49.83%	11,118	3,249	-70.78%	37,168	59,122	59.07%
December	168,200	0	0	129,680	0	0	31,942	0	0	5,116	0	0	36,305	0	0
January	192,154	0	0	147,207	0	0	34,685	0	0	6,703	0	0	42,381	0	0
February	182,819	0	0	142,370	0	0	33,037	0	0	6,267	0	0	39,914	0	0
March	203,360	0	0	158,490	0	0	35,348	0	0	6,601	0	0	45,627	0	0
April	188,635	0	0	147,051	0	0	36,063	0	0	5,626	0	0	45,101	0	0
May	180,934	0	0	134,230	0	0	33,816	0	0	5,853	0	0	41,600	0	0
June	189,094	0	0	139,698	0	0	34,392	0	0	5,167	0	0	42,632	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,201,817</b>	<b>877,230</b>	<b>-2.16%</b>	<b>1,750,166</b>	<b>563,082</b>	<b>-25.07%</b>	<b>413,521</b>	<b>106,385</b>	<b>-38.94%</b>	<b>84,214</b>	<b>22,252</b>	<b>-48.11%</b>	<b>493,217</b>	<b>300,949</b>	<b>50.73%</b>
Totals to Date	896,621			751,440			174,238			42,881			199,657		

Note 1: FY 09/10 Checkout totals including all partnership/Collection Development: 879,130

Note 2: FY 09/10 GRAND TOTAL (includes Library, Partnership, Coll. Dev., Downloadable Book, and Read & Share Checkouts): 924,702

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**\*\*PLEASE NOTE:**

**CHECKOUT TOTALS**

- a. Reflect only public hours for Partnership Libraries
- b. Do not reflect Gerlach or Collection Development

