

## **OWLS Director report**

August 15, 2016 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

- Last week, we held an OWLS Director's meeting. Topics included the Outagamie County budget cut and discussion of holding legislative meet and greets at OWLS libraries. Library directors shared their feedback on the OWLS budget, which I'll include during the budget discussion. Several library directors were interested in legislative meet and greets. We've established an OWLS committee to continue to discuss this idea.
- Our new Circulation Specialist started last week.
- We've conducted several interviews for a new Catalog Librarian, and hope to be finished with the interview process this week. Since we currently don't have an OWLS catalog librarian, we're investigating hiring a contract cataloger to keep on top of things until someone is hired.
- Earlier this week, I met with the Outagamie County Executive regarding the 2017 budget. In the current budget, Outagamie County is planning to eliminate the \$15,000 in rental assistance. We discussed what this might look like and what the effect might be on OWLS libraries. Outagamie County is still planning to continue to support libraries at 100% of the funding formula.
- OWLS is working on replacing our backup tape drive, and adding new external IP addresses for all OWLSnet member libraries. Ultimately, these new IP addresses will allow member libraries more accurate statistics for the use of electronic resources.
- Overdrive Magazines will no longer be available after October. Barnes and Noble has informed OverDrive that they will no longer be supporting the use of their Nook app for this purpose. Right now, the best option for magazines appears to be Zinio, which the Appleton Public Library already subscribes to. We're investigating the possibility of adding Zinio as an OWLSnet service.
- I've contacted several organizations about their salaries and benefit costs. These costs will be very important in the upcoming OWLS 2017 budget. We should hold a personnel committee meeting soon to discuss these as well as approve the final OWLS job descriptions.
- The directors of the Kimberly-Little Chute and Hortonville Public Libraries are resigning. One is moving to a new position at the Appleton Public Library, and the other is retiring. OWLS staff will work with the directors as much as they'd like on the hiring process and new director orientation.
- The Waupaca County News had an article on [libraries considering using a collection agency](#). This is the only thing we've seen so far from the media.
- The OWLS Personnel handbook has been updated to include the additional holiday.
- All of the OWLS membership agreements have been signed by member libraries.

**Wisconsin Trustee Training Week 2016**

There will be a webinar at noon each day of Wisconsin Trustee Training Week, August 22 to 26. I encourage you to take advantage of these free sessions which can be watched from your home, your office or the OWLS office. They can also be watched later if you are unable to watch the live session. Please note that you must register in advance.

If you'd like to watch one of these at the OWLS office, please contact me at 920-832-3906 or [gmoeller@gmail.owls.lib.wi.us](mailto:gmoeller@gmail.owls.lib.wi.us) so I can set up the room in advance.

Monday, Aug 22	Duties of the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Library Board Pat Wagner, Siera Learn
Tuesday, Aug 23	Engaged Planning: Ask What You Can Do For Your Community Cindy Fesemyer, Director, Columbus Public Library
Wednesday, Aug 24	The Green to Dream: Preparing for a Capital Campaign Karen Rose, Principal Consultant, Library Strategies
Thursday, Aug 25	Ensuring Director Success Catherin Hakala-Ausperk, Owner, Libraries Thrive Consulting
Friday, Aug 26	Wisconsin Trustees: You Ask, We'll Answer Panelists from the Indianhead Federated Library System, Milwaukee County Federated Library System the South Central Library System