

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative
Director's Report
May 2008

State Aid: The good news is that the House is proposing a 2 million dollar increase in state aid. This would bring the total to \$ 12,000,000. We now have to see what the Senate will do. If they also propose \$ 12,000,000 then we just need the Governor's signature. If there is a difference then it will go to "conference committee" as it did last year.

Cooperative reorganization: The latest is that the proposal in its current form is dead. The cooperative directors met with Nancy Robertson on April 18 and at that time she said that after some time to digest the comments she would discuss what the next steps would be. The Cooperative Directors indicated that we would help in whatever manner was needed. In late May the cooperative directors are planning to have a meeting which would include board members from the cooperatives along with the cooperative director. The purpose of the meeting will be to get consensus on what we believe are the next steps in the process.

New Members: Chippewa River District Library (Mt. Pleasant), Pere Marquette District Library (Clare) and the Coleman Area Library. They are presently members of the White Pine Library Cooperative. They are interested in joining MMLC and have sent letters to us indicating this. They also have sent in their letters of notice to withdraw from White Pine. We will need to discuss this at our May 8 meeting and either decide that night or at the June meeting of the MMLC Board.

Northland interim director: The mini rural conference sponsored by Northland was a success. We had 100 participants. Except for minor glitches the day went very well. Irene joined me to help with the day's activities. Her time will be charged to Northland.

ALA: From June 28 until July 2 I will be attending the ALA Conference in Anaheim CA. This will be my last conference where I serve as the ALA Councilor representative from Michigan

MLA: My term on the MLA board will conclude June 30, 2008. I serve on the board due to my being the ALA Councilor. The restructuring of MLA is moving along. Next year will be quite a time adjusting to the new way of doing business.