

Library Commission Approves Change in Regional Library System Areas

Originally Posted on [May 30, 2014](#) by [Jennifer Wrampe](#); <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/>

At its meeting on May 16 the Nebraska Library Commission approved a change in Nebraska's regional library system structure based on recommendations from the Nebraska Regional Library Systems Configuration Task Force. As a result, Nebraska's current six regional service areas will be re-organized into four regional areas. The regional changes are expected to be in place no earlier than January 2015.

State and federal budget cuts in past years and flat funding in recent years prompted consideration of reducing the number of Nebraska regional library systems. Failure to secure increased funding for the current state biennium budget led to formation of the task force to develop recommendations for regional organization. The task force met several times before proposing regional options. The regional options were presented for discussion at the Library Commission's March 2014 meeting.

Library Commission staff, regional library system directors, and regional library system boards are working on implementation actions to create the new regional entities.

The Regional Library Systems Task Force Configuration report, questions and answers about regional changes, and the new regional map is available via the Library Commission's website:

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/systems/>



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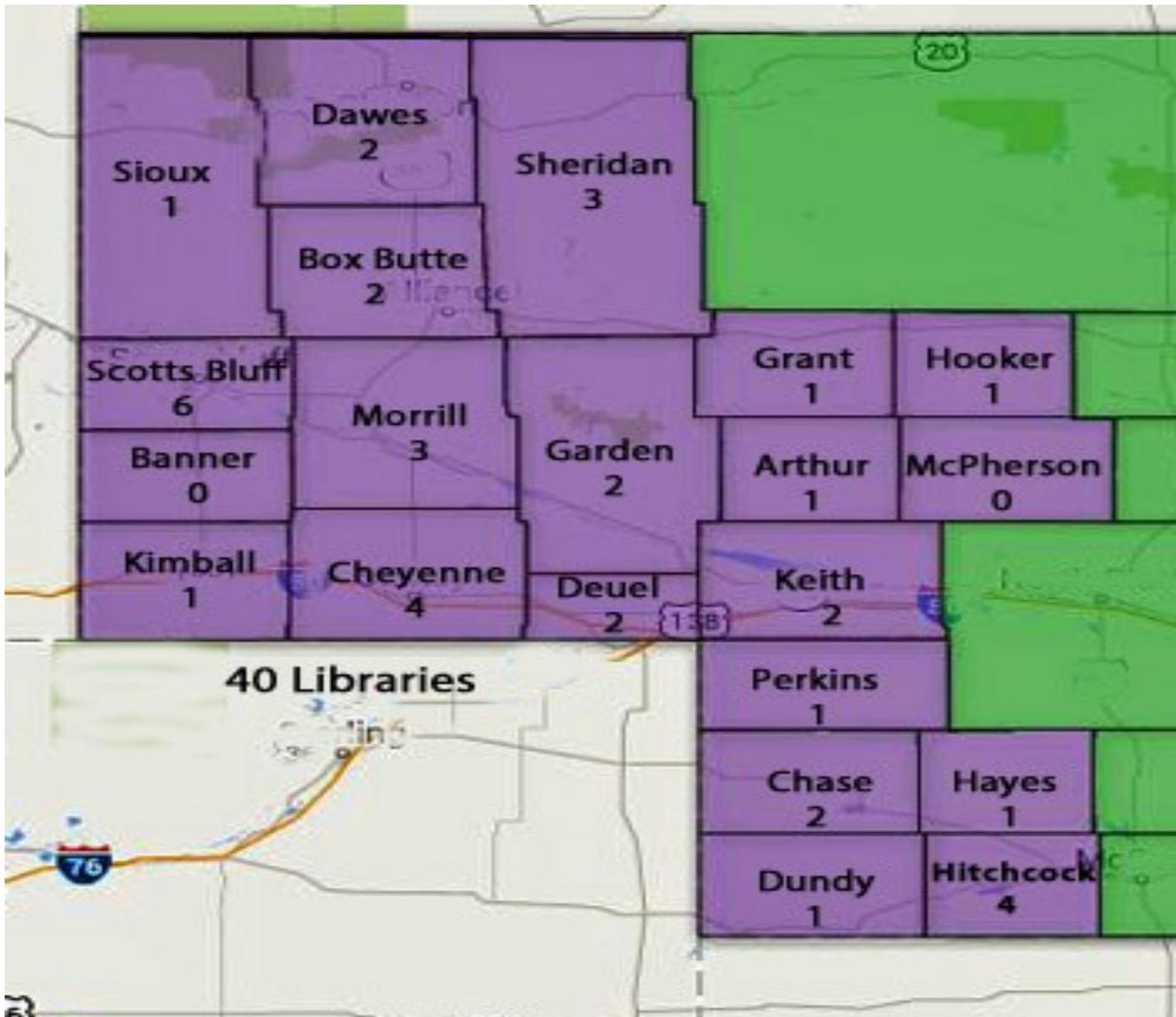
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Proposed regional map of Western Nebraska Libraries



The seven counties that will be joining the western library system are: east central area : Hooker and McPherson. For the southern area: Perkins, Chase, Hayes, Dundy & Hitchcock. (Please note the “40 Libraries” noted above is only the total number of public libraries in the western area.) Future maps will include K-12, Academic and Special Libraries.

Eric Green

“Times They Are A Changing” Bob Dylan

Fizz Boom Read ! Summer Reading in the Panhandle



Gering Public Library



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library



Beaker from the Muppets !

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

Nebraska Library Commission Awards 21st Century Skills Scholarships

Thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded 21st Century Librarian scholarships to eight Nebraska students in undergraduate Library Science programs. Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner commented, "The 21st Century Librarian scholarships are helping to ensure that Nebraska libraries have educated and skilled staff to serve the thousands of Nebraskans who rely on libraries for a variety of needs each and every day. We congratulate these students for their efforts to improve their knowledge and skills and wish them the very best toward their educational and career goals."

Spring 2014 Scholarship Recipients

Dorlissa Beyer - Hastings
Nancy Black, Uehling
Gabrielle DeGagne, Omaha
Rachelle McPhillips, Columbus
Mary Jo Pittman, Omaha
Martha Savely, Lodgepole
Dorothy Schultz, Wood River

For more information about Nebraska's Cultivating Rural Librarians' 21st Century Skills program, see <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov>. For a list of all current scholarship recipients, see <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov/Scholarshipsrecipients.asp>.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.ims.gov.

As Nebraska's state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services—"bringing together people and information."

The most up-to-date news releases from the Nebraska Library Commission are always available on the Library Commission Website, <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/publications/newsreleases>.

Panhandle Library System Scholarship Application

The Panhandle Library System has established a scholarship fund to facilitate the professional development of librarians within the system. Librarians, Media Specialists, and those connected with member agencies within the System may use these monies for attendance at professional meetings, classes, workshops, or other beneficial academic activities. Provisions of the Scholarship include:

1. Each applicant must submit an application letter and form any time prior to or up to two weeks after the event for which the scholarship is intended.
2. The Scholarship Committee will review each application received.
3. The Scholarship Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year.
4. Scholarships will be evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.
5. Priority will be given to events within the state.
6. Individual applicants will be limited to requesting scholarships once in a three-year period.
7. Budget, event, amount requested, and the number of applicants will dictate approval or denial of the scholarship requests. More than one scholarship request from the same library agency during a two-year period will need to be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.
8. Scholarship recipients are requested to provide a brief article about the event attended for the System newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity. The article is submitted to the PLS office.

Scholarship Committee
Panhandle Library System
115 Railway Street
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Panhandle Library System Scholarship Application

Name: _____

Library/School/Agency: _____

Complete Address: _____

Phone: _____

Scholarship Activity: _____

Requested Amount: _____

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth. Be as specific as possible with the date, location, and function of the activity. Revised 9-14-2012

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians Schedule

2014

<u>Dates of Class</u>		<u>Registration dates</u>
7/7 - 7/18	Intellectual Freedom and the Core Values of Librarianship*	5/30 - 6/27
7/21- 8/1	Communication*	6/13 - 7/11
9/8 - 9/19	The Community and the Library*	8/1 - 8/29
9/22 - 10/3	Programming & Outreach	8/15 - 9/12
10/20 -10/31	Collection Management*	9/12 - 10/3
11/3 - 11/14	Readers Advisory	9/26 - 10/24
12/1 - 12/12	Library Finance	10/24 - 11/21

*** Required Class**

For further information, contact Laura Johnson, Continuing Education Coordinator by phone, at 402-471-2694, or 800-307-2665 or Email: laura.johnson@nebraska.gov

Still Life on a Matchbox Lid

The heart is colder than the eye is.
The watchers, the holy ones,
know this, no shortcut to the sky,
A single dog hair can split the wind.

If you want great tranquility,
it's hard work and a long walk.

Don't brood on the past.
The world is without appendages,
no message, no name.

Charles Wright – New US Poet Laureate

Children Completing Nebraska Summer Reading Programs to Be Entered to Win More Than \$11,000 in NEST 529 Scholarships

Original Posted on June 5, 2014 by Jennifer Wrampe : <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/>

Omaha, Neb. (June 5, 2014) – Nebraska’s 529 College Savings Plans (NEST), First National Bank of Omaha, Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg and the Nebraska Library Commission announced today the NEST Read to Win \$529! Drawing as part of library summer reading programs across the state. More than \$11,000 in NEST 529 College Savings scholarships and donations will be awarded.

Fifteen summer readers, five in each of Nebraska’s three congressional districts, will be randomly drawn from those who complete a summer reading program. Each winner will receive \$529 in a NEST college savings account. The library of each winner will receive a \$250 donation. To enter, children must register for the summer reading program at their libraries and complete the program as defined by their libraries.

“The Nebraska State Treasurer’s Office is happy to help sponsor the NEST Read to win program this summer in local libraries all across Nebraska. Libraries are special places where children and teens can explore, learn, and dream. These early experiences in their local hometown libraries help children foster a love of reading and learning and set the stage for their years of formal education, from kindergarten through a four-year college, community college, or technical school. We here at NEST wish the very best for all the young readers in Nebraska and for their educational futures,” State Treasurer Stenberg said.

“NEST is proud to support the educational efforts of Nebraska’s children as well as the great work of the libraries statewide,” said Deborah Goodkin, Managing Director of NEST at First National Bank of Omaha, the NEST Program Manager. “With the libraries encouraging leisure reading during the summer, children can daydream and think of places they want to go and what they want to be. We hope this scholarship program encourages children and families to get involved in summer reading and complete the program with a little extra incentive for a possible scholarship.”

“Nebraska public libraries’ summer reading programs are great opportunities for children and teens to have the time to enjoy reading while maintaining and improving reading skills. They can also enjoy the many science-themed activities that are part of this year’s programs,” said Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner. “As places for learning, libraries are a natural partner for NEST—helping to illustrate the importance of children and their parents setting aside money for college education. The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to join with the Nebraska State Treasurer, First National Bank of Omaha, Regional Library Systems, and Nebraska public libraries to promote lifelong learning, financial education and planning.”

Winners will be drawn from the names of children who complete the summer reading program as submitted at the end of their programs by libraries throughout Nebraska. Winners will be announced during college savings month in September. For official scholarship rules, visit the NEST College Savings Plans at www.NEST529.com, the State Treasurer’s Office at www.treasurer.org/cs/ or the Nebraska Library Commission at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov>.

Contact:

Christina Kahler
Director of Marketing, NEST
402-602-6549
ckahler@fnni.com

Jana Langemach
Director of Communications
402-471-8884
Jana.langemach@nebraska.gov

Library changes in the Panhandle



The new *Library Commons* area of the Reta King Library, Chadron State College



On-going Renovations at the Mitchell Public library

Chadron Public Library Presents: Trading Stories
A Native American Film Festival

Friday July 11

5:00 p.m. Movie Festival begins Main floor of the Library:

(5th and Bordeaux)

Introduction by from Cecilia Fire-Thunder

5:15 pm *Young Lakota*

6:15 p.m.-7:00 p.m. break

7:00 p.m. *Skins*

Saturday July 12

Library

Introduction by Jessie Short Bull

5:00 p.m. Istima and *Thick Dark Fog*

6:15 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. break

7:00 p.m. Thunderheart

Saturday July 12

Museum of Fur Trade Days (East Hwy 20)

Introduction by Gale DeBuss-Potter

Time 7:00pm Crazy Horse

Sunday July 13

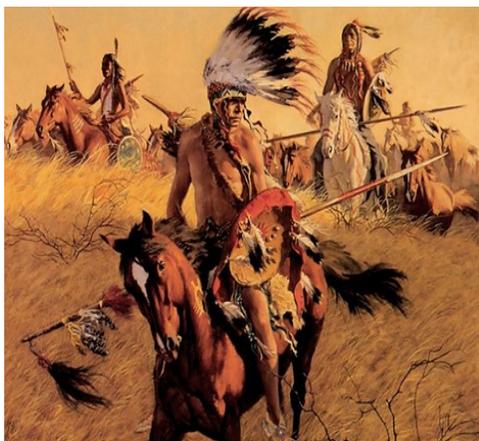
Library

12:00 noon, Ernie La Pointe discussing his new book *Sitting Bull*

1:00 p.m. Introduction Rossella Tesch

Film Making: a visit with Jessie Short Bull and Mr. Bill Matson, director of *Sitting Bull's Voice*

3:00 p.m. *Sitting Bull's Voice*



Upcoming Event

Panhandle Library System **Annual Meeting**

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Prairie Winds Community Center
Bridgeport, NE

It Takes a Library!

9:00-9:30 am – Registration

9:30 am PLS Annual Meeting

Also tour of the newly remodeled Bridgeport Public Library

Speakers: Mary Henning and Judy Henning

Cost \$10.00 – Payable to PLS- meal included in registration

Please register by July 8, 2014 with the PLS office!

PLS Board Meeting after lunch (CE Hours 2.5)

Name(s): _____

Library/School _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Register by Tuesday, July 8, 2014 with the PLS office: 115 Railway Street,

Scottsbluff, NE – Toll free 888-879-5303, Phone: 308-632-1360,

Fax: 308-632-3978, e-mail: eric.green@nebraska.gov

Other Events

- ♦ **June 26th - July 1st - ALA Annual Meeting Las Vegas**
- ♦ **Aug 13th -Strategic Planning workshop - Alliance Public Library (Time yet to be decided)**
- ♦ **Aug 20th - Quarterly Systems Meeting—Lincoln—NLC**

Panhandle Library System Board Meeting
10:00am Tuesday, March 11, 2014
Railway Office Plaza
115 Railway Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

I. Call to Order ~ Quorum Check ~ Set Agenda

Floyd Smith III, President, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

PLS Board members present were Floyd Smith III, President; Roberta Boyd, Secretary; Michele Parks, Sue Shaver, Dixie Riley and Beth Trupp. Allison McBride, Vice President arrived late. Also present were PLS Coordinator Eric Green, Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner, and Nebraska Library Commission member Pat Gross.

There were no agenda revisions.

III. Reports

District Reports: No school reports due to board member absences. Other District reports - District B - Floyd reported on the Bridgeport Library remodeling open house and the 10 year anniversary open house for his West Nebraska Family Research & History Center on March 1st.
Committee Reports

i. Annual Meeting – Co-chair Beth Trupp said she had contacted Tammy Covalt, Library Director at the Bridgeport Public Library about using the Prairie Winds Community Events Center in Bridgeport. If Bridgeport co-hosts we can use facility at no cost. There is on-site catering for lunch. Discussion ensued about dates and speakers. Last year's meeting evaluations indicated a desire for a more library-related speaker. They also want to include a tour of the recently remodeled Bridgeport Library. Floyd pointed out that annual meeting expenses come out of the next year's budget when discussing budget for this.

ii. Nominating –Co-chair Dixie Riley reported they have four names and wanted to encourage everyone to help recruit others. Briefly discussed nominating process and possible nominees.

iii. Public Relations – no report.

iv. Scholarship – Co chair Roberta reported that they would meet to check on award plaques and retirement certificates for annual meeting. There were no nominees for awards last year and the retirement certificates were generated in the PLS office.

v. Technology – Co-chair Sara Brenneman emailed revised 2013-14 technology plan. There was one minor correction of a date from 2014 to 2015 on the first page. Allison moved and Sue seconded to approve the plan as corrected. Motion carried. Eric will submit it to the Nebraska Library Commission. Reviewing the FY2014-2015 technology plan will be added to the May 13, 2014 meeting agenda. Allison suggested promoting the re-vamped computers at the annual meeting in July. Floyd will add this to the annual meeting agenda.

PLS Coordinator Report – Coordinator Eric Green presented his report in writing. The PLS car needs work and he will check on doing windshield replacement with the other work to save deductible. He mentioned several library building projects and library visits. The NLC has provided \$1200 for office technology/continuing education and he wants to spend some of that for data transfers from old computers to the new ones. He would use Advancing Technologies and believed they estimated \$80-100 to set up new computers. Brief discussion ensued about technology costs/expenses and was advised to get best possible price. Gave update on e-rate process. Summer reading training is March 26, 2014 at the Gering Public Library. Registration deadline is March 21st and there are 13 people signed up to date.

There followed a discussion about PLS relations with school libraries and ways to raise awareness about the system and its usefulness to them.

PLS office has ten copies of the 2014 One Book, One Nebraska book *Once Upon a Town*.

II. Review and Approve minutes of the January 14, 2014 board meeting. Returned to this order of business. Minutes were corrected to show that one of the open positions is a public library position and not from District A. Discussion about the arrangement of the post-executive session paragraph and how to show that it was not notes from the session but a summary of what occurred afterwards led to the discovery that page two was missing from the copies given to the board. Coordinator Eric went to make copies and board returned to the next report in the order of business while he was doing so.

Nebraska Library Commission Report – Director Rod Wagner presented his report in writing. He highlighted the success of Big Talk from Small Libraries 2014, SRP scholarship program for kids that was created in partnership with the State Treasurer's office, and the reconfiguration task force report on the Nebraska Library Commission's meeting agenda this coming Friday.

II. Review and Approve minutes of the January 14, 2014 board meeting. Minutes were again reviewed with the addition of page two. Beth moved and Allison seconded minutes be approved as corrected.

IV. Executive Session – Board went into executive session at 11:32 a.m. and returned at 11:59 a.m.

V. Old Business

- a. Financial Documents/Budget – Budget changes are now shown in reports. There was an inquiry about DVD collection rotation postage and the category it was taken from. Also, there was a question about coordinator's travel expense reimbursements to PLS from the Nebraska Library Commission. NLC will provide a code list of the different reimbursements so board can track those. Budget and expense are now on track.
- b. Floyd reported that the office lease has been signed.

VI. New Business – there was no new business brought before the board. Allison did have a question about the cost of a mailing to the full list of libraries for promotional purposes.

VII. Upcoming Events/Announcements – Beth mentioned Chautauqua this June at the Legacy of the Plains Museum and the book discussions being held prior to it. Lied Scottsbluff Public Library adult reading program finale is an Abraham Lincoln presentation in April. Gering Public Library will have their book sale during National Library Week in April.

Pat Gross offered to volunteer at the PLS office in any way she could.

VIII. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned by Floyd at 12:22 p.m.

Next board meeting will be Tuesday May 13, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Railway Office Plaza board room.

Submitted by,
Secretary Roberta J. Boyd

Panhandle Library System Award Nomination

(You may nominate yourself or someone else)

I would like to nominate _____ for the following award:

_____ PLS Advocacy Award

_____ PLS Distinguished Leadership Award

Position: _____

Name of Library: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Years of library-related services: _____

Name of person making the nomination: _____

Name of Library: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone: _____

Attach two letters of recommendation stating why this person deserves the award:

The Advocacy Award is for someone that gives outstanding support and promotion of the library, its services and programs, and it is intended for a library board member, volunteer or another person who is or is not employed in a library.

The Distinguished Leadership Award is for a library employee in a management position who has shown initiative and contributions in their library position/profession.

The nomination form and letters of recommendation are due Tuesday July 1, 2014.

Awards will be announced at the PLS Annual Meeting in July 2014.

If you have questions, please contact Roberta Boyd email: rboyd@scottsbluff.org or 308-630-6252 or Michele Parks email: parksm@rwmc.net or 308-630-1368.

Send completed form and letters to:

Awards/Scholarships Committee Chairperson

Roberta Boyd, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library, 1809 3rd Avenue, Scottsbluff, NE 69361, email: rboyd@scottsbluff.org.

Panhandle Library System
115 Railway Street
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Phone: 308-632-1350
Toll Free: 888-879-5303
Fax: 308-632-3978
Website:

<http://pls.panhandlelibraries.org>

Counties Served:

Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes,
Deuel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball, Morrill,
Scotts Bluff, Sheridan and Sioux

PLS Board of Trustees:

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Allison McBride, Vice President

Roberta Boyd , Secretary

Sara Brennemann

*Kendra Caskey

Rick Caudillo

*Dixie Riley

Sue Shaver

*Beth Trupp

Michele Parks

* **Retiring PLS Board
Members**

PLS Staff

Eric Green PLS Coordinator

E-mail: eric.green@nebraska.gov

New PLS Board Members

- ◆ District (B)- Ruth Walker - Mitchell Public Schools
- ◆ District (C)- Stephanie Mika - Sidney Public Library
- ◆ Public Library (PL) – Maryruth Reed - Mitchell PL
- ◆ At Large (AL) – Kathy Terrell - Morrill Public Schools

Photos by Eric Green -Pages 3 & 8

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