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MSL COMMISSION MEETING TELECONFERENCE May 8, 2008

Attendees:

Commissioners: Bonnie Allen, Donald Allen, Cheri Bergeron, Cindy Carrywater, Marsha Hinch, Ron Moody and Nora Smith.

Staff: Darlene Staffeldt, Jim Kammerer, Jennie Stapp, Bob Cooper, Sara Groves and Marlys Stark.

Visitors: Suzan Scott from OBPP (Office of Budget and Program Planning), representing the Governor's Office in place of Nancy Hall.

Chairman Hinch called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Review of Commission/State Librarian roles and responsibilities:

The purpose of the phone call was to inform the Commission of a problem with getting a contract approved and get the support of the Commission to ensure the contract went through. The budget office had sent a memo requesting clarification of what the library's short and long term plans were in regards to digitalization. The indication was that these questions needed answered before the contract was approved. Staff has responded to the questions but the contract was still being held up.

It was felt that clarification might be needed as to exactly what the Commission did and what the State Librarian did and what their interaction with the Governor's office should be.

The contract in question was released at 9:00 this morning. However a discussion still needs to be held at some point to clarify these issues. State Librarian Staffeldt recommended that a discussion be planned for the June meeting.

Commissioner Moody had written a memo to the other members as well as Staffeldt outlining areas he feels needs addressed. Visitor Suzan Scott was asked what the role of the budget office is in asking the questions that were raised. As she was a last minute fill in she had no knowledge of the issue. Staffeldt explained that from previous visits with the various Governor's office policy leaders, she feels that David Ewer had been asked to follow up on the issue as a policy question from the Governor's office, not necessarily just as a budget question.

After further discussion by the Commission, it was decided to discuss this issue in detail at a retreat the day prior to the next Commission meeting. Each member was asked to

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look over the memo from Member Moody and then come with ideas of what should be clarified and why the problem might have come up and how to solve them.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 11th in Helena. The retreat will also be in Helena and will be on June 10th.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment presented.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.