

MontanaLibrary2Go Membership Meeting, April 17 2025

Attendance:

- Susie McIntyre, Great Falls Public library.
- Denise Ard, North Valley Public Library
- Jodie Moore, Red Lodge Carnegie Library
- Austin Castle, Glacier County Library
- Yvonne Redding, Rosebud County Library
- Nancy Schmidt, Laurel Public Library
- Kim Denny Dillon Public Library
- Dustina Deans - Lincoln County Libraries
- Sam Walters, Hearst Free Library
- Jennifer Ball - Stillwater County Library
- Abbi Dooley, North Lake County Public Library District
- Jonna Underwood, Sheridan County Library
- Savanna Sill, Montana State Library
- Guil Poelsma, Montana State Library
- Janet Livingston Roosevelt County Library
- Beth-Fallon County Library
- Crystal Buchanan - Thompson Falls Public Library
- Cheri in Dutton
- J. Ferris, Whitehall
- Christina Koch, Thompson-Hickman Madison County Library
- Tiffany Christensen, Conrad Public Library
- Nancy Royan Wedsworth Memorial Library
- Sarah Peterson, Miles City Public Library
- Cheri Focht, Twin Bridges Public Library
- Jaime Ewan, Three Forks Library
- Jodi Smiley-Boulder Community Library
- Joy Bridwell, Stone Child College/Rocky Boy Public Library
- Mary Drew Powers from Whitefish Community Library
- Rachel Rawn Havre-Hill County Library
- Trudy Dundas - Manhattan Comm Library
- Stacie Rennaker Darby Public Library
- Jennifer French from Phillips County Library
- Kathryn Solomon Petroleum County Community Library
- Emily Wicks - Chouteau County Library, Fort Benton

Savanna assigned Guil Poelsma for note taking.

Describing Agenda Items.

Discussion about OverDrive Advantage program. **Member** described benefits, primarily in increased checkouts.

Some members weren't familiar with the Advantage program.

Savanna gave basic description of how the program works and financially individual libraries can choose how much they contribute to their own advantage program, content-based pricing.

Selection Committee Members offered that they can offer guidance on how to make carts for libraries that aren't familiar with that process but are interested in joining the advantage program.

Currently do not have external funding for this program. Montana Library Network will conduct a study over the next fiscal year, describing the benefit, impact, and financial need given growth projections.

A third of Montana's checkouts are digital.

Breakdown of item type percentages.

Reviews Suggested percentages of item types. Sheet that breaks down checkouts for last year.

Member Library question: How many holds indicate a "high demand"?

"1 copy of an item per 10 holds. We're not getting close to this."

40% is designated to holds that are over the 10 to 1 ratio. With our current budget we are not able to meet the 10 to 1 ratio.

OverDrive provides an automatic cart to help us get closer to that 10 to 1 ratio. Selection Team will add significantly high hold ratios to other carts.

Denise Ard made a motion to accept the selection team's percentage of each type. Crystal Buchanan seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Magazine Subscription:

"Include in overall budget." Magazine subscription will now be included in a library's total OverDrive budget, the magazine subscription totals \$30,000. This cost is split up using the Cost-Share Formula.

Hosting Fee/Content Percentage Increase

Currently paid by Montana State Library \$20,000. IMLS funds \$10,000 and general fund is \$10,000. This covers the hosting fee. Loss of IMLS funding would result in just under a 3% increase for MontanaLibrary2Go libraries.

Member comment: How are we going to vote if we don't know our budget i.e. will we pay for the hosting fee if funding falls through?

Member comment: what would the cost actually be.

Savanna broke down the details of how the hosting fee and current contract works and how that fee is currently paid.

Member comment: We'd have to make another membership meeting. If grants fails we will do another meeting to vote. Multiple options will be considered/voting.

Member comment: suggest voting on 7% percent now and go to 10% potentially later if they need to host.

Member comment – notes percentages, everyone pays more not just big libraries. This is an unprecedented situation and consider this an essential service. Advocated for the full 10% increase.

Member comment – Questioned why not a 7% increase instead?

Member Motion: A 10% increase, at this time for FY 26, with the caveat that if the libraries must pay the hosting fee, the collection total will be reduced by that fee. The percentage of the hosting fee will be taken out of the collection budget, so no Libraries will need to pay additional funds for MontanaLibrary2Go.

Member Questions: How much has MontanaLibrary2Go increased over years? If a library is in a position to contribute more, can they?

Savanna answered: MontanaLibrary2Go has seen an increase of 53% percent in checkouts over the last four years. Libraries can make additional contributions by creating a ticket with the Montana State Library.

Denise Ard made a motion to approve the 10% increase, at this time for FY 26, with the caveat that if the libraries must pay the hosting fee, the collection total will be reduced by that fee. The percentage of the hosting fee

will be taken out of the collection budget, so no Libraries will need to pay additional funds for MontanaLibrary2Go. The [motion was seconded by Crytal Buchanan, and the motion passed.](#)

Discussion of proposed change to cost-share formula FY27.

Members inquire about an update on Cost-Share Formula for FY27.

Savanna let members know that that's currently being worked on and MSL will release information as it's available. At this time, these details are not available.

Members would like to be updated with ample notification before budget planning begins.

Recognition and appreciation of Selection Committee Members

Sav: they volunteer their own time to develop collection. 1.6million checkouts.

Thank you for all the hard work.

Updated Collection Management Policy.

Members discussed current status of having no Executive Committee. The **Selection Committee** submitted an updated collection development policy specific to MTLibrary2Go for membership review.

Members comment and pose questions regarding Page 5 of 8 of document – material reconsideration procedure. Members discussed pros, cons, and feasibility of an online material consideration form.

Conversation and input was shared about hosting this form on the MSL website versus a paper option that goes through the local director level.

Some smaller libraries expressed concerns about the feasibility given some of the staffing, technology, and time constraints of this beginning at a local level. Some libraries also shared their concern about this starting at a local level, but at a local level they do not have sole control of MTLibrary2Go collection.

Members expressed some concerns about this online form solution. Some concerns include patron response to being sent to an external website, not

all patrons have sufficient computer skills, it could discourage dialogue and discussion at local level, and difficulties in discerning if people filling out online forms are actually Montana library patrons.

Making a patron feel heard by their local library director was also brought up as an important part of the process. It was emphasized that realistically, it will most likely start at a local level, but procedurally there still could be an electronic option.

Susie McIntyre made motion to approve Updated Collect Management Policy, Slaven Lee seconds, and motion and the motion passed.

Bylaws Item:

Membership voted on updated Bylaws in FY23.

MSL can't find finalized notes or votes. Please send Savanna those if you have it.

Otherwise, a meeting will be set 30 days from now to go over bylaw comments and voting.

Member Library mentioned this was voted for unanimously.

If notes/votes record are found, meeting will be cancelled.

Membership votes to adjourn and the motion carried

Meeting adjourned