

**MEMO**

To: Montana State Library Commission
From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian
Subject: February State Librarian's report
Date: February 4, 2026

The following is a report of activities for the period from December 11, 2025 through February 1, 2026.

Date	Activity
Weekly	<p>Meet with direct reports to discuss current opportunities and challenges and to ensure effective communication. Direct reports are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Malissa Briggs• Tracy Cook• Lee Fossum• Evan Hammer• Rebekah Kamp• Amy Marchwick• Savanna Sill
Bi-weekly	Met with MSL team to discuss ongoing opportunities to promote the Montana State Reference Network (MTSRN).
Bi-weekly	Attended bi-weekly Governors Cabinet meetings to be briefed on State consolidation plans for human resources, procurement and information technology services.
Monthly	Met with Real Marketing Solutions to plan for a spring marketing campaign for the MTSRN.
Monthly	Attended the Chief Information Officers Round Table to discuss IT priorities from the State Information Technology Services Division for procurement, technology upgrades, and organizational changes.
Monthly	Participate in the Local Government Relations meetings where librarians share ideas about how to improve engagement with local government officials.



12/11/2025	Attended the annual Montana Natural Heritage Program's (MTNHP) annual Partners meeting. This meeting is an opportunity for the Program to share updates to key stakeholders including local, state, federal, and private sector partners, on new and updated data and data tools and resources. This meeting is also an opportunity for these partners to share with the Program data needs and issues that are currently pertinent to them.
12/11/2025	Attended the Local Government Center (LGC) 40 th Anniversary Gala to celebrate the support offered by the LGC to local governments including library boards. In addition to visiting with LGC staff, I connected with county commissioners, Legislators, and staff from the Montana Association of Counties. Tracy Cook received the Bridge Builder award from the LGC.
12/15/2025-1/26/2026	Completed annual performance reviews for seven direct reports.
12/16/2025	Prepared for and attended the Legislative Education Interim Budget Committee December meeting to respond to questions about MSL's quarterly financial report prepared by Legislative Finance staff. Chair David Bedey also requested an update on the status of the Montana Geospatial Information Account revenue which I provided.
12/16/2025	Attended a meeting at the invitation of the leadership of the Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC). This Council is supported by the Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation. The purpose of the meeting was to hear concerns from MISC about the Montana Natural Heritage Program's ongoing reliance on noxious weed grants as a regular source of funds.
12/17/2025	Hosted the MSL staff holiday party.
12/18/2025	Listened to the Legislative Finance Committee meeting to understand revenue trends and state funding priorities
12/19/2025	Met with MSL team to discuss a pilot to evaluate Microsoft Planner as a tool to improve the MSL work plan process.
12/11/2025-1/2/2026	Worked with the Secretary of State's office to finalize adoption notice for recent rulemaking.
12/22/2025	Met with State Librarians from the Western Council of State Libraries to plan a request for proposal to study service delivery models for Americans who cannot read traditional print materials.



1/2/2026	Toured the Montana Heritage Center with MSL staff
1/2/2026-2-5-2026	Attended planning meetings for the annual Voices for Libraries event in Washington, DC, hosted by the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA). COSLA's two policy priorities are funding for the Library Services and Technology Act and legislation that support libraries' role in advancing reading and literacy. Scheduled Hill visits with members of our congressional delegation for March 4 and 5.
1/6/2026	Met with Montana tribal college librarians to draft a conference proposal to submit to the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums conference planning committee for consideration for their fall conference.
1/8/2026	Met with MSL team to discuss next steps as we consider how to license the MTSRN as an alternative revenue source.
1/12/2026	Met with MSL team to plan for attendance at the National States Geographic Information Council midyear meeting in Washington, DC. Scheduled Hill visits with our congressional delegation during the last week of February.
1/12/2026	Attended the Montana Library Association winter board meeting as ex-officio non-voting member.
1/13/2026	Attended the Governor's Cabinet meeting to learn about current executive branch priorities and administrative needs. I shared information about the Page History link that was recently added to the State of Montana web template that links to the State of Montana web archive.
1/13/2026	Listened to a panel discussion before the Environmental Quality Council regarding noxious weed mitigation. The MTNHP manages noxious weed data for Montana. The Council is considering needs to better mitigate noxious weed infestations.
1/14/2026	Attended a webinar hosted by COSLA and led by a staff member of the Council of State Legislatures, to learn about interstate compacts and how they can be used to create cost effective contracts and services across states.
1/20/2026	Attended a meeting hosted by staff of the Department of Administration to learn about a new travel and expense management tool that the State is adopting. DOA will roll this tool out to MSL and 16 other agencies in the next couple of months.



1/21/2026	Met with the Governors Office of Community Service and MSL team to evaluate what we have learned from a current AmeriCorps planning grant and to consider how AmeriCorps services may benefit MSL in the future.
1/21/2026	Met with the new Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer to learn more about his vision for AI in Montana state government and opportunities for MSL to engage with him and his work. We are planning an AI “coffee talk” with him and MSL staff in mid-February.
1/22/2026	Attended the IT Symposium hosted by the State Information Technology (SITSD) Services Division to learn more about the State’s plans for IT integration under SITSD.
1/27-28/2026	In my role as a member of the 9-1-1 advisory council to the Department of Justice, scored grants that will be awarded with funds from the 9-1-1 grant program.
1/27/2026	Met with McKenna Gregg and Lucas Rowsey from the Office of Public Instruction to discuss McKenna’s idea to create an app for the Montana Cadastral.
1/29/2026	Chaired the January meeting of the Montana Geospatial Advisory Council (MGIAC) where the Council recommended priority grant awards to the Commission.
1/30/26	Held a meeting in Missoula to meet and orient a new member of the MGIAC from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.