

South Central Federation  
Fall 2025 Meeting  
Lewistown Public Library  
September 13, 2025

**10:00am**

**Roll Call**

- Stillwater County Library – Jennifer Ball, Director & Carla Nordlund, Trustee – both online
- Roundup School-Community Library – Anita Burch & Darcy Dutton, Trustees
- Rosebud County Library – Yvonne Redding, Director & Nancy Nile - online, Trustee
- Red Lodge Carnegie Library – Jodie Moore, Director & Colleen Harrington, Trustee – both online
- Petroleum County School-Community Library – Kathryn Soloman, Director & Phyllis Arthur, Trustee
- Moore Memorial Public Library – Debbie Schreiber, Kathy Simpson & Denise Brottem – Trustees
- Lewistown public Library – Andrea Payne, Trustee
- Laurel Public Library – Nancy Schmidt, Director & Kate Manley – Trustee
- Judith Basin County Free Library – Jeanne Lillegard, Director; Vicky McCray & Carol Dearden – Trustees
- Joliet Public Library – Mary Koon, Director & ?
- Harlowton Public Library – Tina Peterson, Director & Lara Brisco, Trustee
- Dorothy Asbjornson Community Library - ?
- Denton Public Library – Laura Stainbrook, Librarian
- Carnegie Public Library – Jacque Scott, Director; Misti Titeca, Librarian & Peter Fox, Trustee
- Bridger Public Library – Krystal Zentner, Director – online
- Billings Public Library – Kelcie Rubich, Director – online
- Big Horn County Public Library – Anika Risener, Director & Phillip Miller, Trustee
- Bicentennial Library of Colstrip – Nancy Nile – online
- MSL – Cara Orban & Corey Sloan (w/JJ) - Consultants

**Approval of minutes from April 2025**

Amendments: Correction of spelling of names: Laura Brisco was changed to Lara Brisco. Kate Manley moved to accept the minutes as amended; Tina Peterson seconded. Minutes passed as amended.

**Federation Report**

Coordinator Nancy Schmidt had used all but \$408 of the monies allocated to regional meetings; travel expenses and stipend were paid to coordinator; expenses for the meeting in Big Timber were included in FY25 accounting as well as the cost of having Kris Goss present training at the meeting; funds were transferred to the City of Laurel for bookkeeping, etc.; stipends issued to Mike Furman, Stacie Stocks, and Eli Ritterpusch for ordering, maintaining, prepping and updating book kits; there was one regional training held Columbus and one scheduled for Red Lodge but the weather and our calendars didn't allow for more planned trainings. A hybrid training was discussed for Red Lodge. Nancy will try to remember to send out an email asking for interest and topics. \$500 was donated to MTLibrary2Go for content purchases to prevent having unexpended funds in the federation; all

postage was used for mailing book kits to/from member libraries that aren't on the courier system; all members have completed their federation reports. There were no questions about the fund expenditure. There was a desire among the group to hold regional trustee training in the Lewistown and Hardin areas using remaining FY 2025 funds.

### **Book kits - update**

Nancy Schmidt shared the federation's book kit circulation statistics from BLUEcloud Analytics and the list of older book kits to be redistributed to other libraries. There are currently 381 book kits available through South Central Federation. It can be difficult to get the kit you want, when you want it, but library staff will do their best to reserve your desired book kit. Nancy asked for suggestions on book kits for our next round of book purchases. It was suggested that a large print edition be included in the kits, if possible. The link to the most current book kit list was shared with the directors and printed copies of the list were available at the meeting.

Link to the full book kit list:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gqOnFBecZ\\_MlaONFY\\_YXAHQCqBR4NBVSKoUY4cS\\_TOE/edit#gid=692118851](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gqOnFBecZ_MlaONFY_YXAHQCqBR4NBVSKoUY4cS_TOE/edit#gid=692118851)

### **Regional Trustee Training**

Regional training on Board Development is planned for Red Lodge on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 pm. This may depend upon the weather and trustee availability for the date and time selected. If anyone wants to see a training in their area, please contact Nancy Schmidt to have one scheduled.

### **Montana State Library Report**

Consultant Cara Orban gave an update from the Montana State Library.

Federal funding was frozen in the spring so state library staff members couldn't travel to federation meetings but did join us online. The update on IMLS funding will be sent out to libraries as it is received at the state level.

Lifelong Learning Librarian Bobbi deMontigny wanted to make sure that all libraries were aware of the texting program that is now available through MSL. It is called the Parents Powered Texting Program. It is on the state website under Early Childhood Programming and on the handouts provided at the meeting. This is provided, in part, through the Montana Department of Health and Human Services.

There are also mini-grants available for the summer reading program that may have already been sent to libraries. The Montana Library Network virtual programming series starts on September 25<sup>th</sup> with botanist Andrea Pipp. Contact Bobby if you want your library to participate in the programming.

The State Library Commission is proposing changes to the certification and continuing education program. The certification committee is recommending that the CE program be pared down just on track that will be centered on the needs of the directors. A course catalog will be pre-approved by the Commission that would include an initial track of 20 credits in one year and then directors seeking renewal would need to seek 60 credits in 5 years. There would also be a process for the Commission to approve any additional professional development

that anyone may want. This would need to go through the Administrative Rules process first but then it would be effective on July 1<sup>st</sup> of next year. Cara encouraged everyone to share their thoughts and ideas about the new CE program with the Commission at the October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at least in writing if not sharing during the public comment period. More information can be found on the meeting page on the AsPEN login.

### **Spring 2026 meeting date**

Yvonne Redding motioned holding the spring federation meeting in Forsyth on April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Rosebud County Library. Denise Brottem seconded the motion. Approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

### **Lunch**

Coffee, beverages, and rolls were provided from a local café and salad & sandwiches from the Town & Country Co-op.

### **Federation Training**

- **Corey Sloan – strategic planning at your library**
- **Cara Orban – facilities management**