

Memo

To: Montana State Library Commission

From: PEEL Advisory Committee

Date: January 26, 2009

Re: PEEL Library Stipend recommendation

The final phase of the PEEL II grant project is the awarding of four \$35,000 stipends to add a professional librarian to the staff of public, school, or tribal libraries. Applications were solicited statewide through library listservs, publications, and special mailings. Four applications were received by the December 31, 2008 deadline.

The PEEL Advisory Committee met in Helena on January 14, 2008, to review the applications and prepare a recommendation for the Commission concerning the stipend awards. The Committee's recommendation is to fund the following positions:

1. Butte Silver Bow Public Library – Technical Services & Digital Collections Librarian

This position would be responsible for the development of a digital collection of monographs, pamphlets and photographs owned by the library. These historical items will be scanned, cataloged and added to the Montana Memory Project collection. The library will be required to fill this position with an MLS/MLIS librarian. Stipend request is \$35,000; the library will provide a \$35,000 match and make every effort to continue the position after the two-year stipend period.

2. Butte Silver Bow Public Library – Adult Services Librarian

This position would be responsible for the development of adult and young adult collections and for programming/outreach activities for young adults, adults, and seniors. The library will be required to fill this position with an MLS/MLIS librarian. Stipend request is \$35,000; the library will provide a \$35,000 match and make every effort to continue the position after the two-year stipend period.

3. Rosebud School District #12 – K-12 Librarian

The district (located in Rosebud) currently has a contracted library consultant who is available "as needed". The library is primarily staffed one period per day by a teacher and two periods per day by a student aide. The Librarian position would be responsible for building a collection to support the district's educational goals, providing support for faculty and curriculum, and teaching students how to access and use library resources. The library will be required to fill this position with an individual having either an MLS/MLIS degree or a School Library Media Endorsement. Stipend request is \$35,000;

the district will provide a \$35,000 match and make every effort to continue the position after the two-year stipend period.

4. Harrison School Library – K-12 Librarian (half-time)

The library currently has a half-time endorsed school librarian who works afternoons during the school week and serves the entire K-12 student body. The community does not have a public library. This stipend would fund an additional half-time librarian position. This would make it possible to have the library open to teachers and student for the entire school day and have the librarian available to collaborate on research projects and teach library skills. The stipend would also be used to staff the library four evenings a week (a total of 8 hours) for community members to use. The library will be required to fill this position with an individual having either an MLS/MLIS degree or a School Library Media Endorsement. Stipend request is \$17,500; the library will provide a \$17,500 match and make every effort to continue the position after the two-year stipend period.

The total amount recommended for funding is \$122,500 for the four stipends listed above. That leaves \$17,500 in the stipend budget. MSL will contact IMLS to determine if there are other ways this money could be used to promote librarianship or support education for Montana librarians. If this is not possible, the unused stipend funds would be returned to IMLS.