

DRAFT

Montana State Library State Aid Task Force

November 10, 2011; 10:00 am
GOTO Meeting

Attendees

Task Force Members - Present

Colet Bartow, Stacy Bruhn (Facilitator), Carly Delsigne, Judy Hart, Debbi Kramer, Sarah McHugh, Dee Ann Redman, Trista Smith, Sonja Woods

Task Force Members - Absent

Colet Bartow, Tracy Cook, Carolyn Donath

Stacy Bruhn called the meeting to order at 10:09 am.

The minutes from the September 20, 2011 meeting were approved. Judy Hart moved, DeeAnn Redman seconded.

Stacy Bruhn reviewed the concerns and decisions that came from the September 20th meeting, including the charges given to staff. The Task Force discussed the assorted spreadsheets and information on other states that was provided to them.

The Task Force discussed the pros and cons of making any of the following adjustments to the current formula:

- Using population estimates and whether there was an appropriate source for between census data
- Using a base grant only or even split and whether using one of these methods would solve the Task Force's concerns with assisting smaller libraries
- The question of whether to contribute the monies to statewide projects was raised
- A special application process and the effect that would have on staffing
- Adjusting the current formula so that it was not based on the percentage of county funding was raised
- A base grant and equalization method – combining a base grant with the current per capita calculation

The Task Force discussed whether Public Library Districts are equitably represented in the current formula. It was agreed that further discussion on this topic would need to wait until a new formula is suggested since the problem may be addressed through that process.

The Task Force requested the following from staff:

- That Stacy Bruhn creates a spreadsheet demonstrating the potential base grant/equalization method
- That Darlene Staffeldt, former Montana State Librarian, be consulted by staff prior to the Task Force making a final decision

Staff also encouraged Task Force members to informally survey the library community to get feedback and suggestions on whether/how to make adjustments to the State Aid process.

The facilitator adjourned the meeting at 11:10 am.