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June 23, 2023

State Library Advisory Board Committee
Attn: Tom Taylor, Committee Chair
(tomtaylor@andoverlibrary.org)
Randy Roberts, State Library Advisory Board, Chair
(reroberts@pittstate.edu)
Ray Walling, State Librarian
(Ray.Walling@ks.gov)

Dear Mr. Taylor and Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of my client the Central Kansas Library System (CKLS) Executive Board to provide clarification on a couple of matters associated with the 2024 CKLS System Plan and proposed budget, as well as to offer a solution in the spirit of Mr. Walling's proposed amendment.

I believe there may be some confusion as to the process of distribution of allotted funds as per the System Plan. The information discussed in the committee meeting yesterday indicated the fulfillment of objectives in calendar year 2024 would be paid out the same year. However, the System Plan works on a three-year cycle. Therefore, the first portion of the allotments related to the 2024 CKLS System Plan would be disbursed on or before March 31, 2025. During her presentation to the State Library Advisory Board on June 9, 2023, System Librarian Gail Santy did not have the opportunity to share this detail.

See funding cycle detail from pages 7-8 of the 2024 CKLS System Plan (inserted below for your convenience).

The System Plan, which sets out the requirements for funding through the system grants-in-aid, runs on a three-year cycle.

Year one: The CKLS annual system plan is approved by the Executive Board. The System Plan is then submitted to the full system board in May. The full system board approves the plan. Libraries begin planning now for what they will do in year two.

Year two: Libraries use the annual system plan approved in year one to guide them to meet the standards and maximize eligibility for Base Public Library Allotment to be paid in year three.

Year three: Libraries report on what they chose to do in year two to maximize eligibility for the allotment. Libraries receive a Base Public Library Allotment aligned with what they did in year two to earn the allotment and meet the necessary standards.

Mr. Taylor was correct during the committee meeting when he noted that funds may not be available for distribution to Member Libraries on January 31. It has been CKLS practice for many years to distribute first payments to Member Libraries from CKLS on or before March 31 as there is no guarantee of funds availability prior to that time.

My client believes that there needs to be a reduction timeline included for the Walling proposed amendment in regards to the Hays Public Library and Salina Public Library Processing Allotment(s). The reduction timeline should exist so there is a clear expectation for all parties involved, and the budgeting questions are resolved.

Given the CKLS grant payment cycle, the Processing Allotment amendment proposed by Mr. Walling to the CKLS 2024 System Plan would not go into effect until calendar year 2025. This would leave Hays Public Library and Salina Public Library without those monies in calendar year 2024. Therefore, CKLS would offer a Processing Grant for \$30,000 to be paid to the Hays Public Library and the Salina Public Library on or before March 31, 2024. As well, CKLS would be amenable to the following reduction timeline or something substantially like it.

Three-year reduction timeline for Hays Public Library and Salina Public Library:

2024 – Hays Public Library, \$30,000 & Salina Public Library, \$30,000 (\$60,000)

2025 – Hays Public Library, \$20,000 & Salina Public Library, \$20,000 (\$40,000)

2026 – Hays Public Library, \$10,000 & Salina Public Library, \$10,000 (\$20,000)

2027 – ALL funding for CKLS Member Libraries will be addressed through the funding mechanism in the CKLS System Plan.

CKLS would also be amenable if this reduction timeline were offered as a contract between CKLS and Hays Public Library and CKLS and Salina Public Library. This would not require the System Plan to be amended. We offer this possible solution as a way to speed along the timeline of closing the matter.

Very truly yours,

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