



Library Director's Report January – February 2025

General Report

- The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which is a Federal Agency, facing cuts in funding with government spending under intense scrutiny.
- Funding for Digital Improvements grant is on hold as UEN waits for updates on availability with the federal government funding. Again, if awarded, this grant would cover purchases and installation for up to 19 new patron computers, laptops for patron use, color copiers/printers, Smart Boards, Children's touchscreen learning computers, 4 years of Licensing for all patron computers for Microsoft 365, and 3D doodlers/pens and supplies for 4 years as well as a new Disc Repair machine.
- Grand County – contract will expire at the end of this year with San Juan County Library System paying the Grand County library system \$6000 a year for the library patrons living in zip code 84532 to have patron membership at the Grand County Library. The GCPL board and Grand County Commission is considering raising this fee to \$10,000 for next year and going forward but did not give a suggestion for number of years for the contract. In 2022 Director Valdes stated in an email that "...there are currently 348 individuals (217 households) with San Juan active (used in the last three years) cardholders and our non-resident fee is \$60/year, there were definitely those that felt we needed to increase the amount." The current agreement states "GCL will begin tracking and reporting annually to SJCL an accounting of all new 84532 zip code patrons and make a good faith effort to add current 84532 patrons as they use their GCL library cards. Carrie also stated that there are a number of La Sal residents that are using the Grand County Library that don't fall under the 84532-zip code that they have been allowing to use the library and consider this as we look at the future inter-local agreement.
- Review of the meeting at the Provo City Library on March 14th for all Library Directors whose libraries are participating in the Beehive Digital Library Consortium and federal funding cuts as well as possible percentage increases to participate.
- I am currently working on the Annual State Library report which is due April 15th.
- The contract for CLEF (Community Library Enhancement Funds) grant was awarded and approved by the Commissioners in the amount of \$7817.00 from the State Library for 2025. There was a new additional process to apply for the CLEF grant this year which I completed in October of 2024. This CLEF grant is largely used to help fund Special and Summer programming, supplement our Collection Development, and to purchase IT equipment that is patron service related. This is a State Grant.
- I have been working with Peter Brown from the Clerk's office in adjusting some expenditures that were double charged on our 2024 End Of Year Financial reports so a more accurate End of Year report should be available by the next Library Board meeting. We should still be under our approved 2024 budget.
- Review of 2025 Approved Library Budget: With the buildings/maintenance budget the amount shows approved of \$725,810.00. The Library Board approved the budget for Library System only, not buildings/maintenance or Library Staff salaries and wages, in

amount of \$461,550.00 and budget was approved by Commissioners for \$554,210.00 which included the Library staff salaries and wages. I requested a finalized budget for 2024 with our library budget line items from the Clerk's office so that I could see what each line item was set at but have not received a reply as of today. The following are the details online in regard to the 2025 Library Budget that has been set:

Monticello Building - \$70,300

Blanding Building - \$89,000

Satellite Buildings (Bluff only) - \$9,800.00

Library Board (part of budget that we set)- \$2,500.00 (Library Board approved \$2,500)

Library System (that we set) – \$554,210.00 (Library Board approved \$461,550)

The discrepancies between amounts approved by the Library Board and the amounts approved by the County Commissioners are higher for the Library System due to salaries/wages line item. However, we were under budget on our Salaries/Wages line items by about 30% - \$105,000.00 approximately for 2024 fiscal year.

- Reminder for Board members that use Social Media – please like and share items on our Library pages.

Blanding Library

- PBS Read-a-thon grant celebration was in January. All expenses are being covered by the grant. We had 60 people attend and had various activities. Huge success.
- Ongoing partnerships: 1) The Seniors group has held multiple activities such as a class to teach basic Navajo and money saving tips and advice. 2) Book club is usually held on every 1st Monday of the month at 11 am and always have a good turn-out. Jackie Jeppson is our contact person. 3) Story hour is held every Wednesday at 11 am. This does not include the parent or guardian that attended as well. 4) 4-H is still partnering with the Blanding Library to hold Tween/Teen activities. 5) New Anime' Club was launched in March with enthusiastic participation and will continue being held once a month for now with activities such as Anime art projects, illustrating, and possibly learning some basic Japanese. This is for Tween/Teen ages. 6) New Garden Club – Seed Exchange for adults was kicked off in March and also a big success. The plan is to continue meeting once a month.