

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

ACLA Special General Membership Meeting

September 20, 2007

- The President reported on a meeting held with the RAD Library Committee. That meeting was attended by Ms. Smith, Board Members Lowry, Richey, and Saha and Executive Director Jenkins. Four points were made by the Library Committee during the meeting:
 1. The formula would be simpler and readily understandable by all libraries.
 2. Population should have a greater emphasis than in the existing formula and additional provision should be made for distressed communities.
 3. The formula should not promote competition for finite dollars, but could perhaps include a pool of funds to reward service improvement. Consequences for not meeting state standards should be clearly spelled out. There should be a reliable, predictable base formula linked to standards.
 4. The process defined in the Olszak report is quite extensive, and the Member Libraries should carry enough of the burden of funding the proposed process so that they are fully invested in the efficiency and success of the outcome.

The ACLA Board recommended that the Member Libraries adopt the process as defined in the Olszak report. This was supported by representatives from Mt. Lebanon and Northern Tier. Northland stated that the consultants' had moved beyond the scope of the original proposal and their recommendations regarding review of governance issues, while of importance to the Membership, should not be included in a request for additional consulting services. The Library urged the adoption of the formula that had been approved previously, using the Olszak model to review that formula going forward. The Member Libraries voted to adopt the Olszak recommendations, with the exception of Northland (and with CLP abstaining).

- Several recommendations were made with regard to amending the draft Request for Proposal that had been distributed, including clarification on the RAD's direction in the original study, specification that all three phases outlined would be included, development of a full communications plan, and requirement that the consultants have expertise in modeling various formula scenarios. The Request for Proposal was adopted by the Membership with those revisions.
- Extensive discussion was held concerning how to fund the next process. Smith noted that there were at least four options:
 1. Ask RAD to fully fund the study (but given the feedback from the RAD Library Committee full funding by RAD is highly unlikely).
 2. Divide the cost between RAD, ACLA, and the Member Libraries.
 3. Pursue private funding.
 4. Complete the process internally with pro-bono facilitation.

- *Regional conversations with the President.* These informal meetings will allow regions to discuss any areas of interest to them with the President and the regional representative to the ACLA Board.