

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

ACLA Board of Directors Meeting

February 20, 2006

- President Greenman reported that as follow-up to its annual retreat the ACLA Board will be working with Ben Hodes to formalize its own board development. This will include a recruiting and orientation plan, a self-assessment tool, and other items. This is part of ACLA's participation in the Board Training program with Duquesne University.
- The Board set a special meeting of the General Membership for 7:30 p.m. on April 17 (location to be determined). At this meeting the Standards / Funding Task Force will provide the draft formula with 2005 data. This will be an informational and feedback meeting. Voting will not occur until the May 31 General Membership meeting.
- The Board discussed how to ensure that libraries receive all Regional Use Reimbursement payments within the calendar year. ACLA is now utilizing the State's preferred method of calculating actuals rather than samplings. Libraries will receive payment following each of the 1st three quarters once actuals for those quarters have been calculated by eiNetwork. In order to transition to this model the current year will include one payment in the 4th quarter based on the final quarter of 2005.
- The Board reviewed a mapping of countywide funding sources and discussed the process(es) whereby the various funds are negotiated annually.
- ACLA has been approached by its landlord about consolidating its operations to a single side of the building. The Board approved the change based on programmatic and security reasons. The change is scheduled to occur in April.
- The Board discussed at length the situation of the Braddock Library. Services have declined significantly over the past three years (hours have been cut in half, staffing has been reduced, and collection expenditures have fallen below minimum standard). In addition the 2004 financials in the State Report did not agree with the Library's 2004 audit. The ACLA Board holds fiduciary responsibility in ensuring that ARAD and State funds are used exclusively for library operations. The potential of misallocation or misappropriation of those funds by a member library is cause for concern and review. The Executive Director was asked to meet with the Braddock Library Board to communicate that while the ACLA Board wishes to assist Braddock in finding a way to ensure continuation of local library service that its first obligation is one of fiduciary responsibility to the ARAD and State. The Library must demonstrate allocation of funds consistent with GAAP guidelines and in accordance with the mandates on funds set by the ARAD and State or risk forfeiture of those funds. In addition, the Library must maintain minimum standards. These are local library choices. Options for preserving service in Braddock should be discussed with the Library, including affiliating with another library.