North Country Library Directors’ Organization
January 13, 2016

**Attending @ NCLS:** Eileen Mathys (CRO), Jessica Godfrey (SCR), Margaret McKay (ADM), Tracy Tanner (PHI), Donna Miller (ORW), Yvonne Reff (WAT), Rebecca Gauge (CLA), Jen Thomas (DEX), Kristy Perry (THE), Linda Adams (GOU), Michelle McLagan (LIS), Dorothy Dineen (MEX), Margaret Weigel (PUL), Sandy Lamb (BLR), Leona Chereshnoski (OSC), Mary Bidwell (HEN)

**Video Conferencing from POT:** Sarah Sachs (POT), Elaine Dunne Thayer (MAS), Emily Owen (CAN), Duffy Ashley (MAd), Pat Musante (POT)

**Video Conferencing from CAR:** Linda (CAR)

**Video Conferencing from OSW:** Carol Ferlito (OSW)

**Via Lifesize cloud:** Betty Maute (FUL), Beverly Ripka (WMT)

**NCLS STAFF:** Paulette Roes, Matt Corey, Angela Newman, Iolene Tripp, Jerry Schell, Steve Bolton

The January 13, 2016 meeting of the North Country Library Directors’ Organization was called to order at 1:27 P.M. by President Penny Kerfien. A motion to approve the minutes from the September 29, 2015 meeting was made by Kristy Perry (THE) and seconded by Leona Chereshnoski (OSC). It was carried. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Sandy Lamb (BLK) and seconded by Margaret McKay (ADM). All agreed.

Steve Bolton, Director NCLS, reported that **NYLA Organizational memberships** will be paid for by the system by request. Please return the form that was sent out to NCLS.

**Incentive Grant** is being revived. There will be a separate page on the website for the qualifications for the grant. The original email sent out by Steve also had attachments which explained the grant.

**Lobby Day stipends** will be available for the March 2, 2016 day in Albany. An email will be out soon with more information. Steve encourage all to attend to speak with officials about what our libraries are doing, thank them for funding received, and advocate for continued funding or increases.
A **Plan of Service for NCLS** needs to be submitted to Albany. A Committee needs to be formed and a survey being sent out to help with the preparation of the plan. Steve called for Volunteers to serve on the committee. Volunteering were Michelle McLagan (LIS), Sandy Lamb (BLK), Carol Ferlito (OSW), Dawn Myers (LOW), and Yvonne Reff (WAT).

**Legislative Budget** will be released tomorrow so we will know how libraries will do in the State Budget. Look for Steve’s emails. Libraries have asked for all libraries to get the same increase as schools since we are all educational institutions. We are asking for an increase in Construction Grant aid from $14 million to $30 million. We are also working on changing the percentage for the grants for small libraries and how the grants can be spent.

Jerry Schell spoke about the **Fiber Optic Project**. Jerry stated that 24 libraries have committed and 10 more are in the process of discussing with their boards but most seemed favorable. Required in order to be included in the initial 470 application for the fiber is the Letter of Agency to NCLS by January 22. Libraries also need January 13, 2016 to log in to Erate Landing Page then stop and inform NCLS that you have done so. If you haven’t spoke up yet and are interested in joining, please let NCLS know you are considering. If you are looking for upgrading your internet Jerry can help just let him know. Jerry Schell answered questions on the Fiber Optic project.

1. What is the timeline: ERate Commitment in June, then 3 to 4 month to roll out. Sometime in fall you could be connected.
2. What if a library wants to come on later? Yes there will be opportunities to come on later, but it may be after the initial contract has expired. It depends on the vendor who wins the bid, and what the E-rate rules are for modifying a contract.
3. What if a library wants to drop fiber? NCLS is asking for a 3 year contract and ask that you stay for the remainder of the contract. There will be a penalty for leaving.
4. To bring Fiber to the Building is there going to be any wiring or building requirements: Wall mounted equip rack will need to be mounted somewhere, conduit will need to be run, holes in walls may need to be drilled.
5. Will libraries have to pay this cost out of pocket or is that included in the installation: NCLS is looking into funding to cover all of these costs. The only cost to libraries will be the $150 to $175 estimated monthly. If they can’t arrange funding we can’t move ahead
with the project.

**Libraries that are using the Collections** – how is it working? Discussion was at JAB meeting and no further comments were made.

**Announcements:** Oswego is having problems with teens and asked if anyone has hired security and if they were civil services or not. Carol would like any library to get back to her by email or phone any time. Most teens that are doing damage are not library card holders. Angela suggested hiring a young adult librarian to prevent problems by keeping them active. Penny shared her problems with teens at her library and the damage it caused. Eileen shared that Watertown has paid security and suggested that Carol speak to Yvonne. Tracy Tanner shared that Matt sent an email about Scola resources for teaching foreign languages that were being offered to individual libraries at $100 which is normally $750. Patron can access from home. Tracy recommends highly. Tracy will send the link out by email. Since JAB is now meeting March June & September. Penny suggested that we keep with the March & June and October at the Annual Meeting. Motion made Sandy (BLK) seconded Linda Adams (Gou) Motion passed.

Leona – concerned about the Erate for phone is not easy. Concerned as we are losing Megs help. There is a two hour video for ERate help. Jessica Godfrey (SCR) will be send out email with link for this. It was suggested that we have a network or committee to help each other with erate. Jessica Godfrey (SCR) has volunteered to help with the erate phone filing. Penny Kerfien also offered to help. NCLS will be helping with internet filing.

The next meeting will be held on **June 14** following the JAB meeting. Leona (OSC) moved for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Myers, Secretary