

NDLA Public Library Section Annual Report (#12)
September 12, 2007
Kelly Steckler, Chair

State Aid has been at the forefront of public library issues this year. Public library directors, trustees and commissioners met on May 5, 2007 to formulate a plan for reinstating State Aid funding. Lobbying legislators will be imperative before and during session. I will serve on a panel at conference to update members about State Aid.

The group formulated the following plan:

- Developed wording conducive to reinstating an equitable state aid package, thus returning it to its original formula and making it equitable for all ND public libraries;
- Creating emergency legislation to reinstate State Aid immediately in January when session begins;
- NDLA requested the State Library to request an additional \$200,000 in the State Aid package for FY2007;
- Retroactive funding for 2006 - Minot Public Library formed a committee that will lobby for retroactive funding which may return FY2005 State Aid; contact Jerry Kaup if you're willing to help.

Reviewed the handbook for North Dakota Public Library Board members.
Recommended that it be used as a training tool for all trustees and directors.

A subcommittee was assigned to review the public library standards. Jerry Kaup from Minot Public Library, Janice Sayers from Grand Forks Public Library, and Kelly Steckler from Mandan Public Library, served on the subcommittee. Discussion included specific statistical data use in support of libraries when working with Trustees. A report on findings will be given at the section meeting.

Chair-elect, Jake Fejedelem, is conducting two programs at conference: *Overcoming the Fear of Weeding* and *What is Manga Anyway?*

Thank you to those who ran for office. Finding volunteers is a difficult and critical task for our organization's benefit.

Incoming 2007 officers:

Chair -- Jake Fejedelem, Fargo Public Library

Chair-elect – Bonnie MacIver, Leach Public Library, Wahpeton

Secretary – Kathy Vander Vorst, Bismarck Public Library