



Administration:

- *Budget:* The Board approved the budget on December 19, 2016. We are now waiting for the audit to be completed. Additionally, I have added to this report a special report on libraries and tax capture.
- *State Aid:* Completed the State Aid Report.
- *Branch visits:* In order to provide the best service to the branches, the Administrative Team, consisting of John Rucker, Kimberly Feltner, and myself have begun a more thoughtful schedule for reaching out to the branches. The first Wednesday of the month, Kimberly will visit them; the second Wednesday of the month, John will visit them; the third Wednesday of the month, I will visit them; the branch managers all meet after the staff meeting on the Monday after the staff meeting.
- Circulation is down but attendance at programs is up. This emphasizes the importance of family library programs, as well as the role of the library as a community center. Foot traffic for these types of events and resources is higher than ever in many public libraries.

Meetings:

I attended the following meetings:

- Altrusa meeting: Main speaker on library services to teens
- Toured Tibbits Opera House with Executive Director
- Met with Kiwanis to discuss plans for 2017, mainly concerning literacy and how they can help
- BDL Personnel Committee
- BDL Building Committee
- Quincy Library Board
- Alganssee Library Board
- Branch County Commissioners
- Kinderhook Township meeting

Building:

- Robin Cline replaced the stairway carpet.
- There will be a BDL Building Committee meeting on Monday, January 16, at 4:00 PM to discuss Coldwater Branch building concerns and priorities of repairs.
- The guttering at the Quincy Branch has been completed and is quite stunning with the shiny copper drainpipes. The crew is not finished with the rest of the repairs.
- The wheelchair ramp at Alganssee needs to be raised. There was a gigantic pool of water at the entrance of the ramp. The ramp was paid for out of Capital Funds and was installed after the Board approved the purchase on November 20, 2006.

Programs:

- Sat in on Storytime with Linda Dull. If you ever find yourself having a hard day, take some time out to attend one of these—there is nothing like little children having fun while they are learning to brighten your day! Linda does a great job with these little ones—keeping them interested, moving, and entertained.

As it is in many other organizations, December in the library world is typically slow. This gives us a great opportunity to catch up and clean up. On the personal side, my daughter was in town for several days,

therefore, I took off for that, and then, I successfully caught the cold of which my husband has been trying to get rid and was down a few days when it turned into a sinus infection.

Submitted by Linda Lyshol

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "L Lyshol". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Submitted by Linda Lyshol".



GOVERNOR SNYDER SIGNS LIBRARY TAX CAPTURE RELIEF BILLS

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Governor Rick Snyder signed into law SB 619-624 now PA 505-510 providing for specially dedicated library millages to be exempt from a number of tax captures. Through the outstanding efforts of hundreds of MLA members and dedicated librarians, your Michigan Library Association and the GCSI team, we were able to accomplish a goal this organization has been working toward for more than two decades.

Libraries were the only special millage given consideration for exemption (only the fourth historically) from tax capture. This is an incredible recognition by the Michigan legislature of the importance of libraries in this state.

We extend our appreciation to:

- Governor Rick Snyder for signing this legislation into law
- Senator Jack Brandenburg (R-Harrison Township) for his extraordinary work on behalf of libraries
- Bill sponsors: Sen. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake), Sen. Jim Marleau (R-Lake Orion), Sen. Pete MacGregor (R-Rockford), Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), Sen. Jim Stamas (R-Midland), and Sen. David Robertson (R-Grand Blanc).
- And to the Michigan legislature for their unwavering support of our libraries.



And finally, thank you MLA members and library supporters. Without our collective efforts led by outstanding librarian leadership and a very dedicated MLA, this success would not have been possible.

This legislation means millions of future tax dollars will go to our libraries. The legislation pertains to: 1980 PA 450 Tax Increment Finance Authority Act; 1975 PA 197 Downtown Development Authority; 2005 PA 280 Corridor Improvement Authority Act; 2008 PA 94 Water Resource Improvement Tax Increment Finance Authority Act; 1986 PA 281 The Local Development Financing Act; and 2004 PA 530 Historical Neighborhood Tax Increment Financing Authority Act. Under the new laws:

1. Libraries are exempt from all new tax capture. A library may choose to participate (opt in).
 - Exception: City libraries established under PA 164 section 1 or 10 a (MCL 25 397.201 and 397.210A) or established under 1869 LA 233 should continue to work with their city leadership on an opt out plan if that is their choice.
2. A library may now opt out of any current tax capture when it changes either its boundaries or extends the duration of an existing finance plan.
3. Libraries are exempted from any current tax capture if the tax capture authority has no current outstanding debt obligation.

These accomplishments are a tremendous first step and our work continues on this important issue.

Please take a moment to contact Governor Snyder and thank him for supporting libraries.

To contact the governor today, go to <http://cqrcengage.com/alami/action> and click the "Take Action" button.

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