

Central Minnesota Libraries Exchange
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 10:30 am
Great River Regional Library

Members Present: Jayne Dietz, Karen Lee, Karen Pundsack, Lynn Growing
CMLE Director Melissa Brechon present

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Jayne Dietz at 10:30 am. Karen Lee made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Karen Pundsack. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was the review of submitted Management Proposals. Two proposals were submitted: Resource Training and Solutions and East Central Regional Library. The pros and cons of each proposal were discussed.

East Central Regional Library:

Pro: It has worked to have the interim position housed at ECRL, line item budget issues have been resolved and we are headed into a cleaner audit than last year, least amount of disruption.

Con: Conflict of interest (ECRL and GRRL are both consolidated public library regions and this would cause complications with CMLE Board structure), having CMLE officially located in Cambridge would give the appearance of favoritism (logistical issues). Set up by mission to serve the public (not other libraries).

Resource Training and Solutions:

Pro: Set up (by mission) to respond to schools in the CMLE area, various people would provide level of expertise, Interim Director would help with the transition, neutral office location, current staff have expertise to respond to school media needs (after completion of a strategic plan), and would

similar footprint and experience in serving this region. This organization has experience and connections with school libraries. As management, Resource Training would improve CMLE's ability to connect with these libraries.

Con: Need one person to contact with the Board from RT&St (Interim Director will request change in management contract to reflect this request.)

The Executive Board will recommend that CMLE moves forward with the Resource Training and Solution Management Services Agreement.

Melissa Brechon indicated that she would meet with Mark Schmitz at Resource to confirm the requirements.

The recommended proposal will be submitted to the CMLE Board at the June 18th meeting for approval.

The second agenda item was a discussion of the grant guidelines. There is a desire among committee members to give out these grants on an equitable basis and discussion involved how to do that. Of the original \$93,000, \$41,566 has been granted, with \$42,799 still to be awarded. There was general agreement that Resource Training will be able to provide better communication opportunities with school libraries. This will increase grant awareness and more applications.

Prior to adjourning, the group thanked Melissa Brechon for her excellent work on behalf of CMLE.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 by Jayne Dietz.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Lynn Grewing.