

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH LIBRARY BOARD

Chairperson – Ann Yadon – Trapper Creek  
Vice Chair – Diane Holl-Rambo – Talkeetna  
Secretary – Paige Moore - Big Lake

VACANT - Sutton  
Susan Pougher - Palmer  
VACANT - Wasilla

Carol Goltz - Willow  
VACANT – At Large 1  
Georgia Knazovich – At Large 2

## AGENDA

### **REGULAR MEETING Palmer**

**March 21, 2020  
10:00 am**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING
  - A. January 18, 2020
  - B. February 15, 2020
- VI. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS
  - A. Hugh Leslie
- VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – 3 minutes per person
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Staff Support
  - B. Overdue Fines
  - C. Being Review of Strategic Plan
  - D. Membership
- X. ADVOCACY
  - A. Current Needs
  - B. Other Information
- XI. CORRESPONDENCE
- XII. MEMBER COMMENTS
- XIII. NEXT MEETING
  - A. April 18, 2020 - Willow
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT

1 **MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
2 **LIBRARY BOARD**  
3

4 **Chairperson** – Ann Yadon – Trapper Creek  
5 **Vice Chair** – Diane Holl-Rambo – Talkeetna  
6 **Secretary** – Paige Moore - Big Lake

VACANT - Sutton  
Susan Pougher - Palmer  
VACANT - Wasilla

Carol Goltz - Willow  
Ruth Strong – At Large 1  
Georgia Knazovich – At Large 2

7 **Draft Minutes**  
8

9 **REGULAR MEETING**  
10 **Big Lake**

**January 18, 2020**  
**10:00 am**

11 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

12 During the January MSBLB meeting, the following actions/discussions occurred:

- 13 • Willow Project updates were reviewed  
14 • 2020 Report to the Assembly presentation and discussion dates were put forth  
15 • FY2021 budgets were discussed and will be discussed further at February’s  
16 meeting  
17 • The open slot on the Governor’s Advisory Council was discussed  
18 • AK Reads Act and library usage rates were discussed  
19

20 I. CALL TO ORDER

21 Meeting was called to order at 9:59 am

22 II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

23 Members present and establishing a quorum were: Ann Yadon, Carol Goltz, Diane Holl-  
24 Rambo, Paige Moore, Susan Pougher and Georgia Knazovich

25 Excused Absence: Ruth Strong

26 Staff Present: Hugh Leslie – Recreation and Library Services Division Manager

27 Beth Skow – Palmer Librarian

28 Zane Treesh – Wasilla Library Director

29 Guest Present: Robin Treesh

30 III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

31 **Motion:** Ms. Yadon moved to amend the agenda to include under Advocacy: A.  
32 Governor’s Advisory Council, B. Alaska Reads Act, C. Thank you from IMLS Director  
33 and D. “But Nobody Uses Libraries Anymore”. Also to include under Correspondence:  
34 C. Creative Writing Contest, D. Miscellaneous Newsletters.

35 **Motion:** Ms. Holl-Rambo moved to approve the agenda as amended, Ms. Pougher, 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
36 All in favor.

37 IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

38 V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

39 A. November 16, 2019

40 Changes requested were:

41 Line 46: thing should be things  
42 Line 58: have should be has  
43 Line 64: thing should be things  
44 Line 73: do something nice for Willow Library Friends  
45 Line 82: report should be reported  
46 Line 84: change e words to enrichment, engagement and encouragement  
47 Line 87: change engage to engagement  
48 Line 90: service should be services, change e words to engagement, education and  
49 empowerment  
50 Line 119: 2019 should be 2020

51 **Motion:** Ms. Knazovich moved to approve the minutes as amended, Ms. Holl-Rambo,  
52 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

53 VI. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS

54 Mr. Leslie reported that the mileage reimbursement forms have been updated for 2020.  
55 He requested that board members turn them in at every, or every other meeting. Mat Su  
56 Borough librarians have submitted their budgets. The architectural design firm for the  
57 Willow Library project should be decided by the next Assembly meeting. Mr. Leslie  
58 noted the possibility of using a portable building provided by the school district as  
59 temporary housing for the library.

60 Mr. Treesh reported that he has been on the job for seven days and been in training for  
61 several of them.

62 VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – 3 minutes per person

63 None.

64 VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

65 A. IT Letter of Support

66 This letter will not be sent.

67 B. FY2020 Report to the Assembly

68 The committee will be using “engagement, education and empowerment” as the three E’s  
69 of our library system. The committee will provide their final draft at the MSBLB OWL  
70 meeting in February. The presentation to the Assembly is estimated to be March 17<sup>th</sup>.

71 **Action Item:** Board members should collect stories and pictures from their libraries that  
72 support the three E’s.

73 **Motion:** Ms. Moore moved to table this item until the February meeting, Ms. Holl-  
74 Rambo, 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

75 IX. NEW BUSINESS

76 A. Handbook Review

77 **Motion:** Ms. Holl-Rambo moved to table this until the February meeting, Ms. Pougher,  
78 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

79 X. ADVOCACY

80 A. Governor's Advisory Council

81 The Library User Representative position is open. It has a three-year term and is  
82 appointed by the Governor. The position is open to former staff, teachers, friends,  
83 trustees, volunteers and any other library users.

84 B. Alaska Read Act

85 This was introduced by Governor Dunleavy and Senator Begich. This is a statewide  
86 reading program for grades K through 3 to help improve reading outcomes. As of yet,  
87 public libraries have not been included.

88 C. Thank you from IMLS Director

89 New IMLS Director is Crosby Kemper.

90 D. "But Nobody Uses Libraries"

91 Ms. Yadon will share the article "Comparative Role of Modern Public Libraries".

92 XI. CORRESPONDENCE

93 A. Letter of Thanks

94 Discussed under Advocacy, C. Thank you from IMLS Director.

95 B. FY21 Budget Worksheets

96 Mr. Leslie outlined how the budgets that are created by each librarian, approved first by  
97 himself and then by Eric Phillips, the Community Development Director. Budgets are  
98 then sent to both the finance department and to John Moosey, the Borough Manager. The  
99 budgets are not seen again until they are brought forth at an Assembly meeting.

100 Mr. Leslie noted that unused funds are returned to the non-area-wide fund at the end of the  
101 fiscal year.

102 Discussion followed, concerning patrons who use city libraries but pay non-area wide  
103 taxes due to their residential location. Determined unresolvable.

104 C. Creative Writing Contest

105 The deadline is February 5, 2020.

106 D. Miscellaneous Newsletters

107 Issue concerning people entering public offices and filming, claiming First Amendment  
108 rights to do so. There is a concern that patron privacy will be impacted.

109 Circulation of hard books is down, but electronic books and audiobooks have increased.  
110 Programming attendance has also increased.

111 There is currently a bill in Missouri, due to be voted on that would create a Parental  
112 Review Board for libraries. The bill includes verbiage about criminal prosecution.

113 XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

114 Ms. Pougher reported the Palmer Library's Bagpipes at Christmas program, put on by the  
115 Friends of the Library, had 150 attendees. In February, the Palmer Library Friends are  
116 sponsoring the Mat Su Symphony to come play at the Palmer Train Depot. Next meeting  
117 for them is February 20<sup>th</sup>.

118 Ms. Yadon reported that the Trapper Creek change of hours seems to be working well  
119 and that afterschool programming is also going well.

120 Ms. Knazovich reported that the Wasilla Library's book sales have gone up.  
121 Ms. Goltz reported that the Association is looking into liability insurance, although it  
122 may be covered under their 501c3 status.

123 Ms. Holl-Rambo reported that Talkeetna programming is going well, the Senior Matinee  
124 program is ongoing and the cookie decorating at Christmas was well attended. Coming in  
125 March is the birthday of the Talkeetna Library. The K through 3 mentoring program  
126 consistently has 14-16 kids in attendance. The transit authority provides transportation as  
127 the school busses cannot maneuver properly in the library parking lot.

128 Ms. Moore reported that since there is a new contact in IT specifically for the libraries,  
129 things have been going well. Programs are going well. A new custodian has finally been  
130 hired and thanks to on-call staff who have stepped in in the interim. The final picture that  
131 fell during the earthquake has been put back up. One camera had a fly larvae inside it,  
132 which was visible on the camera and was dubbed "Larry the Larvae". The company who  
133 maintains the cameras came to clean it out and seal the hole where the fly had gotten in.

134 XIII. NEXT MEETING

135 A. February 15, 2020 - OWL

136 XIV. ADJOURNMENT

137 **Motion:** Ms. Knazovich moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Holl-Rambo, 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in  
138 favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:53 am.

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2 LIBRARY BOARD

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4 Vice Chair — Diane Holl-Rambo — Talkeetna Susan Pougher - Palmer VACANT — At Large 1  
5 Secretary — Paige Moore - Big Lake VACANT - Wasilla Georgia Knazovich— At Large 2

6 **DRAFT MINUTES**

7 **REGULAR MEETING**  
8 **Big Lake**

**February 15, 2020**  
**10:00 A.M.**

9  
10 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

11 During the February MSBLB meeting, the following actions/discussions occurred:

- 12 • Handbook was approved as it stands.
- 13 • Resolution 20-01 in support of the Recreation and Library Services Division
- 14 annual budget for libraries for FY21 approved.
- 15 • Advocacy discussion included proposed cut of funding for IMLS, Alaska
- 16 Counts Census information, and Ebooks for all update.

17  
18  
19 **I. CALL TO ORDER**

20 **II.** Meeting called to order at 10:04 am.

21 **III. ROLL CALL — DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

22 **A.** Members present and establishing a quorum were: Ann Yadon, Carol Goltz, Diane  
23 Holl-Rambo, Paige Moore, Susan Pougher

24 Excused absence: Georgia Knazovich

25 Staff present: Hugh Leslie, Recreation and Library Services Manager

26 Beth Skow: Palmer Librarian

27 Juli Buzby: Sutton Librarian

28 Jo Cassidy: Big Lake Librarian

29 Julie Mitchell: Willow Librarian

30 Cassidy Owen: Talkeetna Assistant Librarian

31 Geri Denkwalter: Talkeetna Librarian

32 Zane Treesh: Wasilla Library Director

33 **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

34 **Motion:** to approve agenda as it stands, Ms. Goltz moved, Ms. Holl-Rambo 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
35 All in favor

36 **V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

37 **VI. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

38 **A.** January 18, 2020

39 Ms. Moore reported that the minutes under review had been altered from the ones she  
40 submitted. Several areas of discrepancies existed which were determined to be a significant  
41 change creating inaccuracies in the minutes. Discussion about how to review and correct  
42 these areas ensued. Ms. Moore stated she would fix the errors and resubmit the notes for  
43 approval in March.

44  
45 **Motion:** to table the review of these minutes until the March meeting, Ms. Moore moved,  
46 Ms. Holl-Rambo 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

47 VII. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS

- 48 A. Hugh Leslie, Recreation and Library Services Manager, reported that for FY2021, no  
49 reduction of staff and no reduction of any kind are being discussed. Willow project  
50 moving forward.  
51 B. Beth Skow, Palmer Library Director had nothing to report.  
52 C. Zane Treesh, Wasilla Library Director, reported the secondary gate is up and running  
53 again. It had been down since the earthquake in November 2018. The library budget is  
54 consistent with previous year. A 20 hour per week staff position is being added. The 4  
55 story time programs logged over 150 attendees. The Wasilla Library will be working  
56 closely with the Wasilla Museum.  
57 D. Juli Buzby, Sutton Librarian, reported that they have a new Sutton Library Board  
58 Member, Nicole Pease. Programming, like adult programs, every other week game  
59 night, and armchair travelers are being added and doing well.  
60 E. Julie Mitchell, Willow Librarian, reported that they are deeply into the design process.  
61 There will be a public meeting on March 4 from 5pm to 7pm in the Willow  
62 Community Center, with refreshments. ECI is the architecture design firm for the  
63 project.  
64 F. Jo Cassidy, Big Lake Librarian, reported that IT was out to the library to change out  
65 switches and IP addresses, OWL had been missed. Several issues since to be worked  
66 on.  
67 G. Geri Denkwalter, Talkeetna Librarian, reported the library was to host a public  
68 speaking class, Census training. Fishing licenses can now be obtained online.

69 VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION —3 minutes per person

70 NONE

71 VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

72 A. FY2020 Report to Assembly

73 Ms. Yadon asked librarians and board members if the direction of the presentation  
74 was accurate. Generally, the librarians and board members agreed it was great,  
75 and thanked the committee for their hard work. Ms. Moore raised the idea of  
76 summarizing some of the larger quotes instead of reading them since they would  
77 be on the screen anyway. Ms. Yadon asked for all commentary to be in to her by  
78 February 21.

79  
80 Mr. Leslie informed the board that it items to be added to the agenda of an  
81 Assembly meeting should be to the clerk 2 weeks prior.

82 **Motion:** to proceed in the current direction, Ms. Holl-Rambo moved, Ms. Goltz  
83 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

84 B. Handbook Review

85 Discussion determined no changes needed.

86 **Motion:** to approve the handbook as it stands, Ms. Moore moved, Ms. Holl-Rambo  
87 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor

88 X. NEW BUSINESS

89 A. Resolution 20-01: in support of the Recreation and Library Services Division annual  
90 budget for libraries for FY21.

91 **Motion:** to approve the resolution as it stands, Ms. Pougher moved, Ms. Goltz 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in  
92 favor.

93 **Vote:** to approve the resolution, all in favor, Resolution is accepted.

94 XI. ADVOCACY

95 Ms. Yadon reported:

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- Kaktovik is working to repair damages caused by the fire and requests no book donations as of yet.
  - The Ninth Circuit Civics Contest has a deadline for submission of March 25, 2020. Of note, Alaskan students won first prize in 2017 and 2019.
  - There is a new OWL support technician, Kyle Williams.
  - The federal 2021 budget has once again deleted funding from IMLS and other library -eligible education programs. In Alaska alone, the IMLS distributes nearly \$1M to the Alaska State Library for grant-funded projects such as the 800#ILL Backup, Alaska Mail Services, the Ready-to Read Resource Center, purchases of databases on SLED, CE grants, and many other activities that benefit libraries across Alaska. The advocacy package that was mailed includes a petition that you may sign if you wish and also to forward to other advocates for libraries. That petition is a function of EveryLibrary.org, which is a 501(c)4 organization. Advocates may also directly contact their legislators if so desired to ask that funding be restored to IMLS.
  - Alaska Counts sent an email from Daniel Cornwall about the first official PSA (public service announcement). The email lists several benefits of participating in the census which may be worth sharing with others.
  - The Rhode Island Library Association contacted their representative and met with him to explain how harmful the publishers' restrictions on eBooks was for Rhode Islanders. The US House Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law asked ALA to contribute to their investigation into competition in the digital marketplace.

124 XII. CORRESPONDENCE

125 NONE

126 XIII. MEMBER COMMENTS

127 Ms. Yadon reported that Talkeetna's change in hours on Saturday has worked well.  
128 Programming also doing well.

129 Ms Moore reported that Big Lake's programs are doing well and that a recent Craft  
130 Day activity of making playdough without cooking or hot water was a huge success.

131 Ms. Goltz reported that they have had their third design meeting. There will be an  
132 open house March 4, with ECI facilitating. Thanks given to Talkeetna Library for the field  
133 trip of members of the Association, a great time was had by all attendees. The Association  
134 is still looking into insurance information. Question raised about thank you cards for  
135 members who have termed out or resigned, Ms. Yadon agreed that thanking past members  
136 was a good idea and would be discussed at next meeting.

137 Ms. Pougher reported that Palmer is a busy library. Friends of the Library and Staff  
138 have created a Saturday reading time for kids presented by community members, with  
139 firefighters, mushers and the like invited to present. The fund raiser of the Symphony at  
140 the Train Station made close to \$900 for the Friends of the Library.

141 Ms. Holl-Rambo reported that the Librarian for Talkeetna has a radio program that  
142 discusses book clubs, programs and has people lined up to interview

143 XIV. NEXT MEETING

144 A. March 21, 2020—Palmer

145 XV. ADJOURNMENT

146 MOTION to adjourn Ms. Pougher moved, Ms. Moore 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Meeting  
147 adjourned at 10:55am .

[ADV] ALA Advocacy Alert: Email Your Senators February 24, 2020 8:48 AM  
(Copy)

From: ALA Public Policy & Advocacy Office

To: Yadon@mtaonline.net

## Advocacy Alert: Email Your Senators

Dear Ann,

The process for the 2021 federal budget is now in full swing, and we have another important update on the fight to #FundLibraries: the "Dear Appropriator" letters have been released in the Senate. Now, Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI), Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), and Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) are asking their colleagues to show public support for America's libraries by co-signing their letters.

**We need your help to keep libraries across America funded. Please email Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R) and Sen. Daniel Sullivan (R) and urge them to sign these letters and #FundLibraries.**

Members of Congress rely heavily on constituent feedback to determine funding priorities during the budget cycle, which is why it's so critical to make sure your message is heard loud and clear. **Will you join us and urge your Senators to sign on and support library funding?**

We will continue to provide you with updates and alerts on the #FundLibraries campaign, so keep an eye out for more opportunities to remind Congress why library funding is so important.

Thank you for standing with the library community,

ALA's Public Policy & Advocacy Team

### Contact Us

ALA Public Policy & Advocacy Office  
1615 New Hampshire Ave NW, 1st Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20009-2520  
Phone: (202) 628-8410

### Subscribe

Ready to take action?  
[Subscribe to our Action Center.](#)

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[ADV] ALA Advocacy Alert: Thank Your Representative!

February 26, 2020 7:38 AM

From: ALA Public Policy & Advocacy Office

To: Yadon@mtaonline.net

## Advocacy Alert: Your Representative Supports Funding For IAL and LSTA!

Dear Ann,

We have incredible news! Thanks to your support, Rep. Don Young (R) has signed both of this year's "Dear Appropriator" letters in support of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program.

### [Can you take a moment to thank your representative for supporting the library community?](#)

Advocates like you are crucial in the fight for library funding - we're incredibly grateful for the work you've done to tell Congress to #FundLibraries. [Thanking Rep. Don Young \(R\) is a great way to remind Congress that library advocates aren't going away, and neither should our funding.](#)

Keep an eye out for more #FundLibraries updates as we continue to monitor the budget process.

Thank you for advocating for the library community,

ALA's Public Policy & Advocacy Team

#### **Contact Us**

ALA Public Policy & Advocacy Office  
1615 New Hampshire Ave NW, 1st Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20009-2520  
Phone: (202) 628-8410

#### **Subscribe**

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FROM THE FRIDAY, 2/21/2020 Friday Bulletin News from the Alaska State Libraries, Archives, & Museums

<https://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin/issues/February-21-2020#DivAnchor4>

(Note: The OWL librarian is a different position from the OWL video support technician reported last month.)

The Alaska State Library is pleased to announce the hire of Jack Kovaleski as our new OWL Librarian. He is moving from Indiana to Juneau, Alaska and will start here on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. We asked Jack to introduce himself and here is what he had to say:

Hello, Alaska! For the past seven years I have worked to make library resources and services available to the people of Monroe County, Indiana. I recently completed a Master of Library Science at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Most recently, I have been working at the IU Libraries Moving Image Archive creating metadata and description for digital scans of educational films. In one of my favorite roles at the local public library, I performed outreach duties such as driving the bookmobile to reach geographically remote and other underserved populations in the county. One of my favorite reading interests is poetry. My favorite book of poetry I read in 2019 was Ada Limón's *The Carrying*. I am delighted to join the State Library and to serve the state employees, librarians and community members of Alaska.

We hope you will welcome Jack to the Alaska library community as he starts his new duties. We are very excited to have him start here. Which brings us to the next part of this article.

The OWL Librarian position is one of the re-alignments that happened as a result of last year's budget cycle and ongoing staffing needs. Jack will spend 40% of his time on OWL, eventually taking over much of the day to day communication with libraries, internet service providers, videoconferencing staff, etc. Daniel Cornwall will retain the overall management of OWL and take lead in policy calls. About 50% of Jack's time will be spent on digital projects production work for the Alaska State Library. It's this digital project piece that has us excited about Jack's previous work in this area. The remaining time will be other duties as assigned.

Daniel's position has also been realigned. While his OWL time has been reduced, he will still continue to provide technology and internet consulting and training to libraries. He will also be doing digital projects work for the Alaska State Library, focusing on prototyping, designing workflows and troubleshooting.



[AkLA-L] Smithsonian Open Access to Images

February 29, 2020 12:02 PM

From: akllalist on behalf of Frederiksen, Patience A

To: akllalist

Cc: EED LAM-ALL

**Welcome to Smithsonian Open Access**, where you can download, share, and reuse millions of the Smithsonian's images—right now, without asking. With new platforms and tools, you have easier access to nearly 3 million 2D and 3D digital items from our collections—with many more to come. This includes images and data from across the Smithsonian's 19 museums, nine research centers, libraries, archives, and the National Zoo.

<https://www.si.edu/openaccess>

A search on Alaska brought up nearly 63,000 images and 232 videos, such as President Harding Tours Alaska in a Specially Adapted Car.

If you indicate you want just open access materials, the number of images drop to 36,000 and no videos.

Patience

Patience Frederiksen, Director  
*Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (LAM)*

phone: 907.465.2911 fax: 907.465.2151  
email: [patience.frederiksen@alaska.gov](mailto:patience.frederiksen@alaska.gov)

Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building  
PO Box 110571, Juneau, AK 99811-0571

Excellent customer service. Support for LAMs statewide. Professional development.



[AkLA-L] Members Sought for Public Library Data Alliance February 29, 2020 9:21 AM

From: [aklalist](#) on behalf of [Niederhauser, Julie M \(EED\)](#)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**28 February 2020 Media Contact:**

**Timothy Cherubini**

[tcherubini@cosla.org](mailto:tcherubini@cosla.org)

**859 514 9826**

**Founding Members Sought for Public Library Data Alliance, New National Coordinating Group**

**Apply online now through April 10**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLDAOpen>

LEXINGTON, KY — Recruitment is now open for interested librarians and others to serve on the initial iteration of the Public Library Data Alliance, an alliance of library stakeholders conceived to provide thought leadership and strategic vision regarding the collection of data related to

public libraries nationwide. The Alliance is seeking applications from librarians, library data analysts, researchers, state data coordinators and others interested in public library data collection and use. Once formed, the Alliance will continue the work of the Measures that Matter initiative which is focused on aligning public library data gathering with the needs of the wide range of communities public libraries serve.

The Alliance represents a new way of working on a complex topic. Its vision includes promoting coordination, commitment, resources and momentum. It will not duplicate the efforts of existing organizations, such as those at the Institute for Museum and Library Science or the Public Library Association. Nor is it a data collecting organization; instead, it will serve a coordinating function, proposing strategic action and creating a communications infrastructure for the field.

The Alliance seeks members who represent the breadth of public libraries, including urban and rural, large and small. It also seeks applications from library administrators, data analysts, state data coordinators, researchers, library funding organizations, and civic leaders, educators, and others not directly working in the library field but who hold interest in public library data, especially the power of it when combined with other data sources. Initially, members will have staggered terms of one to three years before moving to three-years terms for all members. This will ensure that the members maintain critical history and avoid wholesale membership turnover.

“Diverse talents are important for the initial formation of the Alliance,” notes Timothy Cherubini, Executive Director of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies and coordinator of the Measures that Matter initiative. “This will set the stage for broad thinking around the needs, challenges, and ideas of those who collect and use public library data routinely. We also are interested in applicants who may not work in libraries but have a passion for public libraries and expertise that would help us reach our goals.”

In addition to representatives from library associations, the Alliance will comprise up to 10 additional individuals recruited through this process. These founding members will work initially from ideas and concepts put forward by the Measures that Matter Action Plan Implementation Group, refining them for productivity, relevance, and sustainability. For at least its first year the Alliance will be supported through funding provided to Measures that Matter by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administrative support through the National Information Standards Organizations. Joining the Alliance will require a commitment to periodic conference calls and occasional in-person meetings. As in previous stages of the Measures that Matter initiative, the Alliance will explore topics and issues primarily from a strategic perspective and will encourage and support new working groups or existing organizations to implement tactics in pursuit of shared objectives. Alliance members may serve on or sponsor working groups and will assist in advising on topics and ideas brought forward by other organizations. The first meeting of the Alliance will be in person mid-to late 2020 and is funded to ensure that all members can attend.

## Timeline

Anyone who is interested in serving on the Alliance should complete an online application at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLDAOpen>. The deadline for applicants is **April 10th**. Applications will be reviewed during April, with an announcement of the Alliance's makeup and its initial meeting to come in early May.

## About the Public Library Data Alliance

The Alliance grows out of the Measures that Matter initiative, which seeks to address the short- and long-term challenges to public library data collection and use. Launched through a collaboration between the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Measures that Matter brings together key representatives within the library world to consider the current state of data collection and its ability to provide useful information about public libraries' value. The initiative's action plan, which can be found at <https://measurethatmatter.net>, includes four key areas for action including forming the Public Library Data Alliance, which will lead future advisory work on data collection, analysis, and communication.

The Public Library Data Alliance is endorsed by five national library organizations: The American Library Association, the Public Library Association, both based in Chicago; the Association for Rural and Small Libraries of Whitehall, Mi.; the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies of Lexington, Ky.; and the Urban Libraries Council of Washington, D.C. The Institute of Museum and Library Services will maintain a liaison role with the Alliance, and the National Information Standards Organization will serve as the Alliance's Secretariat for its first year.

For more information on Measures that Matter and the Public Library Data Alliance visit <https://measurethatmatter.net>.

Measures that Matter is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services  
RE-0016-0181-16

Julie M. Niederhauser  
*Public Library Coordinator*

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**phone:** 907.465.2916

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***An excellent library in every community for every Alaskan.***

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From: ALA Direct 2/18/2020

## Global soldiers fighting fake news

Joel D. Shoemaker (right), director of the Illinois Prairie District Public Library in Metamora, found out late in 2019 he was appointed to an international advisory board for [NewsGuard Technologies](#). The two-year-old firm created NewsGuard, a browser extension that judges news sources' trustworthiness. Shoemaker's library uses NewsGuard on its computers. He is among eight library-affiliated people who are advising the NewsGuard News Literacy Program, which now features partnerships with about 700 public libraries in the US and elsewhere. "I think they wanted maybe a rural perspective on this new board," Shoemaker said....

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## National Library Week is April 19-25

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**From the Anchorage Press, Feb 26, 2020**

[https://www.anchoragepress.com/bulletin/alaska-s-libraries-are-more-relevant-than-ever-as-partnership/article\\_6863f55a-5903-11ea-aa52-c7dd46d5aee5.html](https://www.anchoragepress.com/bulletin/alaska-s-libraries-are-more-relevant-than-ever-as-partnership/article_6863f55a-5903-11ea-aa52-c7dd46d5aee5.html)

# Alaska's libraries are more relevant than ever, as partnership with Google shows

Loussac Public Library will host a free workshop from 'Grow with Google on March 5

- Patience Frederiksen, State Librarian
- Feb 26, 2020

If you haven't visited your local library in a while, you might be surprised to see what a busy, vibrant place it is. Many libraries in Alaska are downright crowded much of the time. Libraries today are more like community centers or university commons, where people gather to meet, bring their children for toddler play areas, story times, games, and access to our connected world.

It's true, a library is still the best place to feed your hunger for books, but we've put a lot of effort into expanding our offerings, staying current with our times and, more to the point, into answering the needs of modern Alaskans. The average library in our state is a tech-savvy source of information, education and fun.

We've revolutionized many aspects of simply using a library, from high-tech machines that allow people to check out their own books, movies and other materials to cool conveyor belts where you can drop returned items that are quickly whisked away to some mysterious place and magically reappear on the shelves. (The magic is actually performed the old-fashioned way: staff members simply take things off the conveyor belt and put them back on the shelf. But it sure is fun to watch and makes for an easy way to drop off materials.)

Most of Alaska's libraries participate in the Alaska Library Catalog, that allows you to search for more than 3 million books from the comfort of home or anywhere you have an internet connection. Use your library card to place a hold on any title in the Catalog and staff will ship books or other materials to your local library for pickup. Grab it, check it out electronically and you'll be back in your car again in less time than it takes to walk into a coffee shop and get a cappuccino.

Have a hankering for audiobooks or ebooks? Go to the Alaska Digital Library to download books to read on your smartphone or e-reader. Better yet, the libraries pay so this is a free service for you and your family.

As Alaskans, we can take a lot of pride in the great resource our libraries have become. Libraries continue to provide books and magazines, but now Alaska's libraries offer a huge range of activities and resources, all free for residents, including computers and internet access for conducting research, looking for a new career or simply exploring the worldwide web.

On March 5th, Z.J. Loussac Public Library in Anchorage will host a free workshop from 'Grow with Google,' where experts will teach Alaskans how to be better at navigating a computer or using the internet. It's perfect for small businesses, people working to open a business, folks looking for jobs or pretty much anyone else who uses the internet. You can learn how to get listed on Google Maps, ensure you're being found on Google Search, and even build a website. If you're a more advanced business, you can learn how to reach more customers worldwide, use Google Analytics and improve your marketing skills. Our community's teachers and nonprofit leaders - librarians, Chamber of Commerce employees, or Goodwill volunteers - can attend a session where they'll learn how to continue hosting Grow with Google workshops after the day's event concludes.

Where else can Alaskans get a free class from Google that teaches us how to be better at modern communications for the digital economy? Where else can you find children stomping their feet and singing out the alphabet on a Saturday? Where else can a parent get a stack of free picture books every week to spark a child's love of reading? Where else can you go for free meeting space, to sit with a cup of coffee and pitch your business idea to potential partners? The Z.J. Loussac Public Library.

The best part is, unlike attempting to do all this stuff on your own at home, Alaska's libraries have highly trained people standing by to answer your questions, find what you need or point you in the right direction. You might be tempted to call these people tech wizards or information experts, but we call them "librarians." The libraries they work in have changed quite a lot in recent years, but their dedication to helping Alaskans hasn't changed one bit.

Come on in and see us. You're going to love Alaska's modern, tech-savvy libraries.

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[ADV] AL Direct 2/21/2020: Arson, disruption, scams

((Note: The Missouri bill which was very similar is no longer on their legislative calendar.))

## Tennessee bill threatens the state's freedom to read

A new [bill in the Tennessee legislature](#), the Parental Oversight of Public Libraries Act, could change what is offered at public libraries. [SB2896](#) and [HB2721](#) aim to create parental oversight boards at all public libraries that would determine whether any books related to sex and sexuality are age-appropriate. Five board members would be appointed to two-year terms by each county's legislative body. Libraries that fail to comply with the proposed law could lose local funding and incur fines, and library workers could face jail time. Both [ALA](#) and the [Tennessee Library Association](#) have released statements opposing this legislation, which advances "censorship under the guise of parental control." The bill is similar to a [proposed law in Missouri](#) that is no longer on the legislative calendar...

*WBIR-TV, Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 20; Cookeville (Tenn.) Herald-Citizen, Feb. 17; ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, Feb. 20; Tennessee Library Association, Feb. 20*

From: **Alan S. Inouye** <[ainouye@alawash.org](mailto:ainouye@alawash.org)>

Date: **Fri, Feb 28**, 2020 at 9:39 AM

Subject: [oitpadv] ACTION NEEDED NOW Support our Tennessee colleagues

Hi. By now, you may have heard about this horrible bill in Tennessee (see below). Tennessee residents are reaching out to their lawmakers, but OUT OF STATE Library Supporters CAN ALSO ACT – please see below and distribute further.

Given that a major national library conference is happening in the capital of Tennessee right now, it is especially important for the library community to make a strong showing.

Thanks,

Alan

Alan S. Inouye, Ph.D.

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**From:** [advocomm-request@lists.ala.org](mailto:advocomm-request@lists.ala.org) <[advocomm-request@lists.ala.org](mailto:advocomm-request@lists.ala.org)> **On Behalf Of** Megan Cusick

**Sent:** Thursday, February 27, 2020 12:34 PM

**To:** [advocomm@lists.ala.org](mailto:advocomm@lists.ala.org)

**Subject:** Support our Tennessee colleagues

Greetings from PLA Conference in Nashville!

As many of you know, our Tennessee colleagues are working to defeat a censorship bill called the "[Parental Oversight of Public Libraries Act](#)." This bill requires parental oversight boards for public libraries—separate from library boards—that have final say on access to materials and programs for children. It has a hearing in both TN House and Senate subcommittees next week.

With thousands of librarians from across the country in Tennessee, and others watching from around the country, we need to make sure Tennessee officials know that this is a bad bill. Our Tennessee colleagues are reaching out to their lawmakers. We are asking out of state residents to reach out to the Tennessee Dept of Tourism through this online engagement: <https://bit.ly/2PnGXjQ>. Onsite at the conference people are signing postcards and using this online form. We need your support, too.

I ask that all of you sign on and share the above link with your own networks—via email and on social media—and ask people to take action.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Many thanks.  
Megan

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[AkLA-L] Funding for Digital Skills Training - Alaska libraries can apply beginning February 20, 2020 2:29 PM

March 5

From: [aklalist](#) on behalf of [Cornwall, Daniel D \(EED\)](#)

To: [aklalist](#)

Hello Alaska Library folks,

The opportunity below recently crossed my desktop. Note the requirement to incorporate at [Grow With Google](#) resource at a library event. Also note that Alaska's application link will not appear on the Libraries Lead with Digital Skills site until March 5<sup>th</sup>. But you can get a head on deciding whether this grant might be right for your library.

Daniel Cornwall, Library Technology Consultant, Alaska State Library, [daniel.cornwall@alaska.gov](mailto:daniel.cornwall@alaska.gov)

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Dear library friends: [Libraries Lead with Digital Skills](#), an initiative of ALA & PLA, is looking for libraries to APPLY NOW for funding in the following states:

- Hawaii ([Apply Now](#) through [February 27](#))
- Texas ([Apply Now](#) through [March 3](#))
- Washington ([Apply Now](#) through [March 4](#))
- Alaska libraries can apply beginning [March 5](#)
- Wisconsin libraries can apply beginning [March 18](#)

Also, PLA 2020 Conference attendees will be able to apply beginning [February 25](#). Watch the [Libraries Lead with Digital Skills](#) page for the application link.

- **Who should apply:** Public libraries that have existing digital skills programs and are interested in testing out a new resource or two, or libraries that are looking for a reason to start.
- **Program benefits:** We are providing **\$1,000** in funding plus marketing support, a community of practice, and advocacy tools for libraries offering programs that are geared toward job seekers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs - the people who come to your library to build skills and grow their careers or businesses.
- **Requirements:** Full details are available on the website, including the application is minimal and reporting requirements will be brief. We mainly want to learn about how your library is assisting job seekers and empowering small business owners with digital skills, and provide feedback on Grow With Google resources.
- **What do I need to do?** Plan and host a workforce event using one of the Grow with Google resources listed on the project website. Once you hold your event, you submit a short project recap to tell us what you did and you will receive \$1,000 to use for future workforce programs or events. Selected libraries also receive an "Awardee Toolkit" which includes marketing and outreach materials to help you hold a successful event.

Curious? You can preview the brief [application](#) and apply on the Libraries Lead website.

Questions? Email [LibrariesLead@gmail.com](mailto:LibrariesLead@gmail.com).

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