

**Meeting Minutes for
SDLAC Teleconference Meeting
May 22, 2008**

In attendance: Wylie Ackerman, Faye Chadwell, MaryKay Dahlgreen, Greg Doyle, Mary Finnegan, Tony Greiner, Darci Hanning, Mary Mayberry, Aaron Munter, Jim Schepke, Linda Weight.

Meeting started at 1:05p and ended at 2:15p.

Action Items:

1. Darci will set up a survey that will ask:
 - Library and Director Name
 - Would you be willing to pay for The Oregonian?
 - If so, how much?

Darci will try to set it up so that all SDLAC members have access to the results.

2. MaryKay will provide talking points and explain the issue/status to all library directories in an email; it will also include a link to the survey. The survey will go out to all Public, Academic, and Tribal library directors and will need to be completed by June 4th, in time for the regularly schedule June 9th meeting.

3. Committee members will be responsible for contacting their constituent library directors and encouraging them to take the survey.

4. Committee members are also encouraged to talk with their constituents in general. Darci will post a list of libraries by population to the Wiki.

5. Jim will provide a list of public libraries to Greg who will then get quotes from NewsBank (public only, academic only, public and academic) and share that information once hears back from Newsbank.

Meeting Discussion:

There were pros and cons for doing annual renewal versus full five-year and the contract administrator went with the annual renewal model.

NewsBank was given an extension to submit a price increase request. The DAS contract administrator reviewed and could not recommend accepting the price increase. The State Library requested that the contract be canceled but requested a 30 day extension to the contract which was granted. This means that something less than \$5,000 will go to NewsBank to retain access to The Oregonian to all libraries through July 31, 2008.

Orbis Cascade – concerns are 1) public libraries that aren't currently affiliate members and 2) capacity to provide contract/invoicing administration.

From NewsBank: For libraries that have another subscription through NewsBank, The Oregonian won't be as much. Those that don't have an existing contract with NewsBank won't be required to subscribe to a "package" and can get just The Oregonian

Jim's letter to the publisher went in the mail on Wednesday so no response is expected as of yet.

Q: Has NewsBank countered offer with anything lower? A: No, they have been very firm from the start that the new price is not negotiable.

- 1) Walk away completely. The price is extremely high -- how can we recommend paying it? But don't count on anything changing a year from now. Would be important for all libraries to not individually work with NewsBank.

What about libraries that get other newspapers through NewsBank – would they be willing to be in solidarity? Mary Finnegan / Corvallis has a package deal already that allows them to pick 2 metro and 30 regional papers for one price. Would choosing the Oregonian cause an increase in that package?

MK found from Samantha: The package pricing was based on the fact that the state was purchasing The Oregonian. So yes, the package pricing will be going up.

Libraries could let print/micro go in order to pay for electronic.

Unlikely that all libraries would agree to drop The Oregonian.

At the same time, have a backup plan (e.g. #2 below) in place.

Giving in now because it's the right thing to do but what about the long term impact? What's to prevent future increases?

What if Orbis Cascade requested a quote for about 10-20 libraries for a package of Oregon newspapers or just The Oregonian?

Note: previous to the statewide contract, many academic libraries didn't purchase The Oregonian. Their current usage stats reflect a low need for The Oregonian.

- 2) OSL still willing to spend budgeted amount. (\$54,000K minus 30-day extension cost). There is also an additional \$37,000 left over from Orbis Cascade that has been held for in case of emergency. An advantage to doing a group deal (not necessarily all libraries) would be to use this money for one or more years of subsidizing.

One strategy would be for committee members talk to library directors to get a sense

of what they would do in response. And ask also how much they would be willing to pay.

- 3) What if Orbis Cascade got a group deal for “America’s Newspapers” package? OSL could pay for an affiliate membership on behalf of all public libraries but would have to manage/invoice each library and submit a single payment to Orbis Cascade. Unfortunately, the OSL staff doesn’t have the capacity to do this for all libraries.

Q: Would the LSTA funding be available if only a “few” libraries purchased The Oregonian? A: Depends on the number of patrons to be served, e.g. Multnomah County serves 20% of the state.