

Valley Library Consortium
Minutes of the Database Committee
January 27, 2011

Present: Ann Langlois (Lapeer); Anne Wooden (Delta); Linda Hudecek (Comm. District); Cindy Hix (Bridgeport); Paul Lutenske and Ruth Ann Reinert (PLOS); Kay Dunker and Lee Martin (VLC); Andrew Sutherland (WBDL); Mary Schultz and Ron Suszek (Midland); Betsy Osborn and Paula Pashak (BCLS); Jane Himmel (Pigeon); Becky Grai (Northwood); Kelli Lovasz and Pat Lange (North Branch); Debbie O'Brien (Caro).

Chair A. Langlois called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

DECISIONS:

1. R. Reinert moved to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2010 meeting. B. Osborn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSIONS:

1. Database Projects Calendar

K. Dunker reviewed the February calendar of database projects, which included the following:

February

- Libraries work RIS for "In Transit" and "Hold expired" items
- Serial/Mono clean up and maintenance
- Requests on unavailable items
- Report of lost blocks for items no longer lost
- Report of items flagged for request
- Weekly duplicate control# report
- Weekly duplicate ISBN report

K. Dunker mentioned the title "Bounty Hunter" has been on duplicate control# report for about 3 months. She also provided a reminder that using batch item delete will delete the bib record and the item record. Otherwise, it takes multiple steps to delete the bib record.

2. SkyRiver as a possible source for records

L. Martin discussed SkyRiver as a possible source for records, either to replace OCLC or possibly integrated with OCLC. He and K. Dunker visited two libraries that use SkyRiver, Michigan State University and the Capital Area District Library. Academic libraries use/need OCLC for ILL but public libraries don't need it as much. Libraries using SkyRiver have saved between twenty and fifty percent by switching to SkyRiver. The SkyRiver libraries feel confident using this system and are able to get the records they need, or ask SkyRiver to find the records for them. There are approximately 80 libraries using SkyRiver at this time. Regarding ILL, it is thought that the libraries are contacted directly by phone/email, as all of their holdings are not current in OCLC. There is no web search interface currently for SkyRiver. There is talk of SkyRiver doing ILL. There is a lawsuit between OCLC and SkyRiver, but the outcome is unknown. MSU and CADL said regardless of the outcome, they are not going back to OCLC. L. Martin discussed the need to develop a long term strategic plan to look at the direction of cataloging services. He mentioned his door is open if there are any ideas a library is interested in proposing or any ideas about processes that need changing.

3. Update on the ILL pilot project

L. Martin discussed the ILL pilot project. All Northwood's fiction was changed to ~~non-circulating~~ **not available for request by other libraries**. At the end of the three month period of October through December, there ~~as~~ **was** a fifty percent drop in ILL from the previous year. The Administrative Council moved Northwood to the bottom of the list. The numbers will be looked at until September. Depending on the outcome of this project, the Administrative Council could request for Northwood to become a MeL ~~ILL~~ **delivery** library.

4. Item specific requests on HIP

There can be an issue with graphic novels and requesting them in the PAC. Graphic novels are being placed on multipart monograph records. Borrowers can only make requests at the bib level (1st copy available) so they cannot request a specific volume. If they want a specific volume they have to ask staff to request it for them. Making requests at the bib level is a system-wide setting. We have several options, if we want to make changes so that these items can be specifically requested by patrons without help from staff. We

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need to think about being “patron-centric” – staff can adapt to changes in procedures and should think about doing things that will help our patrons get and find what they need. One option is to allow borrowers to make copy specific requests by adding another button to the PAC for this type of request. But then only that specific item requested can fill that request. This could make filling the request more difficult as you have to have the exact copy to be able to fill the request. Another option is to allow copy records on serial records so that borrowers can place a request on the volumes they want. Yet another option is we can do nothing. We are taking this discussion back to our libraries and we will discuss this again at our next meeting.

5. Cataloging and circulating groups of items

M. Schultz discussed babysitter bags, a new item they have circulating to their patrons that contain books and DVDs on a certain theme. They are currently on a generic record, and generic records do not show up in the PAC and are not searchable. M. Schultz said they would like to have a searchable record in the PAC for these items so patrons can see what is available and place holds. Current VLC standards require a control number from OCLC for items, so if items are not already in OCLC, a new record must be created by an original cataloger. The discussion was whether we want to allow some other kind of record other than OCLC record, or do we want to allow different types of generic records. One record for Babysitter Bags as a title and 40 different items listed would require allowing copy specific requests that need to be done by staff and can't be done by patrons, like the graphic novel issue. Discussion continued on looking at the policy on who can put original cataloging into the system or possibility of coming up with a process, such as an approver to get records in the system. Creating a new generic record will need to allow copy specific requests. The Cataloging Subcommittee will meet and discuss these issues. R. Suszek made a motion that a generic record with the title babysitter bags, that is searchable in the PAC be created. J. Himmel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Cataloging ebooks and audio ebooks

Several members are purchasing downloadable ebooks and audio ebooks. Libraries that purchase these items have an 856 tag on the record, which will go away if you use the regular load. Libraries that purchase downloadable ebooks and audiobooks should contact VLC and they will send you documentation on how to make sure your 856 is preserved, as an 856 tag is needed for each library that is providing this type of access. Also, there are several different providers of downloadable ebooks and audiobooks, such as netlibrary and overdrive. K. Dunker mentioned that the trend in cataloging at the moment is to use provider neutral records, not reflecting provider but that is not set in stone. If we only want one record for these items, regardless of provider, we need to start following the provider neutral guidelines. The question is do we want one record for each title or do we not care? The Cataloging Subcommittee will meet and discuss this issue.

7. Creating a new fee type block

A. Sutherland discussed the issue of adding a new block for a non-resident fee for those not within the library's district. The new block would be called “nonresident fee.” R. Reinert made a motion to establish a new block called nonresident fee. J. Himmel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. Delivery problems– pack/no pack

A. Langlois reported that some libraries have been receiving bins from ProMed with mud, snow, and water at the bottom of the bins. Some no pack library books have been damaged beyond repair by this. No pack libraries cannot make damage claims from ProMed. So the issue is whether the borrowing library should be responsible for this damage. K. Dunker mentioned that we recently adopted ALA's ILL policy that includes the statement that the borrowing library is responsible for the item from the time it leaves the lender library to the time it returns. The discussion was for items delivered between VLC libraries, the no pack libraries should assume the cost when they are the lender library. R. Reinert made a motion that the no pack libraries assume the cost when items are damaged in transit between VLC libraries. D. O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Announcements :

K. Dunker indicated that staff need ensure they are entering patron email addresses correctly. Do not use a blank space for the @ sign, and do not use a period at the end of an email address. Overdue and preoverdue messages generated for accounts with incorrectly entered email addresses do not go anywhere, they are lost completely.

R. Reinert mentioned that the ILL contact at PLOS is Carmelina Bell, and her phone number is 755-9834, replacing Michael Sullivan. Also, self-checkout will begin February 1st at PLOS-Hoyt Library. Butman-Fish and Zael will add self-checkout at a later date.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 24, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 pm

Minutes submitted by A. Wooden