

## Report for Conrad Public Library Board of Trustees

[ presented during the April 2021 Regular Board Meeting ]

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- **Webisode Chat with Montana State Librarian, Jennie Stapp, on Friday, March 12, 2021 @ Noon**  
*Zoom meetings (recorded for MSL Vimeo channel) usually held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month*

Some of the topics addressed included:

- Montana Legislative Session @ [www.leg.mt.gov](http://www.leg.mt.gov)
  - Bills discussed:
    - HB 2: General Appropriations Act
    - HB 501: Generally revise criminal procedure and criminal laws
    - HB 374: Amend Coal Severance Tax SSR accounts, provide transfers
    - HB 632: Implement receipt of an appropriate federal stimulus and COVID recovery funds
- American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Funding = approximately \$2 million
  - Funding areas include:
    - MSL Hot Spot Program continuance
    - Additional Library eResources (MTLibrary2Go, etc.)
  - The State Library Commission will take preliminary actions at the April meeting; more discussions in May/June
- eRate Funding = approximately \$7 billion [usually \$2 billion in a normal year]
  - Patron services that could be funded include:
    - Hot spots/tablets/laptops/computers and other equipment
    - Wi-fi extension beyond a library building
- Excellent Library Service Award (ELSA) Update
  - Changes include: a survey-like application, explanation areas, and more interactive
- Montana Library Network “Reboot” & Network Advisory Council (NAC)
  - New NAC at the beginning of the fiscal year; they will prioritize funding for the services within the network
  - Core Services Committee currently working on answering funding needs, job descriptions, future vision, etc.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lacie Vermulm

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*Please note: This report was written from personal notes and may contain unintentional errors; this report is designed to be a condensed summarization for the purposes of a Conrad Public Library Board of Trustees meeting.*