

Response to Grand Jury Report

Report Title: **1.1 The Mendocino County Free Library**

Report Date: **June 9, 2014**

Response by: **Valerie Frey, Mendocino County Library Advisory Board**

Findings

I (we) agree with the findings numbered: **1- 5, 8, 11, 12**

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: **6, 7, 9, 10**

Attach a statement specifying the findings or portions of the findings that are disputed, and include an explanation of the reasons therefor.

Recommendations*

Recommendations numbered **xxx** have been implemented.

Attach a statement describing the implement actions.

Recommendations numbered **xxx** have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

Attach a statement with the schedule for implementation(s).

Recommendations numbered **19** require further analysis.

Attach an explanation, and the scope and parameters of the analyses or studies, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

Recommendations numbered **xxx** will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

Attach an explanation.

****The Library Advisory Board has no ability to implement or not implement any recommendations. By agreeing with the recommendations, we support their implementation.***

I (we) support recommendations numbered: **1-6, 7-18**

Signature: Valerie Frey Date: 30 July 2014

Number of pages attached: 2

Findings

- F1 We agree.
- F2 We agree. A87 costs have not been clearly identified in past years. The entire A87 inventory list needs to be reviewed and corrected. All items aged over fifteen years are outdated and should be deleted. All purchases with outside money should be deleted, such as the monies donated by the Fort Bragg FOL towards the remodel of their library. The Bookmobile was purchased with grants from the US Department of Agriculture and Mendocino County Air Quality Control and should not be in the A87 inventory.
- F3 We agree. The library is billed for A87 categories 1 and 2 (buildings and equipment) and these funds are not reserved for the library's maintenance. Instead these funds go into the General Fund which often denies the library's request for maintenance. An example is the remediation of mold in the Ukiah Library. The County denied using A87 funds for this purpose.
- F4 We agree in part. The Library is a Dependent Special District.
- F5 We agree. The County's tax apportionment could be made clearer than at present.
- F6 We do not have enough information to address this issue.
- F7 We disagree in part. The BOS appears to have delegated its responsibility as the governing body of the Library to the CEO, GS, HR and IT.
- F8 We agree.
- F9 We do not have enough information to address this issue.
- F10 We have no basis for agreement with this finding.
- F11 We agree and urge the BOS to initiate an immediate nationwide search.
- F12 We agree. The equipment list for A87 includes outdated inventory (Handbook of Cost Plan Procedure for California Counties).

Recommendations

- R1 We agree. This would give the library independence in fulfilling its functions.
- R2 We agree.
- R3 We agree. We support a review of the proper pro rata share of property tax to clear up any confusion.
- R4 We agree.
- R5 We agree.
- R6 We agree.
- R7 We agree.
- R8 We agree.
- R9 We agree.
- R10 We agree. This process needs to be made public.
- R11 We agree. Cost figures need to be made clear and transparent.
- R12 We agree.
- R13 We agree.
- R14 We agree in part. The library needs to be allowed to operate more autonomously. Perhaps a change from the current structure to a JPA would better suit the needs of all parties.
- R15 We agree.
- R16 We agree.
- R17 We agree.
- R18 We agree. The library's IT needs are unique. The library's mandate is to supply information to the public. A dedicated library IT person needs to report directly to the Library Director and not to the County's IT department.
- R19 Requires further analysis.