

CURRY COUNTY LIBRARIES COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

Overall governance of each special district is conducted by a publicly elected board of directors drawn from within each tax district. Each board is responsible for the library's annual budget (with input general public and from budget committee members), the direction of the library director, and other strategic decisions.

Despite the individual nature of the governance of each special district library, each library in Curry County works through a countywide organization for shared infrastructure and collaborative projects designed to save money and reduce duplication of services. These cooperative projects are coordinated through the Curry County Library Foundation (CCLF), which is a non-profit corporation governed by the library director of each of Curry County's Special District Libraries. As a 501(c)(3), CCLF is crucial in securing grants from other non-profits (that typically do not provide funding directly to government entities) for cooperative infrastructure projects.

Cooperative projects to date:

- A shared integrated library system (database for patron records, item records, and circulation). Currently 4 of the 5 county libraries share a system. All five libraries are scheduled to be on the same system by 2018. In preparation for a system migration and merger of all five libraries, the Curry County Library Foundation (CCLF) is in the process of creating an intergovernmental agreement to join the Coos County libraries open source system, which will bring our system costs to a minimum, while quadrupling the numbers of items available to Curry County residents for check out. The libraries are also working together through CCLF to secure grant funding for this project.
- A shared acquisitions system that will allow all Curry County libraries to coordinate acquisitions to reduce duplication and maximize the purchasing power of acquisitions budgets.
- Shared subscription to the Library2Go, which provides free ebooks to library card holders. Currently 4 of the 5 county libraries share a subscription to Library2Go through CCLF, an arrangement which keeps the basic subscription cost to a minimum. All five libraries plan to share a subscription by 2018.
- All libraries share a subscription to Zinio, a digital platform for magazines.
- All libraries share the cost of a single courier system for the delivery of interlibrary loan items.
- All libraries work together to create similar policies and operational protocols through monthly CCLF meetings.
- All libraries work together through CCLF to bargain for favorable vendor contracts like our current contract with Ingram book distributors, which provides us a 40% discount and free 36 hour delivery for books. Generally, this agreement makes purchases possible for less than cut rate prices through Amazon Prime.

Cooperative projects planned for the future:

- Shared contract for OCLC cataloging utility, making cataloging more efficient and accurate.
- Shared subscription to Hoopla streaming video and audio.
- Shared cost for subscription research databases.
- Shared contract for the purchasing of periodicals.
- Shared RFID library security and inventory system through cooperative grants secured through SCLF. The RFID system will streamline the inventory process and reduce costs resulting from theft.