

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is by and between **Marquette County**, a State of Wisconsin Municipal Corporation, hereinafter called "COUNTY," and the Winnefox Library System, a public library system organized in accordance with Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes, hereinafter called "WINNEFOX."

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes, Section 43.15(4)(b), the County may participate in a federated public library system if it does all of the following:

1. Adopts and maintains the plan of library service submitted and approved under Section 43.11(3) and 43.13(1).
2. Provides the financial support for library services required under sub. (2). [43.15(2)]
3. Enters into a written agreement with the public library system board to participate in the system and its activities and to furnish library services to residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library, and

WHEREAS, the plan of library service for a county... (43.11 [3] [c]) shall provide for library services to residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library under Chapter 43. The services shall include full access to public libraries in the county participating in the public library system. The plan shall specify the method and level of funding to be provided by the county to implement the services described in the plan and shall describe the services to be provided by the public library system and the allocation of state and county aid to fund those services, and

WHEREAS, Winnefox has been organized and operates as a federated public library system within the meaning of Section 43.19 Wisconsin Statutes, and

WHEREAS, Winnefox, must, in order to qualify for and maintain its eligibility for state aid provide all services outlined in Section 43.24(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Marquette County to contract with Winnefox to provide for the extension and development of library services described in the Long-Range Plan of Library Service, hereinafter called the Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto.

NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED as follows:

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as requiring Marquette County to contribute more towards library funding within the County, or funding to libraries in adjacent counties, than the minimum amount required by law.

2. The Marquette County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Winnefox Library System to negotiate and execute such Agreements as are necessary to implement the Plan attached hereto for the calendar year 2022 And each subsequent year for the life of the plan, provided that Winnefox Library System shall not have authority to enter into agreements that will require Marquette County to contribute more than the minimum amount required by law without Marquette County's express written approval.
3. The County agrees to participate in the Winnefox Library System and its activities.
4. The County agrees that all of the public libraries in Marquette County should be *compensated*, as provided by state law, for serving Marquette County residents living outside of municipalities that maintain libraries. Accordingly, the Marquette County Library Advisory Committee, composed of the Directors of the libraries located within Marquette County, shall present an annual funding request formulated according to the following methodology:

- a) Using the latest Annual Reports filed with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), the public libraries in Marquette County shall determine what percentage of the previous year's total circulation is to residents of Marquette County residing outside of the municipalities which maintain libraries (county rural residents).
- b) The percentage of circulation to county rural residents shall be multiplied by the total operational expenditures of the libraries for the prior year. This figure shall constitute the libraries' request for reimbursement for services to Marquette County rural residents.

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} \text{Total expenditures} & \times & \text{percentage of circulation to} & = & \text{Marquette} \\ & & \text{county rural residents} & & \text{County support} \\ & \text{(a)} & \text{(b)} & & \text{©} \end{array}$$

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as requiring Marquette County to fund the request by the Marquette County Library Advisory Committee for an amount more than the minimum required by state law.

5. Funding shall be distributed for the libraries located within Marquette County as follows:
 - a. Each library shall receive funding equal to the previous year's funding as a base amount if possible.
 - b. After each library's base funding has been allotted any remaining funds shall be divided as follows:
 - i. Remaining funds shall be distributed to the libraries based on their percentage of items checked out to county residents.
 - ii. Each library's percentage of the total number of items checked out to county residents living in areas not directly maintaining a public library shall be calculated.

- c. If the available county funding is less than the previous year's funding the deficit shall be divided in the same manner as the remaining funds.
6. Funding allocated to The Winnefox Cooperative Technical Services (WCTS) is based on the projected cost of serving libraries in Marquette County for the year of the agreement. If the cost of services exceeds funding, libraries may be expected to pay for some service from other funds. If funding exceeds the cost of services provided, the excess will be equally divided between the county libraries.
7. Nothing in the funding formula shall preclude the libraries from requesting grant funds, or special project funds, for a specific purpose. Approval of such a request shall be at the discretion of the County.
8. The County shall be entitled to membership on the library boards of the participating libraries as provided in sec. 43.60(3), Wis. Stats. Appointment of County members of the library boards shall be made by the Marquette County Board Chairman, subject to confirmation by the Marquette County Board of Supervisors.
9. The County designates the Executive and Finance Committee and the Marquette County Librarians Advisory Committee as the Marquette County Library Planning Committee.
10. The borrower registration records of participating libraries may be audited by an official of Marquette County appointed by the Administrator or County Board Chair for the purpose of ascertaining that registration procedures for borrowers are applied equally to both city and county residents and that borrower percentage figures described in the Plan are accurate. In no manner can an audit violate provisions of sec. 43.30, Wis. Stats. which relates to confidentiality of library records, or library policy.
11. The parties further agree to work cooperatively to further improve public library service to County residents.
12. Winnefox agrees to provide such financial or operational reports of its activities, as the County deems appropriate and desirable.
13. Winnefox will present a request for a County library appropriation in accordance with the County's budgeting procedures and will distribute any such funds to the participating libraries on the basis of Member Library Agreements and the Plan.
14. This Agreement shall become effective January 1, 2022 and will remain in effect through December 31, 2027, the life of the attached long-range plan. This Agreement may be amended at anytime by mutual agreement of both parties. The parties may abrogate it only by following procedures outlined in Wisconsin Statute 43.18.

APPENDIX A: Long-Range Plan of Library Service - Marquette County 2022 - 2027

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Hiley Lloyd

County Clerk

Dated: 9/21/2021

MARQUETTE COUNTY, a State of
Wisconsin Municipal Corporation,
("COUNTY")

Robert Miller
By: Robert Miller, Chair

Ron Barger
Ron Barger, County Administrator

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Dated _____

WINNEFOX LIBRARY SYSTEM
(WINNEFOX)

By: Katherine Freund, WLS Board President

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe, Director

Marquette County Long Range Plan of Library Service 2022 – 2027

Statement of Principles:

1. The rural residents of Marquette County should have convenient access to all library services being provided by all county municipal libraries within the county on the same terms as local municipal residents supporting such libraries. The people should be free to use any or all libraries at their discretion.
2. Nothing in the county plan of service or the formula for reimbursement should inhibit the ability of the libraries to actively promote the use of libraries by all county residents.
3. The county libraries recognize a responsibility to provide library services in the most cost-effective manner.
4. The county libraries have a responsibility and an important role to play in community efforts to combat illiteracy.
5. The county libraries recognize that lifelong learning is an important part of civic life and that the libraries have a responsibility and an important role to play in insuring that all residents have access to all library resources.
6. The county libraries recognize the challenge that unemployment is for Marquette County and recognize their important role to play in providing access to information and resources to assist residents to more successfully search for jobs.
7. Residents of those municipalities with libraries should be assured access to the other libraries in Marquette County.
8. All residents of Marquette County should have access to the resources of other libraries. In accordance with Sec 43.12 of Wisconsin Statutes, Marquette County shall provide reimbursement to libraries serving Marquette County residents living outside of municipalities with libraries.

Library Service Priorities 2022 through 2027:

Residents of Marquette County enjoy the opportunity of receiving service from six unique libraries located within the county. The priorities and activities listed below are examples of priorities found in individual plans and policies and will be undertaken by one or more libraries.

Priority I: Our libraries recognize the value of establishing reading skills in youth as a basis for lifelong learning and will continue to consider services to children and families to be of primary importance.

- Continue developing special “well-marked” collections for beginning, struggling, and reluctant readers. Actively promote these collections to parents, caregivers, educators, and agencies who serve families.
- Continue to offer summer library programs for children, which emphasize reading practice.
- Sponsor a READ program (Reading Education Assistance Dogs)
- Offer family literacy programs such as preschool story time, which incorporate reading readiness elements.

Priority II: Our libraries will facilitate lifelong learning for all residents of the county.

- Offer a current and diverse collection of materials that reflect a wide range of interests.
- Support formal and self-directed education by offering study guides and electronic resources.
- Work with literacy organizations to promote literacy for all ages.
- Provide space for tutoring.
- Provide proctoring services.

Priority III: Our libraries will provide access to information technology and promote information literacy to all residents of the county.

- Provide equitable access to computer usage including internet usage, commonly used computer software, printing capabilities, and wireless connections.
- Ensure that public computers are maintained and updated for general use.
- Maintain reasonable awareness of new technology.
- Maintain websites with general information about library services, access to the Winnefox catalog.
- Promote best practices for safe internet use.

Priority IV: Our libraries will prioritize providing inclusive services to all residents.

- Ensure that buildings meet all ADA accessibility requirements.
- Provide wheelchair accessible computer stations.
- Offer materials that are helpful to those with special needs including large print, audio books, closed caption DVDs, and materials to strengthen literacy skills.
- Welcome input and suggestions from the community on how to better serve diverse needs within our community.

Priority V: Our libraries will work closely with local schools and with families that home school their children as partners in the educational process.

- Encourage school classrooms to visit the library.
- Encourage school book clubs to order multiple titles through the Winnefox system
- Offer teacher cards and offer materials for curriculum support.
- Host displays at the library that feature children's artwork, poetry, etc. from their classes.
- Allow computer time extensions and some free printing for school-related projects and homework.
- Meet with school representatives to discover how best to support curriculum needs.

Priority VI: Our libraries will continue to be centers of community life for all residents of Marquette County.

- Offer equitable meeting space to community groups
- Provide volunteer opportunities that give residents meaningful ways to help their community.
- Strive to stay up to date on events and issues of importance to county residents and share that information when asked.
- Provide a community bulletin board for groups to post meetings, events, etc. in the area

Priority VII: Our libraries will be proactive in meeting changing needs within the county.

- Offer resources that respond to current needs such as employment assistance, financial education, renewable energy, and low-income program opportunities.
- Offer workshops that focus community needs, like employment, in partnership with other agencies and organizations.
- Provide online resources on all libraries' websites.