

FY2014 MSC Budget Notes

Background: The FY2014 budget proposal is based upon a “budgetary” planning invoice from SirsiDynix for our FY2014 annual software license and maintenance. All libraries and branches that were members of the MSC at the time most recent contract with SirsiDynix went into effect (July 2012) are included in a “bundled” license. The only individual library costs included this year are for those libraries using the Debt Collection module, RDA Toolkit, PocketCirc and one new branch (Potomac) added after the bundled license took effect. Remember that we now have a free, universal SIP license so there are no individual library costs for that service. The State Library requested, and the Executive Committee approved, the MSC to contribute one half the cost of EBSCO EDS annual license for the next two years. The MSC share is \$16,738 each year. I propose we pay this amount from the dusty, old “EPS/Rooms” fund (\$35,000) that was collected by the membership 7 years ago but never expended. SirsiDynix is preparing to release several new products related to what they’re calling the “BLUEcloud Suite”. To account for that, I have proposed 4 scenarios for this year’s budget to show shared costs if the membership decides to: (1) Not purchase any new products, (2) purchase “Mobile Circ” only, (3) purchase eResource Central only, and (4) purchase both “BLUEcloud” products. More information on these products is provided below plus links to product literature will be added to the MSC Meetings page and Blog. There are three other uncertainties at budget publication time are: (1) Discussion with OPI for support of MSC school libraries, (2) Staff salary increase and, (3) an SMS text messaging product.

1. The State Library requested, and the Executive Committee approved, the MSC to contribute one half the cost of the EBSCO EDS annual license for the next two years. The MSC share is \$16,738 each year. I propose we pay this amount from the dusty, old “EPS/Rooms” fund (\$35,000) that was collected by the membership 7 years ago but never purchased.

2. The Executive Committee approved the purchase of annual subscriptions of GoToMeeting for the MSC trainer and Carbonite online backup service for the MSC teleworker. Total for both is \$1,489 per year. The MSC also absorbed two of the 4 PocketCirc licenses associated with the Missoula County Public Schools for \$290.40 annually. MCPS pays for the other two licenses. These licenses will go away if the MSC purchases Mobile Circ.

3. The Governor proposed a 10% salary increase for state employees (5% per year for 2 years). That proposal has gone thru various iterations in the legislature and is still “up in the air” as to what will shake out, if anything. I have budgeted for the 5% increase, just in case. Estimate \$2,200 as left over salary from FY2013 to be carried over to FY2014 thus, collecting \$83,800 from the membership for a total of \$86,000 applied to FY2014 salary.

4. SirsiDynix BLUEcloud products: The two products proposed for purchase are eResource Central and Mobile Circ. Other products coming down the road soon (we hope): BLUEcloud Analytics (replaces Directors Station), web-based Central Admin, and Cataloging will be free (included in our current annual maintenance). The two products we propose to purchase are:

- eResource Central has been getting most of the press and has been in beta testing with several libraries since last fall. It is scheduled for general release this summer. It will consolidate downloadable eBooks into a single, much friendlier user interface and is easier to manage on the administrative end. Initial cost to implement plus 1st year license will be \$9,000 for two “connectors” - OverDrive and EBSCO. Annual license will be \$7,880 in subsequent years.

- Mobile Circ will allow library staff to use any wireless device (scanner, tablet, laptop, smartphone) to perform basic circulation functions. Unlike “PocketCirc”, transactions that take place via Mobile Circ are recorded in the system immediately rather than a later download. COSUGI attendees were impressed and excited about this product. It is scheduled for release later this summer. Initial implementation and 1st year license cost is \$6,250 (includes \$2,080 discount for current Pocket Circ license). Annual license will be \$5,830 in subsequent years.

We have prepared 4 different budget proposals to account for the following scenarios: No new purchases, purchase eResource Central only, purchase Mobile Circ only and lastly, purchase both products. Rather than risk blindness by going over 4 different cost sharing formula and budget spreadsheets, I posted the “no new purchases” cost sharing formula and budget spreadsheets only plus the “Library Cost by Budget Scenario” spreadsheet that shows the bottom line only, that is; what it would cost each library under each scenario.

5. For discussion purposes only, two columns have been added to the “Library Cost by Budget Scenario” spreadsheet to show the cost for an additional full or part time staff person to provide support for MSC school libraries. The columns show the salary cost if shared by all member libraries. Annual cost would go up by about 18.5% for a full time employee and about 9% for a part time employee. The amount shown in a selected column/row can be added to the amount in the adjacent column to determine each library’s future annual cost. Again, this information is presented for discussion only.

6. SMS Text Messaging Service: I did not include this in the other proposals because it would be a one-time purchase that could be made from existing funds (Directors Station upgrade for example) and would then be an individual cost for those libraries opting in to the service. SirsiDynix’s SMS module is too expensive and is limited to the number of messages that can be sent per year. I have been in contact with a company called [ShoutBomb](#) that provides SMS service to libraries and have talked with other Symphony consortia that are using it and are happy with the product. We can buy a consortium-wide license for a one-time, set-up fee of \$2,500. Each library that opts in would pay \$360 annually for the service. That cost also applies to each branch; for example if Flathead main and 3 branches joined, it would cost them $360 \times 4 = \$1,440$ per year. There is no limit to the number of messages sent. Patrons/students can opt in or out. We would have to agree on one template: Message delivery timeframe (10 to 6 for example) and types of SMS messages sent (hold pickup notice and overdue notice for example). Actual message text can be customized by library.

7. Training, Travel and Meetings: Adjusted FY2014 based on current trends in the FY2013 budget:

- Increased Standing Committee travel to \$1600. This is to account to price increases in mileage.
- Reduced training/travel reimbursements to \$800 because most of that travel is now done by MSC staff. Still need to encourage member libraries to help out with training.
- Maintained library training cost of \$7,000 as established in FY2013. These are costs associated with travel, cell phone service, and related materials for the MSC trainer.
- Increased Conference costs to \$9,000 due to increased travel and registration costs.
- Added a line item of \$1,700 for marketing. This covers cost for creating an MSC logo plus materials such as “how-to-use” cards, brochures and mouse pads. Associated the current marketing fund of \$3,371.44 (remainder of original \$5,000 allocated in FY2012).

8. New hardware maintenance contract with IBM for the test server reduces annual cost from \$6,335.83 to \$4,786.95.