OWLS Director report
July 18, 2019 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

Staff and Library Updates
I attended the Neuschafer Community Library board meeting in Fremont on July 8th to support their director search process. Susan Frick is retiring at the end of the summer.

I met with the village administrators of Kimberly and Little Chute and library director Steve Thiry on July 10th to discuss the impact of terminating the joint library on county funding at each location.

Dave coordinated bandwidth upgrades to 50Meg for 4 OWLSnet libraries (MRT, WAU, SHA, STR). Kaukauna's bandwidth will be upgraded on Monday, July 22nd.

On July 11th Chad set up a photo booth at New London's Harry Potter program where attendees could get their pictures taken in front of a green screen with some fun props. They could then pick out the backgrounds they wanted Chad to apply to their photos.

State Budget Update [excerpted from an email by Connie Meyer]
On July 3rd, the Governor signed the biennial budget for the next two years. The state aid to library systems was funded at the same level as 2019. That means the amount of state aid each library system received in 2019 is the same amount that will be received in 2020 and 2021.

While we didn't get all we'd hoped for, we are grateful for the stabilization of library system aid. The legislators actually had to provide an increase of $1m each year to keep us at our 2019 funding level because the increase in the 2017-2019 biennial budget was a one-time increase. This budget also establishes a new base funding level for state aid which is important and will be helpful moving forward.

County Planning
The Waupaca and Outagamie County Library Planning committees met/will meet on July 10th and July 16th respectively. The Waupaca committee has decided to move forward with a plan that includes circulation of electronic content in the funding formula with a 5-year phase in period. I anticipate one more meeting for each committee in August before they will recommend the 2020-2024 plans to their respective county finance committees. The Waupaca committee will next meet on Wednesday, August 7th at 1:00 pm at the Waupaca Area Public Library.

Print Management
We have decided to adopt TBS's ePrintIT wireless print management product; Dave hopes to be able to begin testing wireless print management at a few libraries by the end of summer 2019 following the purchase and configuration of a new VMware server. We expect to install ePrintIT at forty member-library locations.

July 19 AAC meeting
The Administrative Advisory Committee will meet on Friday July 19th. Agenda items include discussion of the ILS merger exploration, review of the OWLS Technology & Resource Sharing Plan, book club circulation practices, Lucky Day successes and snags so far, and cataloging practices. Dave will present a recommendation for a new PC Time Management solution to replace SAM.