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Coal Valley, IL 61240
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PrairieCat Delegates Assembly
Agenda
October 28, 2026

The Delegates Assembly will meet on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm in person at the New Lenox Public Library District, Freeport Public Library, Princeton Public Library, North Suburban Public Library District (NSLD/Loves Park), and the RAILS Coal Valley Service Center. The meeting will also be available online via Zoom. Delegates Assembly participation is required of all Fully Participating and Basic Online libraries and the four Union List reps. As always, please remember that only officially designated Delegates or their Alternates can vote on behalf of their library. Substitutes will not be permitted to vote, and there are no proxy votes if a delegate is not present.

Register to attend the meeting (https://support.prairiecat.info/events/prairiecat-delegates-assembly-meeting-2026-10-28).

1. Call to order and welcome
2. Introduction and welcome new delegates or alternates
3. Introduction of guests
4. Review of agenda for additions/changes
5. Consent agenda (pp. 3-23)
   - 5.1. Approve minutes for July 29, 2026, PrairieCat Delegates Assembly meeting
   - 5.2. Central Site report including financial and statistical reports
   - 5.3. Quarterly PrairieCat staff report
6. Administrative Council report
   - 6.1. Finance Committee report – no report
7. PrairieCat membership update, training and outreach report
8. ACTION: Approve departure from PrairieCat, New Lenox Public Library (p. 24)
9. Update, RFI process
10. Review, Final FY26 audit
11. Review, FY26 Annual report (pp. 25-28)

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12. Presentation: Melissa Landis and Victoria Blackmer (Robert R. Jones Public Library District, Coal Valley), PrairieCat Data Dashboard
13. Public comments via previously submitted email (see above), in person or online
14. Adjournment
15. Next regularly scheduled meeting, January 27, 2027

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PrairieCat Delegates Assembly Minutes July 29, 2026

The Delegates Assembly met on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm in person at the New Lenox Public Library District, Freeport Public Library, Princeton Public Library, Ida Public Library, and the RAILS Coal Valley Service Center. The meeting will also be available online via Zoom. Delegates Assembly participation is required of all Fully Participating and Basic Online libraries and the four Union List reps. As always, please remember that only officially designated Delegates or their Alternates can vote on behalf of their library. Substitutes will not be permitted to vote, and there are no proxy votes if a delegate is not present.

Register to attend the meeting (https://support.prairiecat.info/events/prairiecat-delegates-assembly-meeting-2026-07-29).

1. Call to order and welcome

   Present at Coal Valley: Ann Whitaker-Reid, Michele Thurston, April Hoste, Karen Lonergan, Bianca Sierra, Claire Crawford, Bryon Lear, Lisa Boles, Pubali Kundu, Angela Campbell, Kim Brozovich, Tori Drews, Jill Sullivan-Bennin, Chelsey Knippel

   Present at Freeport: Linda Schreiber, Deb Kolenko, Julie Voss, Emily Schaub, Carolyn Miller, Laura Watson, Brittany Gaulrapp, Mary Cheatwood, Elizabeth Green, Pennie Miller, Danielle Bazarek, Valerie Woodley, Elizabeth Smith

   Present at Ida: Jill Simpson, Heather Black, Ashley Elshoff, Sarah Flanagan, Beth Kerns, Mindy Long, Daisy Mechler, Alie Stansbury, Janet Clark, Kimberly Martin, Sondra Terry, Jill Kohlert, Dana Fanslow, Jen Finnerty, Nicole Johnson, Stephanie Nissen, Trix Welch, Emily Wittke, Brenda Weinberg, Melissa Weidman, Kim Halsey, Nicholas Weber, Carolyn Coulter

   Present at New Lenox: Jodie DePatis, Leah Bill, Renee Martinez, Thomas Webb, Emily Faulkner, Rene Leyva, Cassidy Steinke, Jamie Lockwood, Heide Trettenero, Cathy Palmer,

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Jackie Hanson, Michelle Krooswyk, Sarah Ehlers, Jennifer Shugrue, Lauren Offerman, Maria Meachum, Shelley Augustine, Magda Bonny

Present at Princeton: Jason Shirley, Lynette Heiden, Emily Kofoid, Jourdan Wendt, Resa Mai, Deanna Howard, Jason Jensen, Julie Wayland, Jay Kalman, Laura Youngstrum, Tari Sangston, Beth Wood, Yana Serdyuk, Melissa Badger

Present via Zoom: Emily Gundry, Kelly McCully, Michelle Bailey, Allison Beasley, Amy Runkle, Paige Frechmann, Kimberly Udstrand, Julie Harte, Janice May, Jennifer Barton, Laura Crisp, Amy Walsh, Jaclyn Trujillo, Melissa Landis, Roy Arey, Victoria Blackmer

2. Introduction and welcome new delegates or alternates

   Trix Welch introduced herself as the Student Success Librarian at Rockford University. Ashley Elshoff introduced herself as the Director at Creston-Dement Public Library District. Alie Stansbury introduced herself as the Director at Johnsburg Public Library District. Beth Kerns introduced herself as the Director at Havard Diggins Library. Emily Wittke introduced herself as the Alternate for Sandwich Public Library District. Nicole Johnson introduced herself as the Alternate for North Suburban Public Library District. Danielle Bazarek introduced herself as the Director at Pecatonica Public Library District. Jill Sullivan-Bennin introduced herself as the Director at United Township High School District.

3. Introduction of guests

   There were no guests.

4. Review of agenda for additions/changes

   There were no revisions.

5. Consent agenda

   5.1. Approve minutes for April 29, 2026, PrairieCat Delegates Assembly meeting

   5.2. Central Site report including financial and statistical reports

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5.3. Quarterly PrairieCat staff report

Motion #1: Fanslow (KR) moved and Long (BL) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. Motion carries by vocal affirmation.

Ayes: 84

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

6. Administrative Council report

6.1. Finance Committee report – report from 6/18/2026

Coulter (PrairieCat) explained that the Finance Committee had a presentation from our accountant at RAILS, Elena Mendoza, who discussed PrairieCat's investment options. At the time, it looked like Illinois Funds and PTMA were going to give us the best rates so that is what they recommended to the Administrative Council. The Administrative Council agreed to go with the institutions who will give us the best rate at the time of renewal. The other topic of discussion at the Finance Committee meeting was alternative ways to provide health insurance to the staff. There was no decision made on the topic; however, we are doing our due diligence because of the continuing high cost of insurance.

6.2. Resource Sharing Committee report – no report

7. PrairieCat membership update, training and outreach report

Smith (PrairieCat) stated that PrairieCat has 136 member libraries, 81 Fully Participating, 23 Basic Online, and 32 Union Listing members. Of those 136, 104 are public libraries, 30 are school libraries and 2 are academic libraries. End users have access to 1.2 million unique titles and 5 million items through the shared catalog. There are 380,550 cardholders in the PrairieCat system and approximately 56,000 monthly interlibrary loan transactions. Smith shared the Delegates Assembly meetings for FY27. She reminded the Delegates that Attendance at

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Delegates Assembly is required of all Fully Participating and Basic Online PrairieCat members and the four Union Listing representatives, per the PrairieCat Intergovernmental Agreement. PrairieCat is subject to the Open Meetings Act, and, to ensure quorum, Non-Attendance Fines were put in the Bylaws. If a member library or Union List Delegate is not represented by their Delegate or Alternate at **two** scheduled Delegates Assembly meetings, a fine in the amount of $150 will be assessed to that member library. The maximum annual fine for non-attendance for each member library will be $150. Please be sure to make sure your Alternates are up to date. A current listing can be found on the PrairieCat website under Governance. PrairieCat has a few other upcoming events: an IPLAR Q&A will be held via Zoom on August 11th, a Technical Services Committee meeting on August 14th online via Zoom, a Circulation Committee meeting on August 25th online via Zoom, and a PrairieCat New Directors Welcome will be held online via Zoom on September 8th. PrairieCat Users Group Day (PUG Day) is an annual event dedicated to professional development, networking, and continuing education for member library staff. PUG Day will alternate each year from in person to virtual. This year will be a virtual event held on September 24th and 25th. A highlight of a couple sessions at PUG Day will be a First Amendment Audit Training for Frontline Staff and Keep Cool Under Pressure.

Smith went over some Vega Discover updates stating Account Portal is now live. It seems to be functioning as expected. But, if you experience any issues, please put in a Help Desk ticket. Account Linking is another feature that will be turned on later this week. This allows patrons to link accounts in Vega Discover. It is different from Sierra Account Linking and it is also different from Vega Mobile Account Linking. Eventually, Innovative will combine Vega Mobile and Vega Discover Account Linking so patrons will only have to link to an account on one platform and it will work in both platforms. Account Linking can be set up as a one-way connection that allows one patron to view the checkouts, holds and related information of another patron. This would be best for guardian/minors. Patrons can also choose a two-way connection that allows both patrons to view and manage each other's account activity. There is an FAQ about Account Linking on the PrairieCat website and we will be sending out communications to the membership once this feature is enabled. Smith also reviewed Vega Reports with the Delegates. Vega Reports provides statistics on your interactions, page views, top searches, etc.

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for your Vega Site. If you would like access to Vega Reports, there is a course in TalentLMS that you will need to complete and then PrairieCat will grant you those permissions.

8. ACTION: Approve Trinity College of Nursing and Health Sciences/UnityPoint Health library departure from PrairieCat due to closure of library

   Coulter (PrairieCat) stated that on June 6th, 2026, we were notified that the Trinity College of Nursing and Health Sciences (a union listing member) was transferring to Augustana College on 7/1/2026 and closing their library permanently. They will therefore no longer be able to participate in PrairieCat. Since their notification did not come 180 days before the beginning of the fiscal year (as per our IGA and bylaws), they will be charged for FY27 union list fees. Even though the library will no longer exist, Delegates must formally approve their departure from the consortium. It is recommended to accept the withdrawal of Trinity Collect of Nursing and Health Services.

   Motion #2: Weber (WO) moved and Halsey (SY) seconded to approve the withdrawal of Trinity College of Nursing and Health Sciences/UnityPoint Health Library from PrairieCat. There was no discussion on the motion. Motion carries by vocal affirmation.

   Ayes: 86

   Nays: 0

   Abstentions: 0

9. Presentation: Updates from Suzanna Jones, Illinois State Library, regarding IRIS: Illinois' Reliable Information Sources database project

   Jones (Illinois State Library) gave a presentation on IRIS (Illinois' Reliable Information Sources) database project.

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10. PrairieCat 20th Anniversary (short presentation)

    Coulter (PrairieCat) gave a presentation celebrating PrairieCat's 20th anniversary.

11. Public comments via previously submitted email (see above), in person or online

    Mai (PU) presented plans for the first Illinois Small and Rural Library Conference, scheduled for March 12, 2027 at the State Library. The one-day conference aims to address isolation and support small and rural libraries through networking, professional development, and potential scholarship support from community foundations. She invited attendees to join the steering committee, participate in sessions, or provide feedback through the QR code survey, noting that the conference would be accessible to libraries of all sizes.

12. Adjournment

    The meeting adjourned at 11:26am.

13. Next regularly scheduled meeting, October 28, 2026

Total voting members:		**108**	**Quorum: 55**						**Total need**
		In person: 72 Zoom: 14 Total: 86	**Motion 1: to approve the consent agenda as presented**			**Motion 2: to approve Trinity College of Nursing and Health Sciences/UnityPoint Health library departure**			
	July 29, 2026		**Move: Fanslow (FR) Second: Long (BL)**			**Move: Weber (WO) Second: Halsey (SY)**			
LLSAP Code	**Agency (Yellow- attended via Zoom, Green-attended in person, gray-absent)**	**1 = in person NP= Not present for vote**	**Yes**	**No**	**Abstain**	**Yes**	**No**	**Abstain**
AN	Andalusia TL		1			1		
AA	Annawan-Alba TL		1			1		
BM	Bertolet ML		1			1		
BD	Bourbonnais PL		1			1		
BR	Bradley PL		1			1		
BY	Byron PLD		1			1		
CP	Charles B. Phillips PL		1			1		
CH	Cherry Valley PLD							
CT	Clinton Township PLD		1			1		
CC	Coal City PL		1			1		
CL	Colona PL		1			1		
CF	Community Unit SD #2		1			1		
CO	Cordova PL		1			1		
CN	Cortland Community Library		1			1		
CR	Creston-Dement PL		1			1		
DK	DeKalb PL		1			1		
EA	Earlville PL		1			1		
EP	East Dubuque DL		1			1		
EM	East Moline PL		1			1		
EL	Elizabeth TL		1			1		
EJ	Ella Johnson ML							
ER	Erie PL							

FL	Flagg-Rochelle PLD		1			1		
FO	Forreston PL (UL rep)		1			1		
FR	Fossil Ridge PL		1			1		
FG	Franklin Grove PLD		1			1		
FP	Freeport PLD		1			1		
GA	Galena PLD							
GP	Geneseo PL		1			1		
GE	Genoa PLD		1			1		
GR	Grant Park PL		1			1		
GV	Graves-Hume PL (Mendota)		1			1		
HN	Hanover TL		1			1		
HR	Harvard Diggins Library		1			1		
HE	Henry C Adams ML (Prophetstown)							
HC	Highland Community College		1			1		
HK	Hinckley PLD							
HD	Homer Township Public Library							
BL	Ida PL		1			1		
JO	Johnsburg PL		1			1		
JC	Joliet HS District #204		1			1		
JH	Julia Hull PL							
KK	Kankakee Public Library		1			1		
LS	LaSalle PL		1			1		
LE	Lena CL		1			1		
LI	Limestone PL		1			1		
LO	Lostant CL		1			1		
ML	Malta PL		1			1		
MT	Manhattan PL							
MN	Manteno PL		1			1		
MP	Maple Park PL		1			1		
MU	Marengo-Union PLD		1			1		
MB	Marseilles PL		1			1		
MS	Meridian Schools							
MI	Mills & Petrie ML		1			1		

MG	Mineral-Gold PL (UL rep)							
MK	Mokena PL		1			1		
MX	Moline PL		1			1		
MR	Morris Area PL		1			1		
MO	Mount Carroll DL							
MM	Mount Morris PL		1			1		
NL	New Lenox PL		1			1		
KR	Nippersink PLD		1			1		
NC	North Chicago		1			1		
LP	North Suburban PLD		1			1		
OD	Odell PL		NP			1		
OG	Oglesby PL							
OR	Oregon PL		1			1		
PP	Pearl City PL		1			1		
PT	Pecatonica PL		1			1		
PE	Peotone PL		1			1		
PU	Peru PL		1			1		
PD	Plano Community PL		1			1		
PX	Plano CUSD#88							
PO	Polo PLD							
PR	Princeton PL		1			1		
PF	Princeton Twp HS							
TW	Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico SD		1			1		
UC	Putnam County Schools							
UE	Putnam County PL		1			1		
RL	Reddick PL (Ottawa)		1			1		
MA	Richard A Mautino (Spring Valley)		1			1		
RD	River Valley DL (Port Byron)		NP			1		
CV	Robert R. Jones DL (Coal Valley)		1			1		
RO	Robert W. Rowe PL (Sheridan)		1			1		
RP	Rock Island PL		1			1		
RU	Rockford University		1			1		
RY	Rockridge High School (UL rep)							

SA	Sandwich PLD		1			1		
SC	Schmaling ML (Fulton)							
SE	Seneca PL		1			1		
SD	Sherrard PLD		1			1		
SL	Silvis PL							
SK	Stockton PL							
SN	Somonauk PL		1			1		
SB	South Beloit PL		1			1		
SR	Streator PL		1			1		
SY	Sycamore PL		1			1		
TF	Talcott Free LD							
TC	Three Rivers PL		1			1		
UT	United Township HS		1			1		
WA	Walnut PL		1			1		
WR	Warren Township PL		1			1		
WD	Western Dist PL (Orion)		1			1		
WL	Wilmington PL		1			1		
WP	Winnebago PLD		1			1		
WO	Woodstock PL		1			1		
YK	Yorkville PL		1			1		
	Totals:	0	84	0	0	86	0	0

Date: 10/2/2026

To: PrairieCat Administrative Council

From: Elena Mendoza, RAILS Staff Accountant

Subject: PrairieCat Financial Report – August 2026

Please find attached the PrairieCat Financial Reports for the month of August 2026. The attached statements include the Cash Report, Balance Sheet, Statement of Revenues and Expenses, and Check Register for the period of August 26 through September 21.

As of August 31, of the total cash balance of $1,395,626, $613,371 was undesignated working cash, $770,708 was designated for reserves, and $11,547 was eCommerce receipts payable to the membership. The cash balance decreased $49,492 during August primarily due to the monthly payroll and payroll-related expenses ($85,771), the monthly LIMRiCC health insurance premiums ($20,456), June and July credit card purchases ($4,852), and the fiscal year 2026 financial audit progress billing ($3,250). These vendor expenses were partially offset by the receipt of all but one remaining invoiced first quarter member fee ($40,455) and the receipt of all but sixteen invoiced annual union list member fees ($16,484).

The balance of working cash was sufficient to fund 3.4 months of budgeted FY2027 operating expenses, and the balance of the reserve designation would fund an additional 4.3 months of budgeted operating expenses. In addition, the $481,500 CD principal would be sufficient to fund an additional 2.7 months of budgeted operating expenses.

Total revenues through August were $362,120, which was $538 below budget primarily due to reimbursement revenues ($656), other revenues ($500), and Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Barcode revenues ($100). Reimbursement revenues are driven by member participation in the Innovative mobile app and express lane checkouts. Other revenues were below budget from continuing education grants and credit card cash-back rewards that have not yet been received. ILL Barcode revenues were also below budget due to lower than anticipated activity through August. These below budget revenues were partially offset by above budget investment income ($718).

The total year-to-date interest income through August was $6,051, which was $718 above the year-to-date budgeted amount of $5,333. During the Federal Reserve's September meeting, they approved a .25% increase in the target federal funds rate, bringing the target range to between 3.75% and 4.00%. Their September projections for calendar years 2026 and 2027 interest rates of 4.1% and 4.1%, respectively, increased from their June projection of 3.8% and 3.6%. Their next scheduled meeting is October 28. The average August interest rates for the IL Funds and iPrime money market accounts were

3.785% and 3.549%, respectively. These rates increased slightly from the July average interest rates of 3.767% and 3.521%.

Total expenses through August of $332,356, were $18,279 below the year-to-date budgeted amount of $350,635. This is primarily due to under budget Contractual Services expenses ($7,560); Vehicle expenses ($6,205); Personnel costs ($5,842); and Travel and Continuing Education costs ($4,282).

Contractual Services expenses were under budget primarily due to the accounting treatment required for the Innovative Interfaces Sierra, Vega Discover, hosting, and phone alerts system subscriptions under the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs). Under this standard, PrairieCat records monthly amortization expense for the total amount of each subscription agreement, along with interest expense over the subscription term, based on the present value of the total subscription payments. Prior to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 96, expenses related to the Sierra, Vega Discover, hosting, and phone alerts system subscriptions were recorded under Information Service Costs and other Contractual Services.

Vehicle expenses remained below budget overall through August. However, these expenses are expected to increase throughout the fiscal year as PrairieCat staff travel to in-person meetings and member site visits, and a replacement van is purchased for staff use.

Personnel expenses were below budget in nearly all personnel categories, primarily due to timing differences between budgeted and actual expenses. These below budget personnel costs were partially offset by health, dental and life insurance costs which were above budget primarily due to timing differences and staff benefit elections.

Travel and continuing education expenses were below budget through August but are expected to increase as conferences, in-person member meetings, and governance meetings occur throughout the fiscal year.

These below budget expenses were partially offset by above budget interest expense ($5,951) related to the SBITAs described above.

PRAIRIECAT
CASH REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING August 31, 2026

Beginning Cash Balance	$ 1,445,117.47
Cash Received	
Payments from Member Libraries, etc.	58,275.40
Interest - BankORION	314.30
Interest - Illinois Funds	1,075.40
Interest - PTMA	16.12
eCommerce Receipts Payable	5,945.77
Total Cash Received	65,626.99
Expenses Paid	
Checks and Vendor ACH Payments	24,148.27
Payroll and Retirement Contributions	85,770.72
ACH Credit Card Payments	4,851.63
Miscellaneous (Lockbox & Misc. Bank Fees, eCommerce Fees, etc.)	348.27
Total Disbursements	115,118.89
Ending Cash Balance	$ 1,395,625.57

CASH DETAILS:

Member Library Deposit Accounts/Prepayments	$ -
eCommerce Cash Receipts Payable	11,547.19
Reserve Designation	770,707.28
Working Cash	613,371.10
TOTAL CASH	$ 1,395,625.57

PAYPAL FUNDS DETAILS:

August PayPal Receipts in Transit to Bank	$444.05

CD INVESTMENT DETAILS:

BankORION: 13-month CD Principal @ 4.05% Interest 8/29/2024 - 9/29/2026	$ 250,000.00
PTMA: KS StateBank: 24-month CD Principal @ 3.969% Interest 8/27/2025 - 8/27/2027	$ 231,500.00
CD Investment Income as of August 2026	$ 19,500.26
TOTAL CURRENT CD INVESTMENT VALUE	$ 501,000.26

Fund Balance as of August 2026	$2,010,464.10
FY27 operating expenses excluding planned reserve designation:	$ 2,154,021.36
Working Cash % of operating expenses:	28.48%

PrairieCat
Balance Sheet
As of 8/31/2026

	Balance End of Month
Assets	
Cash & cash equivalents	
Cash - Bank Orion	1,054,643.68
Cash - Illinois Funds	335,629.92
Cash - PTMA	5,351.97
PayPal Funds	444.05
Total Cash & cash equivalents	1,396,069.62
Investments	491,711.33
Accounts receivables	21,650.82
Accrued investment income	9,288.93
Prepaid expenses	532,662.10
Capital Assets, net	
Computers	287,558.00
Vehicles	12,450.50
Subscription Based IT Arrangements	1,524,718.00
Accumulated Depreciation	(300,008.50)
Accumulated Amortization - Subscription Based IT Arrangement	(1,026,339.19)
Total Capital Assets, net	498,378.81
Other assets	
Deferred Outflows - Pension	333,473.69
Deferred Outflows - OPEB	6,735.00
Total Other assets	340,208.69
Total Assets	3,289,970.30
Liabilities	
eCommerce receipts payable	11,991.24
Payroll	
Pension Payable	11,990.72
Total Payroll	11,990.72
Deferred revenue	243,112.72
Compensated absences	37,502.81
Net pension liability	392,553.00
Post-employment benefits	52,790.00
Other long-term obligations	
Deferred Inflows - Pension	25,651.00
Deferred Inflows - OPEB	5,260.00
Subscription Based IT Arrangements Payable	498,654.71
Total Other long-term obligations	529,565.71
Total Liabilities	1,279,506.20
Net Assets	
Beginning net assets	1,980,700.52
Current YTD net income	29,763.58
Total Net Assets	2,010,464.10
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	3,289,970.30

PrairieCat

Statement of Revenues and Expenses - FY27 is 16.67% Completed

From 8/1/2026 Through 8/31/2026

	Current Month	YTD Actual	YTD Budget - Original	Percent of YTD Budget	Total Budget - Original	Percent of Annual Budget
REVENUES						
Fees for Services and Materials						
Union List Member Revenue	5,298.86	5,380.38	5,380.34	100.00%	32,282.00	16.66%
Fully Participating and Basic Online Member Revenue	124,307.50	248,615.00	248,614.42	100.00%	1,491,686.47	16.66%
ILL Barcode Revenue	100.00	400.00	500.00	80.00%	3,000.00	13.33%
Fully Participating & Basic Online - Reserve Contribution	1,683.83	3,367.66	3,367.66	100.00%	20,206.00	16.66%
Union List - Reserve Contribution	281.67	286.00	286.00	100.00%	1,716.00	16.66%
Total Fees for Services and Materials	131,671.86	258,049.04	258,148.42	99.96%	1,548,890.47	16.66%
Reimbursements						
Reimbursements	1,619.16	3,238.32	3,761.02	86.10%	22,566.11	14.35%
Reimbursements - Mobile App	2,850.00	5,700.00	5,833.34	97.71%	35,000.00	16.28%
Total Reimbursements	4,469.16	8,938.32	9,594.36	93.16%	57,566.11	15.53%
Investment Income	3,069.40	6,051.25	5,333.34	113.46%	32,000.00	18.91%
Other						
Other Grants	0.00	0.00	334.00	0.00%	2,000.00	0.00%
Other Grants - LLSAP Support Grant	44,540.56	89,081.12	89,081.13	99.99%	534,486.78	16.66%
Other Revenue	0.00	0.00	166.00	0.00%	1,000.00	0.00%
Total Other	44,540.56	89,081.12	89,581.13	99.44%	537,486.78	16.57%
Total REVENUES	183,750.98	362,119.73	362,657.25	99.85%	2,175,943.36	16.64%
EXPENSES						
Personnel						
Other Professionals	61,999.70	120,567.97	124,522.00	96.82%	809,387.91	14.89%
Support Services	9,319.53	18,759.43	18,946.00	99.01%	123,147.67	15.23%
Social Security Taxes	5,073.77	10,123.60	10,956.00	92.40%	71,219.76	14.21%
Unemployment Insurance	0.00	0.00	584.00	0.00%	3,500.00	0.00%
Worker's Compensation	168.50	337.00	350.00	96.28%	2,100.00	16.04%
Retirement Benefits	7,959.22	15,548.92	15,984.00	97.27%	103,897.05	14.96%
Health, Dental And Life Insurance	15,147.35	33,137.66	32,686.94	101.37%	196,121.64	16.89%
Other Fringe Benefits	0.00	0.00	166.00	0.00%	1,000.00	0.00%
Tuition Reimbursements	0.00	0.00	83.00	0.00%	500.00	0.00%
Staff Professional Memberships	22.09	44.18	83.00	53.22%	500.00	8.83%
Total Personnel	99,690.16	198,518.76	204,360.94	97.14%	1,311,374.03	15.14%
Buildings and Grounds						
Property Insurance	284.42	568.84	560.00	101.57%	3,360.00	16.92%
Total Buildings and Grounds	284.42	568.84	560.00	101.58%	3,360.00	16.93%
Vehicle Expenses						
Fuel	59.83	97.31	166.00	58.62%	1,000.00	9.73%
Repairs And Maintenance	0.00	0.00	166.00	0.00%	1,000.00	0.00%
Vehicle Insurance	127.17	254.34	250.00	101.73%	1,500.00	16.95%
Vehicles Leasing And Rent	0.00	0.00	83.00	0.00%	500.00	0.00%
Other Vehicle Expenses	0.00	0.00	5,891.66	0.00%	35,350.00	0.00%

PrairieCat

Statement of Revenues and Expenses - FY27 is 16.67% Completed

From 8/1/2026 Through 8/31/2026

	Current Month	YTD Actual	YTD Budget - Original	Percent of YTD Budget	Total Budget - Original	Percent of Annual Budget
Total Vehicle Expenses	187.00	351.65	6,556.66	5.36%	39,350.00	0.89%
Travel and Continuing Education						
In-State Travel	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00%	9,000.00	0.00%
Out-Of-State Travel	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%	6,000.00	0.00%
Registrations And Meeting, Other Fees	352.20	468.87	1,666.66	28.13%	10,000.00	4.68%
Conferences And Continuing Education Meetings	0.00	0.00	584.00	0.00%	3,500.00	0.00%
Total Travel and Continuing Education	352.20	468.87	4,750.66	9.87%	28,500.00	1.65%
Public Relations	0.00	0.00	334.00	0.00%	2,000.00	0.00%
Commercial Insurance	640.92	1,281.84	1,400.00	91.56%	8,400.00	15.26%
Supplies, Postage and Printing						
Computers, Software And Supplies	2,288.73	3,999.84	3,833.34	104.34%	23,000.00	17.39%
General Office Supplies And Equipment	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00%	1,500.00	0.00%
Total Supplies, Postage and Printing	2,288.73	3,999.84	4,083.34	97.96%	24,500.00	16.33%
Telephone and Telecommunications	847.16	1,134.19	1,833.34	61.86%	11,000.00	10.31%
Equipment Repair and Maintenance						
Equipment Repair And Maintenance Agreements	81.66	163.32	250.00	65.32%	1,500.00	10.88%
Total Equipment Repair and Maintenance	81.66	163.32	250.00	65.33%	1,500.00	10.89%
Professional Services						
Legal	382.50	382.50	500.00	76.50%	3,000.00	12.75%
Accounting	3,250.00	5,150.00	1,250.00	412.00%	7,500.00	68.66%
Consulting	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00%	15,000.00	0.00%
Payroll Service Fees	674.08	1,665.70	1,416.66	117.57%	8,500.00	19.59%
Total Professional Services	4,306.58	7,198.20	5,666.66	127.03%	34,000.00	21.17%
Contractual Services						
Information Service Costs	18,811.88	37,623.76	105,976.52	35.50%	635,859.09	5.91%
Outside Printing Services	0.00	0.00	83.00	0.00%	500.00	0.00%
Other Contractual Services	(363.31)	(726.62)	13,446.38	(5.40)%	80,678.24	(0.90)%
Amortization - Subscription Based IT Arrangements	37,524.50	75,049.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Total Contractual Services	55,973.07	111,946.14	119,505.90	93.67%	717,037.33	15.61%
Professional Association Membership Dues	115.42	230.84	334.00	69.11%	2,000.00	11.54%
SBITA Interest	2,975.67	5,951.34	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Miscellaneous	89.00	283.05	250.00	113.22%	1,500.00	18.87%
Miscellaneous - eCommerce Fees	259.27	259.27	750.00	34.56%	4,500.00	5.76%
Total EXPENSES	168,091.26	332,356.15	350,635.50	94.79%	2,189,021.36	15.18%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	15,659.72	29,763.58	12,021.75	247.58%	(13,078.00)	(227.58)%

PrairieCat
Check/Voucher Register
1000 - Cash - Bank Orion
From 8/26/2026 Through 9/21/2026

Vendor Name	Effective Date	Check Amount
Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins, Ltd.	8/26/2026	382.50
Paycom Payroll LLC	8/27/2026	343.54
Paycom Payroll LLC	8/27/2026	22,386.73
Paycom Payroll LLC	8/27/2026	9,364.76
MissionSquare	8/28/2026	1,586.32
Bank Orion	8/31/2026	59.00
Cherry Hill Company	9/2/2026	3,290.00
MerchantE	9/3/2026	269.94
LIMRICC	9/9/2026	20,455.94
Bank Orion	9/9/2026	30.00
Paycom Payroll LLC	9/10/2026	330.54
Paycom Payroll LLC	9/10/2026	22,386.72
Paycom Payroll LLC	9/10/2026	9,364.72
MissionSquare	9/11/2026	1,586.32
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund	9/11/2026	11,990.71
First Bankcard	9/11/2026	3,228.35
Report Total		107,056.09

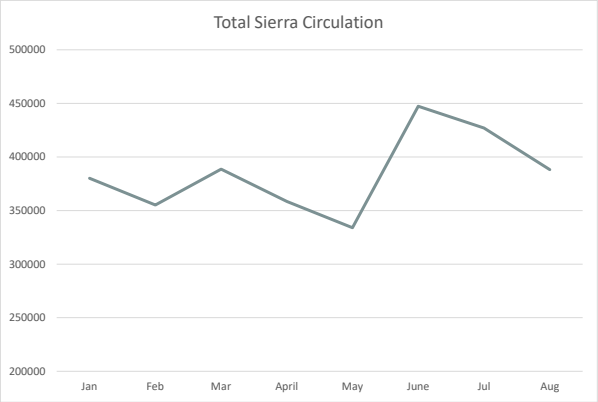
PrairieCat Monthly Statistics
August 2026

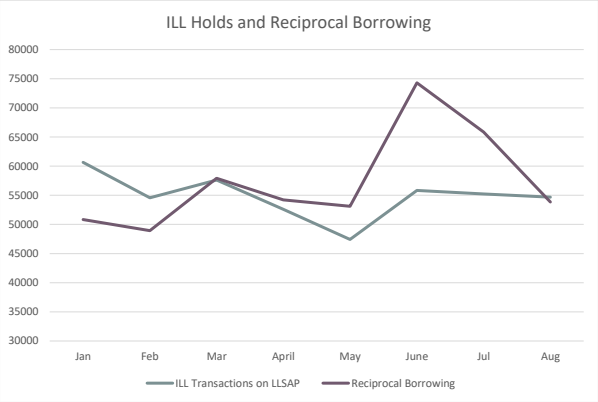
388,180
Circulation

136
Libraries

53,866
Reciprocal Borrowing

54,685
ILL / Hold Transactions



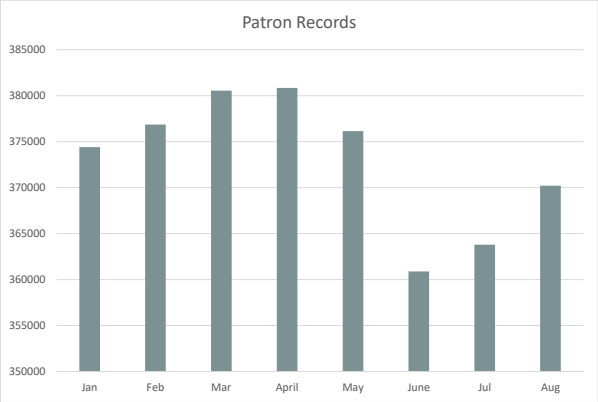


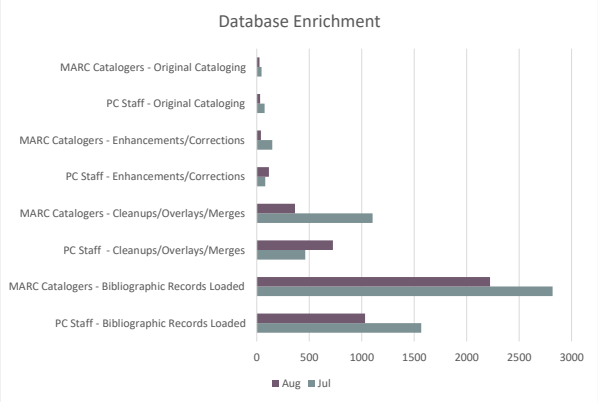
370,218
Patron Records

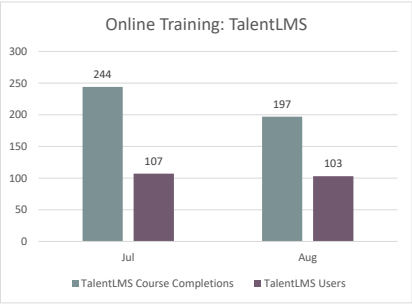
1,209,962
Bibliographic Records

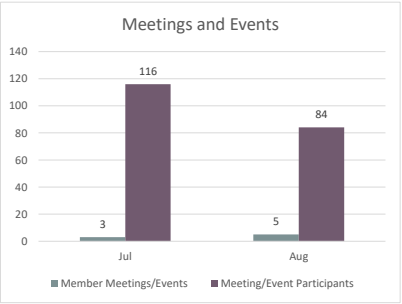
5,028,348
Item Records

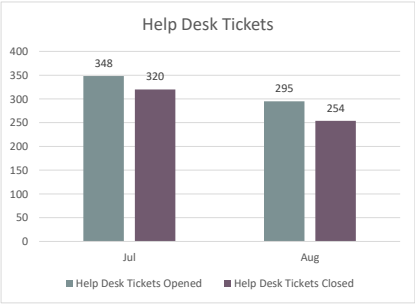
33,484
Special Database Tasks











17
Training Participants

7
Training Events - Live

84
Meetings/Events Participants

5
Meetings/Events

	July 2025	July 2026	Aug 2025	Aug 2026	Sept 2025	Sept 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027	Feb 2027	Mar 2027	Apr 2027	May 2027	June 2027
General															
Bibliographic records	1,211,596	1,211,169	1,212,647	1,209,962	1,212,476	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Item records	5,092,517	5,041,510	5,097,375	5,028,348	5,090,068	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Patron records	357,423	363,794	361,564	370,218	365,387	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total circulation	451,212	427,025	380,656	388,180	384,029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ILL transactions on LLSAP	59,159	55,231	56,498	54,683	58,546	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reciprocal borrowing	62,112	65,862	50,723	53,866	51,075	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Training, Outreach and Engagement															
Training events	5	6	17	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Training participants	18	12	135	17	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Training contact hours	21	9	134	16	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TalentLMS Course Completions	170	244	354	197	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Site visits	4	4	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Member Meetings/Events	3	3	3	5	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meeting/Event participants	141	116	23	84	302	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meeting/Event contact hours	237	222	22	117	1,738	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Troubleshooting															
HelpDesk Calls Opened	441	348	275	295	317	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HelpDesk Calls Closed	440	320	298	254	286	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database Enrichment															
Bibload records loaded - PC staff	1,654	1,567	1,072	1,033	1,461	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bibload records loaded - MARC catalogers	2,499	2,820	2,306	2,223	2,753	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleanup/overlays/merges - PC staff	490	462	926	726	972	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleanup/overlays/merges - MARC catalogers	890	1,104	941	365	721	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhancements/corrections - PC staff	82	81	67	116	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhancements/corrections - MARC catalogers	76	148	35	39	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Original catalogings - PC staff	103	75	71	32	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Original catalogings - MARC catalogers	27	46	30	26	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special projects (Call number conversion, ICode1 conversion, Reclamation, etc)	28,691	34,200	34,534	33,484	46,533	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
To see the full statistical spreadsheet, visit: https://support.prairiecat.info/gov															

PrairieCat has been busy with many activities over the course of the last quarter. Please see below some highlights from July 1-September 30, 2026:

Administrative:

- An RFI for ILS services was posted. Six vendors replied to the posting, which was due on Sept. 30. We have formed a working group made up of members of our committees and staff to review and score the written responses. After we ascertain which systems we are most interested in, we will be holding demonstrations with those vendors.
- Administrative Council approved the purchase of a new van, a 2026 Ford Explorer. We took delivery of the vehicle on 10/12. PrairieCat staff will sell the existing Dodge Caravan, as the trade-in amount was low.
- Changes to our existing committee and standing group structure were discussed by members of the committees, and those changes were discussed by Administrative Council at their October meeting. Changes to the General Policy Manual will be made at the November Administrative Council meeting to formalize the changes. In short, the Resource Sharing and Training Committees will be sunset, and their duties will be passed along to the Circulation, Technical Services, Engagement, and User Experience Committees when appropriate. The Technical Services Committee will expand to include a Technical Services Users Group (TSUG), which will include all interested parties and will be present at meetings for discussion and advising voting members on decision making.
- The annual audit for FY26 was presented by our accountant, Elena Mendoza, and the auditors from Lauterbach and Amen at the October Administrative Council meeting. The audit was once again clean and was accepted by the Administrative Council at the meeting. The AFR is available for review with the Delegates Assembly documents on the PrairieCat website.
- Three members of PrairieCat staff attended the annual ILA conference this year in Peoria.

Member Services and UX:

- The Encore catalog was sunset on July 1, 2026.
- In the Vega Discover catalog, the My Account Portal launched on July 8, 2026, after several fixes throughout the preceding months.
- PrairieCat celebrated 20 years as a consortium with 136 members. (https://support.prairiecat.info/prairiecat-celebrates-20th-anniversary)
- PrairieCat hosted the PUG Day Virtual event on September 24 and 25. There were 490 webinar attendees across the 15 live sessions, with representation from 60 libraries.

- The Elementary School of Putnam County School District 535 went live for circulation on August 17. This is the 4th and final location in the district to participate in PrairieCat.

Library Systems:

Over the past quarter, the Library Services team has participated in a variety of key meetings, including those with PrairieCat Staff, weekly department meetings, the Training Committee, the Technical Services Committee, the Circulation Committee, and the Delegates Assembly.

Training and Presentations

- We have conducted multiple training sessions, including one-on-one sessions via Zoom. Several staff members from our member libraries have successfully completed courses and achieved Item Entry certification.
- Ongoing revision of courses offered through TalentLMS to improve content and relevancy.
- Planning and revising the MARC Cataloging Course curriculum, scheduled to begin in October.

Database Maintenance and Cleanups

Our team has processed numerous original cataloging requests, merged duplicate records, overlaid records, created volume entries, and linked items to their corresponding volume records. We have also managed the submission of records from various libraries through the PrairieCat bib-loading process, ensuring the accuracy of the data in the database.

Systems:

- Recreated and automated a Polaris reciprocal borrower report for a library director.
- Staff joined a RAILS committee to look at automating delivery counts.
- Staff presented a PUG Day Cyber Security Program
- We configured a Loaner Laptop Setup for staff use
- We set up services with a managed service provider for emergency support and disaster recovery. No contract was required, and the provider will only charge us if we use their services on an hourly basis
- Staff continued working on annual Library IP address update.
- We finished moving all IP information from spreadsheets to our LibConnect CMS
- Staff started formalizing names of print templates and removing older unused templates.

PrairieCat

Date: 10/28/2026

To: PrairieCat Delegates Assembly

From: Carolyn Coulter, Director

Re: New Lenox Public Library District departure from PrairieCat

Executive Summary:

On September 18, 2026, PrairieCat was notified that the New Lenox Public Library District would be withdrawing from PrairieCat to join the Pinnacle Library Cooperative. Delegates must formally approve their departure from the consortium. The timeline will be sometime during FY28, depending on the timeline for migration.

Recommendation:

It is recommended to accept the withdrawal of the New Lenox Public Library District from PrairieCat, as they have notified PrairieCat within the timeframe mandated by the IGA.

PrairieCat

Connecting Libraries to Strengthen Communities

FY26 Annual Report

Annual Report July 2025 - June 2026

PrairieCat assists members in the successful sharing of resources and services, expanding the quality and quantity of information accessible to our library users.

At its core, PrairieCat exists to provide an integrated library system (ILS) to members—having a central ILS provides efficiencies to member libraries.

Member Libraries FY26

138 Member Libraries

81 Fully Participating Members

23 Basic Online Members

34 Union Listing Members

Multi-Type Consortium

Member libraries from **22 counties** in Illinois

104 Public Libraries

31 School Libraries

2 Academic Libraries

1 Special Library

Database Support

12 PrairieCat Staff

30+ Monthly Statistical Reports

1,178 Original Cataloging Records

43,568 Record Loads

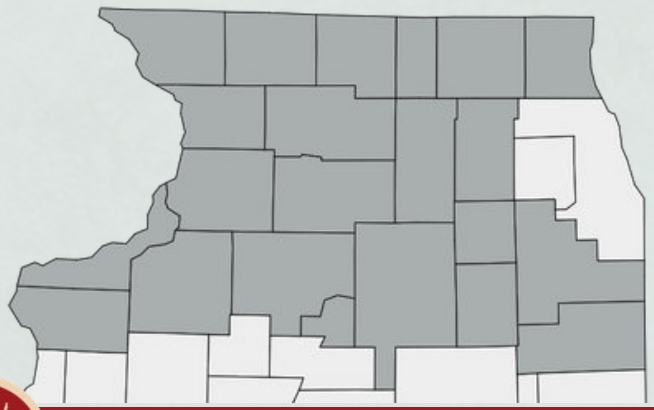
22,992 Record Enhancement

585,359 Special Project Record Cleanup

36 MARC Catalogers from Member Libraries

2 Sierra Upgrades v 6.4 and v 6.5

Total Help Desk Tickets Processed: 3,860



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Resource Sharing Network

360,000+ cardholders have access to more than **1.2 million** unique titles and **5 million items**.

Member libraries have a combined service population of more than **1,105,000**.

138	658,240	4,532,630	644,371
Member Libraries	Interlibrary Loan Holds Filled	Items Circulated	Reciprocal Borrowing Transactions

Engagement

Members are actively engaged at all levels, which creates connections and advances the organization.

PUG Day 2025

260

total attendees

60 member libraries
28 sessions

Governance and Standing Committees

40

Meetings

1,100

Participants

Virtual Member Updates

47 attendees in the Fall
43 attendees in the Spring

Site Visits with Member Libraries

28 in-person site visits

Resource Sharing Summit

40 participants
Topic: Patron Behavior Policy

New Director Welcome

4 sessions
25 total participants

Union List Members Meeting

10 participants from Union List members

Back to School Session

12 participants from school libraries

Training

Learning opportunities equip members to provide excellent service to end users.

PrairieCat Led Sessions

63
live training sessions

340
attendees

Online Courses

65
self-paced courses

2,468
courses completed

462
users

TalentLMS: Self-paced courses available 24/7 through PrairieCat's online training platform. PrairieCat trainings offered online include searching, holds, circulation, cataloging, online catalog and mobile app customizations.

Vega Discover: One new course, Vega Reports, was added to the series of Vega Discover courses. 39 libraries have completed courses allowing for customizations of their Vega sites.

Vega Mobile: With the launch of the new Vega Mobile app, PrairieCat provided 7 live trainings with 138 attendees and recorded training videos for members and end users.

Item Entry Certification: PrairieCat requires that any staff that adds new items to the PrairieCat database are item entry certified to help maintain the accuracy of the database.
37 library staff completed Item Entry Certification through TalentLMS.

Create Lists Training: 21 library staff completed this reports training through TalentLMS.

IPLAR Q&A: PrairieCat offered 3 IPLAR Q&A sessions that 25 members attended.

User Experience

Members are supported in their efforts to provide exceptional service to end users.

Mobile App

71 member libraries opted in to the new Vega Mobile App. The PrairieCat Libraries Mobile app launched in October 2025. The new app allows for extensive library customizations and individualized branding.

Vega Discover

Innovative Interfaces continued with monthly updates of the Vega Discover catalog including fixes and enhancements. The Vega Reports feature launched in June 2025, allowing library staff to view useage and interaction data on their catalog sites.

Bibliographic Services

PrairieCat signed an agreement with Mitinet for bibliographic services to improve database record updates and maintain Consistent standardization. A database with effective search results is dependent upon adherence to strong cataloging practices.

Governance

Leadership is transparent, responsive, innovative, and accountable.

83%
Delegates Assembly Attendance Rate

29
New Directors

23%
Election Participation

Delegates Assembly: In response to member needs, the Delegate Assembly revised rules allowing for several in-person meeting sites across the service area for the quarterly Delegate Assembly meetings.

Sustainability: RAILS grant funds accounted for approximately 25% of PrairieCat budgeted revenues in FY26 in addition to in-kind services. Member fees had an average increase of 3.4%.

Membership Changes: Dakota CUSD 201 withdrew Union Listing membership. UnityPoint Health - Trinity medical library closed and subsequently withdrew Union Listing membership.