

IT Update for August 2015 Board Meeting

Ellen Popit and Troy Brown have been participating in a small working group that includes RAILS, ISL, and IHLS for the purpose of using the information and data that the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) has on taxing districts to give us up-to-date information on public and school library boundaries. The map allows multiple overlays to be chosen so the user can see where boundaries overlap or where potential new service areas may exist. This initial phase has been to find large errors in the data. The IHLS area is pretty accurate based on our spot tests. The next phase will be to have 10 libraries from IHLS log in and start using the map.

Brant Wingerter has been working to restructure the IHLS website and make it more mobile friendly as well as cleaning up a lot of the pages. There is a new theme on the website, but currently navigation hasn't changed much. Once all the backend work is done, making larger changes to navigation will be more seamless and easy to follow.

The delivery program is also on Brant's plate and he's making good progress on the iPad application for the delivery drivers. The hardest part of the project is what he's currently working on and that's the syncing of data between the iPads and a central database.

Brandon Chapman has installed and setup a new disk array at the colocation facility in Champaign. The disk array was purchased with Dream Grant funds and allows for the expansion of critical SHARE servers. Brandon has also taken the lead on the Edwardsville office move. We have a quote for running the wiring for Edwardsville and we're just waiting for some clarification on the quote before moving forward.

Troy will attend The Illinois Library Association Conference this fall. At this time no other IT staff are interested in going, but depending on the schedule and what vendors will be there, I may recommend a 1-day vendor pass for some IT staff.

Plinkit libraries are being migrated this month to Enfold's new platform. Many libraries have chosen to go a new route and get a website elsewhere, but no libraries have dropped web service. They are now in a better position to choose what is best for them. I think running a Plinkit site has given many of them the confidence they needed to run a website on their own. Hillary Greer has taken the lead on making sure Enfold has the information they need from the libraries to make the transition smooth for this project.