



MEMO TO: IHLS Board of Directors  
FROM: Adrienne Elam  
DATE: July 18, 2014  
RE: Accounting System Proposal

A major task for our accounting department has been to select an accounting system to serve IHLS information needs now and into the future. In May, 2014 we initiated the process, with a goal of identifying software that has the following capabilities:

- Fund accounting
- Cash management/Bank reconciliation
- Accounts payable
- Ad hoc reporting
- View only access for managers and directors
- General ledger

In total, six products were considered beginning with our current system called Open Systems Accounting System (OSAS). We used a combination of phone, webinar and in-person meetings with all vendors for their product demonstrations. Open Systems disqualified their own product and recommended IHLS instead consider another of their products called Traverse. (We currently utilize a version of Traverse for the OCLC Billing grant.) We determined the Open Systems Traverse product would not be cost-effective as it would have required quite a bit of set up time to fully use the software. The Microsoft Dynamics product is utilized in the corporate world, however its functionality and ability is beyond our scope.

The remaining products are outlined on the following pages. We found Abila's MIP Fund Accounting 100 and the Harris Local Government products to be quite similar and very suitable to our needs. We selected Abila MIP Fund Accounting 100 as it is utilized by RAILS and we were impressed with the company's customer service reputation.

The Finance Committee recommends purchase of Abila MIP Fund Accounting 100 software for IHLS.

Thank you for your review and consideration as we move forward to improve this facet of our organization.