

**Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
Technology Backup Workgroup Notes
December 2, 2024, at 10:00 am
via zoom**

ATTENDEES: Will Allington (SCLS), Carl Demmin (MLS), Pete Hodge (WLS), Andrew Hoks (SCLS), Tony Kriskovich (NWLS), Walter Leifeld (WRLS), Clairellyn Sommersmith (WLS), Vicki Teal Lovely (SCLS)

ABSENT: Kerri Hilbelink (SCLS), Joshua Klingbeil (WVLS), Katelyn Dubiel, Board Liaison (IFLS), Kris Schwartz (IFLS),

GUESTS: Bryan Durkee (OWLS), Alison Hoffman (MLS), Amy Kondro (MLS), Rob Nunez (KCLS), Margie Verhelst (MLS), Robert Watson (NWLS)

PROJECT MANAGERS: Jennifer Chamberlain (WiLS), Melody Clark (WiLS)

The meeting started: 10:01 am

1. Review Agenda – Changes or additions

2. Discussion Items

a. Discussion: Next-Gen Solution

The group discussed the following questions:

- Is this a project that should be pursued?
 - C. Sommersmith feels that for the cost it is not meeting a significant need. Not all systems are participating.
 - V. Teal Lovely will defer to the tech staff but did note that not all systems have to participate, it can be a subsystem. One of the goals was to see if the systems could connect to one another. It is possible that the first system was oversized. She would like to see the exploration continue.
 - C. Demmin noted they are heavily invested. They have all their servers backed up nightly. Agreed that maybe they need to look at how much it will cost paired down to just actual users. Otherwise, they need to know how long would the current system run, and they would need to find alternative systems.
 - V. Teal Lovely noted that they extended maintenance until May 2026.
 - W. Leifeld noted that WRLS was going to join but due to system changes, they haven't. They are interested in seeing the group pursuing an exploration.
 - B. Durkee was in the same situation as WRLS, but has concerns with cost and did try to come on but there were issues with onboarding. From his vantage point, he does not see it making fiscal sense.
 - It was asked if the digital archives dark archive backup is also on this system and noted that involves almost every system.
 - There are six total systems using the digital archives storage right now and more being prepared to onboard.
 - T. Kriskovich noted that they appreciate the backup system and it is easy to use.
- There are two separate components, should they stay separate?

- A. Hoks noted that no matter what, they are going to be two different systems and that the digital archive doesn't necessarily need to be hosted on-premise.
- V. Teal Lovely sees the value for both and noted the benefit of Recollection WI doing the training and work to get the archived materials into storage. SCLS will continue to need a place to store.
- Is ECS still a requirement?
 - A. Hoks shared ECS was considered as it is a place to put longtime server backups. For SCLS it is not a need.
 - ECS provides storage protocols designed for archival data.
 - If the digital archive will be kept as a service, the ECS or replacement product will be needed.
 - The needs of the digital archival storage need to be determined.
- How much are systems willing to spend?
 - V. Teal Lovely noted that SCLS has it worked into their budget, but the original costs were set up for all systems. Hoping to get a system that is scaled for the actual users' needs.
 - C. Sommersmith asked B. Durkee what OWLS is spending. They have a tape library that they spent about \$14,000 on for their solution. For long term storage tape is old-fashioned but dollar per dollar it is hard to beat. They can have every library in OWLS involved and have room to back all of that up to tape. It is more time-consuming to manage but is budget-friendly.
 - It should be determined if pricing would be annual or will it be every five years.
 - It was noted that the original system was planned for five years and renewed through seven.
 - B. Durkee noted that the cost of SAN storage has dropped.
 - The benefit of redundant offsite backup fulfills SCLS' insurance needs.
 - C. Demmin noted that they are working on migrating their ResCarta, but right now they back up the server to SCLS. It is not yet a part of the Archives Backup.
 - In the original scope there was a desire to have live access, but it was determined not to be a viable option. What is unknown is if the current system was scoped for that. Possibly need a conversation with the digital archives group.
- Do systems have the networking ability to connect to another system network via BadgerNet or another means?
 - One of the things that slowed down the project was that no one was connected.
 - It was noted that it is a limitation of this project. If there's no know-how to do that, then you can't really join.
 - W. Allington noted that it is also important to think about what the future of this will look like with Badgernet. SCLS is seeing a lot of Badernet maintenance at night, which affects their connections to other systems.
- If a system does not want to be involved in this project, why and what is your current backup solution?
 - P. Hodge is using Backup Assist on their host servers to back up their virtual machines. That's what they used before the backup solution and since they had the infrastructure in place, it's so low cost to maintain, they just kept doing it. They are doing this while they participate in the project. It's just simple software on their host servers. They have one at the system and one in a different library

that they use for storage. Plus they have a dell file storage server that they purchased for use with ResCarta.

- OWLSnet uses Veeam to tape backup library.
- It was asked if anyone know what Prairie Lakes is using and it was noted that MCLS is doing cloud backup and Bridges works with their county for backup solutions.
- R. Nunez shared that PLLS is using Amazon web servers to host their backups and that KCLS is using a hybrid solution.
- Systems that will not be participating in the future: OWLS

b. Discussion: Meeting Frequency Check In

The group discussed the meeting frequency and group needs for 2025 and agreed the quarterly for now is still appropriate.

3. Next Meeting Date

A poll will be sent out to determine 2025 meeting dates

Meeting ended at: 11:03 am