The Idaho Board of Library Commissioners meeting was called to order at 1:00 p. m. on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 via conference call. Participating were: Larry Weeks, Chair; Sara Staub; Dick Rognas; Bruce Noble; and State Librarian Ann Joslin. Also attending the meeting were: Marjorie Hooper, Associate State Librarian; Rich Wilson, Associate State Librarian; Pamela Bradshaw, Program Supervisor; Jennifer Hall, Office Services Supervisor serving as recorder; Dr. Mike Rush, Executive Director of the State Board of Education; and Clete Edmunson, Special Assistant for Education and Transportation in the Governor’s Office.

I. Call to Order

II. New Business

A. Governance Structure

Joslin began with a reminder of the meeting purpose: to discuss the potential for relocation of the Commission within the structure of State Government. Dr. Rush then provided the background information for the discussion: There has been an ongoing conversation about the State Board of Education (SBOE) for some months now, related to the entities the Board is responsible for and their relatedness to the SBOE’s mission. Just recently the Governor’s staff presented a paper that proposed a new structure for the SBOE. Under the new proposal, the number of entities the SBOE supervises would be reduced. The Commission for Libraries would become a self governing agency as all the processes for a self governing structure are already in place (Board, Director, and infrastructure). In many ways, ICFL is nearly self governing already. The biggest structural change would be that the Board of Library Commissioners would be appointed by the Governor instead of the State Board of Education. Some logistical changes in things like strategic planning and budget submission would also occur. The Board of Library Commissioners expressed an interest in having input on qualifications for Library Commissioners appointed by the Governor. Mr. Edmonson said the input was welcome. He also shared that the timeline would be to get this done during the upcoming legislative session, so any input would be needed quickly. Joslin will coordinate the gathering of input from Board members. There was a concurrence among the attending Board members that this is a step in a positive direction. The group then turned to a discussion on how this information might be made public. This is a Governor’s Office initiative, so they prefer to make the announcement. They will answer any questions that come up between now and the time the announcement is made.
III. Adjournment
MSC Noble/Staub to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 pm