VI. GENERAL, MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE, & LIBRARY SERVICES IMPROVEMENT FUNDS (LSIF)
F. Finances – LSIF and Misc. Rev. funds received – Action Item

The ICFL staff have received funds from two sources recently and are requesting Board support to spend the awards from the Library Services Improvement Fund (LSIF).

The STEM Action Center provided $50,000 to support the 2022 Summer STEM from your library program, an increase of $10,000 over last year’s award. Summer STEM has been a successful program that has brought STEM programming to many Idaho families at a relatively low cost per participant. Enriched learning opportunities during the summer months are critical to helping children combat the “summer slide,” and libraries are able to demonstrate for families how they can continue engaging with STEM at home. In 2022, ICFL staff will award up to 70 libraries with $500 mini-grants for STEM outreach programming. STEM books and other resources will also be provided and the ICFL will contract with a content expert to create a new Summer STEM toolkit. The Commission will evaluate the program with participant surveys and submit a final report with all data and outcomes to the STEM Action Center.

The Idaho Scottish Rite Foundation donated $15,500 to the Idaho Commission for Libraries for the 2022 summer reading program. Last year the organization provided $15,000 in support and the donation was well-received. The funds will be used to purchase approximately 7,000 books that will be distributed to all public libraries in Idaho for their summer reading initiatives.

The Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health is granting the ICFL $50,000 to expand the pilot “Libraries and Telehealth” program to more rural libraries. The Foundation’s Executive Director has met with the ICFL staff and directors of the Weippe and Orofino libraries on a regular basis during the last year and is pleased with the initial outcomes of the project.

Staff are also requesting $500 from LSIF funds be utilized to fund a Best Practices subgrant from Richfield Public Library. The Best Practices grants are funded with LSTA dollars, but there are certain Best Practices that fall into unallowable LSTA spending categories. Richfield would like to improve the signage for their library, which is considered general library advertising under LSTA and cannot be funded with federal dollars.

As outlined in Idaho Code, Board approval is required for all expenditures from the LSIF:

33-2506 (2) Purpose. The purpose of the library services improvement fund is to further the development of library services for all the people of Idaho. Moneys in the library services improvement fund are appropriated to and may be expended by the board of library commissioners at any time for the purposes provided in this section.

(4)(c) Payments from the library services improvement fund may be used only for the purposes approved by the board of library commissioners. Funding decisions shall be solely within the discretion of the board of library commissioners.
Suggested motion: I move that the expenditure of up to $116,000 from the Library Services Improvement Fund be approved for implementation of projects outlined in Board Document 22-25 (rev.).