

303



FROM: COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

SUBMITTAL DATE: March 7, 2000

SUBJECT: **Response to Grand Jury Report: Riverside County Library System**

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Approve, with or without modifications, the attached response to the Grand Jury's recommendations regarding the Riverside County Library System; and
- 2) Direct the Clerk of the Board to immediately forward the Board's finalized response to the Grand Jury, to the Presiding Judge, and to the County Clerk-Recorder (for mandatory filing with the State).

BACKGROUND: On January 19, the Grand Jury issued a report regarding the Riverside County Library System.

Section 933 of the Penal Code requires that the Board of Supervisors comment on the Grand Jury's recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the Board, and that a response be provided to the Presiding Judge of Superior Court within 90 days after the report was issued.

Attachment

Thomas M. DeSantis

 THOMAS M. DeSANTIS
 Deputy County Executive Officer

FINANCIAL DATA:

CURRENT YEAR COST	\$	ANNUAL COST	\$
NET COUNTY COST	\$	IN CURRENT YEAR BUDGET:	
		BUDGET ADJUSTMENT:	FOR FY:

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE

County Executive Officer Signature *Kenneth M. Mullen*

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Mullen, seconded by Supervisor Venable and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved, and that the Executive Officer is directed to work with the County Superintendent of Schools to jointly develop a countywide Library Master Plan that will allow communities to have joint access to school libraries so that there is one library system.

Ayes: Buster, Venable, Wilson and Mullen
 Noes: None
 Absent: Tavaglione
 Date: March 7, 2000
 xc: E.O., Riv.Co.Library System, Grand Jury, Presiding Judge, Co.Clk.-Recorder, COB

Gerald A. Maloney
 Clerk of the Board
 By: *Gerald A. Maloney*
 Deputy

Policy
 Policy
 Consent
 Consent
 Dependent Recommendation:
 Per Executive Office:

3.2

RECOMMENDATION:

1. *That the County Librarian continue working on library hours of operation to accommodate a larger segment of the population.*

RESPONSE: Increasing service hours has been a major priority since the County assumed direct oversight of its Library System. Since the inception of the contract through which Library Systems and Services operates County branches, hours have increased more than 30 percent. Patrons have seen additional increases in hours at the three Principal Reference Centers (Glen Avon, Temecula and Palm Desert); further such enhancements are underway at several of the larger community libraries throughout the County. Formal reviews of the Library System's performance indicate that customers' expectations for service hours are being met. Specific scheduling of open hours is done in close coordination with member cities...yet another indicator of the County Library System's strong partnership with local communities.

It's also important to point out that the quality/currency of library materials is of equal importance to the number of hours libraries are open. In that area, the County Library has also made great strides. The Fiscal Year 1997-98 contract saw more than a three-fold increase in the materials budget as compared to the previous year. Successive years have shown additional jumps in the materials budget of 33% (FY 98-99) and 50% (FY 99-00) over spending in the prior year.

The last three years have truly marked the renaissance of the Riverside County Library System. The Board of Supervisors takes pride in the accomplishments made to date, and looks forward to ongoing enhancement of all services provided to library patrons.