

**ARL Director of Libraries Report for May & June 2022
July 2022 Meeting**

Administration & Personnel

- Staffing: Two PT positions at Watauga are open, but we have or are about to fill both. Judith Winecoff, our YS Manager at the library in Boone, will retire October 2 this year. We wish her the very best!
- The signed InterLocal Agreement has been scanned and sent to the State Library. ARL has an original on file.
- A one-time extra \$10 million from ARPA is in the current state budget for **State Aid to Public Libraries** but as yet public libraries have not been told how the money can be spent or when it will start coming.

Budgets & Finance

- Here is how we ended the **fiscal year 2021-2022**. We made some end-of-the-year revisions on June 30 and Doug signed off on them.

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Ashe	\$574,920 or 88.7%	\$583,484 or 90%
Watauga	\$807,217 or 92.6%	\$808,077 or 92.7%
Wilkes	\$800,284 or 95.2%	\$764,009 or 90.9%
Regional	\$416,728 or 91.8%	\$437,705 or 96.5%
TOTAL	\$2,672,270 or 92.1%	\$2,666,308 or 91.9%

- Ashe and Watauga Counties fully funded our 22-23 appropriations requests. Wilkes County did not. We will receive about \$30,000 less than we asked.
- We will give all employees the raises we planned to give them to get everyone to where they should be in our new pay scale. In Wilkes County, we will take more from fund balance this year than we planned, to cover our shortfall from the county.

Grant Activities

- ARL was awarded an LSTA Bright Ideas grant in the total of \$15,000 (\$5,000 per county for a different project in each county). The money must be spent by September 1, 2022, and we have started to spend it already. Ashe purchased a large format printer and laminator. Watauga purchased a microfilm reader-printer. Wilkes will use the money to offset costs for the new Veterans History Project magazine coming out later this year.
- Ashe County PL received a \$10,000 grant from South Arts for a Seed Saver Project.
- Grant \$** received for the region and for individual libraries in 21-22 totaled **\$133,610**.

Technology

- RFID has not been as helpful at ARL as was expected and has proven to be expensive to maintain. We will phase it out as our equipment wears out, or sooner, as appropriate.
- We received approval to modify our ECF request for laptops. The previous model was sold out by the time the funding was approved. We've been approved to purchase 10 more laptops to be divided between all 5 locations for patron checkout.