

M E M O

Date: March 1, 2011

To: **Chair** J.J. McCament and Members of the Board of Trustees

From: Kerry Nielan, IT Manager

Subject: Leased Metro Ethernet

PCLS requested proposals for a 3 and/or 5 year contract to provide Metro Ethernet services. Upon the successful provisioning of the services by the provider, we will have robust, cost effective Metro Ethernet services that will allow the library to meet the networking objectives and goals as stated in the Information Technology Strategic Plan.

On January 25<sup>th</sup> we went out to bid for E-rate eligible telecommunications services providers to provide leased Metro Ethernet services. This Metro Ethernet service is to consist of scalable bandwidth for our network that consists of our core site here at Processing and Administrative Center (PAC) and our 17 branches. The Metro Ethernet services will support voice, data and video applications. We required that the Proposer's response demonstrate their ability, technical knowledge and experience in the design and implementation for the proposed services.

At the time of writing this Board memo, we have received the bids for service but we have not completed the comparative analysis of the service offerings nor completed the evaluation of the proposer's competencies. We will have the name of the selected bidder by the Board meeting. The capital cost for the Non Recurring Charges (NRC) will not exceed \$250,000 (including taxes). Both the monthly charge and the NRC charge are eligible for E-rate discounts and I will be filing a funding request with USAC to obtain E-rate discounts. Reimbursement is typically in excess of 50% for us which should reduce the NRC to \$125,000.

We will talk more about this project during the Board meeting.