

Butte County

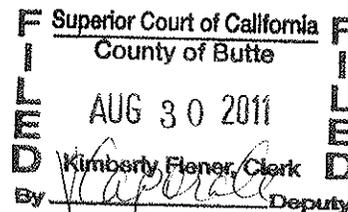
LAND OF NATURAL WEALTH AND BEAUTY

BUTTE COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS

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August 15, 2011

Honorable Steven J. Howell, Presiding Judge
Butte County Superior Court
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965



Re: Butte County Library
2010-2011 Grand Jury Final Report

Honorable Judge Howell:

Penal Code Section 933 and 933.05 provides that the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body. The Board of Supervisors, as the governing body of the County of Butte, will provide its response to the 2010-2011 Grand Jury Report by the statutory deadline.

BUTTE COUNTY LIBRARY

F1: The BC Library's new cataloging procedure and new self check out equipment have allowed staff to spend more time serving library patrons and enhanced efficiency with the BC Library system.

The respondent agrees with this finding

F2: The BC Library now contracts with Unique Management to collect overdue books, materials and fees.

The respondent agrees with this finding

F3: The BC Library's new procedure for collecting overdue books, materials and fees has allowed library staff to spend more time serving library patrons and has resulted in a greater return of books and materials than previously experienced.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F4: The BC Library's new procedure for collecting overdue books, materials and fees has resulted in few complaints from library patrons.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F5: The Butte County Board of Supervisors approved closure of the BC Library for one business day in 2010 to hold a staff development day, which provided a valuable opportunity for training, policy review, and collaboration among staff at all branches

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F6: Friends of the Library and volunteer groups provide invaluable support to the BC Library, in the form of both hands-on help and fundraising efforts. This support enhances the library's service to the community.

The respondent agrees with this finding

F7: BC Library staff members are committed to their work for the library, as evidenced by their willingness to adapt to changes and to learn or take on new tasks in order to continue providing quality service to library patrons.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F8: The BC Library is a heavily utilized public resource within Butte County.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F9: Some of the BC Library's facilities, including but not limited to carpet, ceiling tiles, walls and baseboards, are in need of maintenance or repair.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F10: The BC Library's computer hardware is out-of-date and its computer software system is inefficient.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F11: The BC Library's hours of operation have decreased since 2007.

The respondent agrees with this finding

F12: On February 8, 2011, the Butte County Board of Supervisors approved the Butte County Library Strategic Long Range Plan."

Thee respondent agrees with this finding

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1: The Butte County Board of Supervisors should continue to approve and fund one or more staff development meetings per year to provide BC Library staff members with training and increased opportunities for collaboration across branches.

This recommendation is directed to the County Board of Supervisors.

R2: The Butte County Board of Supervisors should develop and implement a plan for procuring updated computer hardware and for maximizing the efficiency of computer software to best meet the BC Library's current technological needs.

This recommendation is directed to the County Board of Supervisors.

R3: Due to the large volume of community members using the BC Library, the Butte County Board of Supervisors should improve facilities maintenance and repair at all of the BC Library's branches.

This recommendation is directed to the County Board of Supervisors.

R4: The Butte County Board of Supervisors should continue to assess current library usage and community interest, to determine whether the current hours of operation within the BC Library system are sufficient to meet demand. If not, the Board should continue to explore further ways to increase hours of operation.

This recommendation is directed to the County Board of Supervisors.

R5: The Butte County Board of Supervisors, in collaboration with the Library Director, should prioritize the suggestions listed in the "Butte County Library Strategic Long Range Plan," and develop a specific plan for timing and implementing their highest ranked priorities.

This recommendation is directed to the County Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,



Linda Mielke
Library Director