

**LIBRARY REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

Name of Library: Farmersville-Waggoner Public Library District

Address of Main Library Office: 210 South Cleveland St. Farmersville, IL 62533

II. Information about our Library

- A. We are located in Montgomery County. There are five libraries in our County.
- B. The population of the district in which our Library is located is 1,415 (as of 2020 census).
- C. We have three employees of the Library.
- D. Our annual budget for FY23 is: \$253,900.
- E. Our Library's equalized assessed valuation (EAV) for 2022 is \$48,550,730.

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

Board President	Carol Rovey
Trustee	Cheryl Hampton
Trustee	Carrie Matthews
Trustee	Katie Elvidge
Trustee	Gail Kraus
Trustee	Cassie Rovey
Trustee	Jessica Sidwell
Executive Director	Barbara Gentry
Library Resident	Joy Campbell
Library Resident	Rose Mary Beiermann

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Note: Per 50 ILCS 70/10(b), the committee membership must include all the elected or appointed members of the library board of trustees (President and Trustees), the Executive Director or other official of the Library, and two residents appointed by the Board President. The President may appoint more than two residents if deemed appropriate.

B. Dates that our Committee Met (50 ILCS 70/20)

First Meeting (must occur prior to June 10, 2023): May 16, 2023

Second Meeting: July 18, 2023

Third Meeting: August 22, 2023

IV. **Core Programs or Services Offered by our Library**

A. Our Library offers the following core services and programs:

Our library has an extensive collection of materials for all ages, including print, audio, and visual media. We have a facility that is ADA compliant and features spaces for our materials collections. We offer programs for families and children. We offer homebound delivery to individuals confined to their home. Financially, we budget and spend within the means of the taxes received and maintain a small surplus.

We also offer a multitude of services for patrons such as computer usage, printing and copying support. During the summer we offer a variety of summer reading activities for youth. Our Summer Reading Program not only promotes literacy while students are out of school but also provides students who complete the program with school supplies for the next school year. Additionally, we offer weekly summer reading activities for various age groups.

B. Other core services/programs we could possibly provide:

The creation of informational programs for adults, where the focus is on education and information. Label all Accelerated Reader books with Lexile level and test points to accommodate our elementary school readers.

V. Intergovernmental Agreements

We partner with or have Intergovernmental Agreements with the following other governments:

Entity:	Services Offered:
<u>Illinois Heartland Library System</u>	<u>-Interlibrary loan delivery service and continuing education opportunities, Cataloging Maintenance Center, advocacy support and grant opportunities for libraries.</u>
<u>OCLC (Online Computer Library Center)</u>	<u>-Provides shared technology services, original research, and community programs for its membership.</u>
<u>SLIDE Library Director's Group</u>	<u>-Discuss available grant opportunities, collaborate on library issues.</u>

Our Library's efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following ways: Our participation in these partnerships allows our library patrons to access many more services and resources. We are a library district supporting several small communities. Participation in these two groups allows our patrons to request materials they would not otherwise have access to. Additionally, these groups provide supports for our library staff and board as they make decisions to guide the library including continuing education and grants to support library needs.

VI. Community Partnerships

We partner with the following organizations *(list as many as you have)*:

Organization:	Services Offered:
<u>Panhandle School District</u>	<u>Library story hours for classes</u>
<u>Irish Days Committee</u>	<u>Children's activities and library service information</u>
<u>Montgomery County 4H</u>	<u>Children's programs during the summer</u>
<u>Montgomery County Farm Bureau</u>	<u>Children's program during the summer</u>

VII. Review of Laws, Policies, Rules and Procedures, Training Materials, and other Documents

We have reviewed the following, non-exhaustive list of laws, policies, training materials, and other documents applicable to the Library in order to evaluate our compliance and to determine if any of the foregoing should be amended.

- State laws applicable to Libraries
- Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*)
- Policy on public comment
- Designation of OMA officer (5 ILCS 120/1.05(a))

- All Board Members have completed OMA Training (5 ILCS 120/1.05(b))
- Schedule of Regular Meetings of the Library Board (5 ILCS 120/2.03)
- Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*)
- Designation of FOIA Officer (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))
- FOIA Officer Training (5 ILCS 140/3.5(b))
- Computation and Retention of FOIA Requests (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))
- Posting Other Required FOIA Information (5 ILCS 140/4(a); 5 ILCS 140/4(b))
- List of Types or Categories of FOIA Records under Library Control (5 ILCS 140/5)
- Periodic Meetings to Review Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2.06(d))
- IMRF Total Compensation Postings (5 ILCS 120/7.3)
- Designation of Whistleblower Auditing Official (50 ILCS 105/4.1 *et seq.*)
- All applicable officials have filed statement of economic interests (5 ILCS 420/4A-101; 5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5 *et seq.*)
- Sexual harassment prevention training (775 ILCS 5/2-109(C))
- Our Intergovernmental Agreements
- Our budget and financial documents
- State Ethics Laws, including, but not limited to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1 *et seq.*)
- Our budget and financial documents
- Reports on government efficiency, including “Local Government Efficiency and Size in Illinois: Counting Tax Revenues, Not Governments” by Wendell Cox (2016);

VIII. **What Have We Done Well?**

Our library has an extensive collection of materials for all ages, including print, audio, and visual media. We have a facility that is ADA compliant and features spaces for our materials collections. We offer programs for families and children. We offer homebound delivery to individuals confined to their home. Financially, we budget and spend within the means of the taxes received and maintain a small surplus.

IX. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?

The creation of informational programs for adults, where the focus is on education and information. Label all Accelerated Reader books with Lexile level and test points to accommodate our elementary school readers.

X. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

Our Library works hard to be as efficient as possible within our interactions with patrons, offering whatever assistance they require at the time. Our library board of trustees is presented with extensive research prior to passing a tax levy, such as identification of properties who have come off tax abatement, new building projects within the taxing area, and a keen idea of what the EAV has done in the past year, so as to levy a tax ordinance that is fair to both the taxpayers and the Library.

XI. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

In preparing this report, we reviewed several studies on local government efficiency. These studies show that the average local government in Illinois serves 1800 residents compare to the national median of 2850 individuals.

XII. **Our Committee's Recommendations Regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:**

Our Library operates under a budget that is not overly aggressive to taxpayers within its service area. We do not levy at our higher "allowable" rate, because we are able to provide services to over 1200 patrons who possess library cards. Libraries are patterned toward their communities: we provide the things (books, DVDs, audio and ebooks, programs, events, activities, etc.) that are of interest to the community we serve. Each library serves a different type of patron and community, thereby making combining existing libraries unfeasible.

We believe that our library operates to the best of its ability and potential to serve the community we are in. We offer programs that are geared toward the ideals and interests of the population we serve, as well as creating material collections the same way.

With the assistance of Illinois Heartland Library System and OCLC, we are able to extend the options of our patrons to access over 3 million titles available via interlibrary loan, which are delivered directly to the Library doorstep via the Illinois State Library's materials delivery program.

We circulate over 28,000 materials annually and serve many patrons. We hold programs weekly during the summer.

We offer a summer reading program that requires readers from kindergarten through 8th grade to read fifteen books and submit written reports on each book to the librarian. The library purchases school supplies for each reader completing the program. Our local teachers praise it as being a valuable asset in perfecting reading and writing skills during the summer recess from school.

It is this committee's belief that the Farmersville-Waggoner Public Library District offers an excellent assortment of materials, programs, and services without an excessive burden on the tax base or patrons. Our Library is thriving, and our attendance and circulation numbers show that.

Note: This Report must be filed with the county (or counties) no later than 18 months after the first committee meeting.

Submitted by: Katie Elvidge, Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee

Date of Committee Approval of Report: August 22, 2023