



Board Bulletin

March 7, 2014

eBook Utilization on the Rise

The Friends of the Library recently awarded the County a grant for FY 14-15 to cover the subscription cost for eBooks & related materials. This is the fourth consecutive year the Friends of the Library have generously approved this grant.

The number eBook users have risen significantly since the County began offering this service in late November 2011. Below please find a comparison of eBook utilization in 2011/2012 versus 2013/2014:

Avg. eBook Utilization per day 2011/2012 = 12

Avg. eBook Utilization per day 2013/2014 = 22

The increase in eBook utilization mirrors a national trend toward great use of on-line and automated library services. The increased use of eBooks coincides with greater use of on-line services via the library's website. Since 2009, virtual use of library services has increased by 10%.

It will be important for the County's library system to continually monitor and evaluate the utilization of technology and web based services. This will position the library to make strategic decisions regarding the potential re-allocation of resources away from traditional and less utilized materials toward technology to meet the needs of the community.

DSS Director - Hiring Process Update

The application deadline for the County's vacant DSS Director's position closed on Friday, February 28. The DSS Board plans to meet on Monday, March 10 to review applications and discuss interview questions. It is anticipated interviews will commence sometime the week of March 17th or March 24th.

Property Tax Collections Summary

As of February 28 the real property collection rate was 93.31%. This rate is 0.01 percentage points higher than the reported rate at the end of February 2013.

The vehicle tax collection rate as of February 2014 was 83.13%. This rate is 2.46 percentage points higher than the reported collection rate at the end of February 2013.

With respect to the overall levy collected, the collection percentage through February 2014 is 0.27 percentage points ahead of the overall rate as of February 28, 2013.

Past due tax revenue collection efforts continue to surpass prior year benchmarks. There were 249 active past due collections being enforced in February 2014 as compared to 117 at the end of February 2013.

Further, the County collected \$62,285 via the debt setoff program for past due taxes in February 2014. This is the largest amount Stanly County has ever received via this program in one month. As a means of comparison, the County collected \$40,500 via debt setoff in February 2013.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

COG Connect Forum	Wednesday, March 12 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Agri-Civic Center
Regular Board Meeting	Monday, March 17 7:00 PM Commons Mtg. Room