

Overdrive Group

February 4, 2022

10:00 a.m.

**Zoom link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86535321648>

Agenda:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Addition and Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
- IV. New Business
  - A. Overview of the state of Overdrive
  - B. Sora trial
  - C. Booktok
  - D. Budget
  - E. Renaming of Digital Group
  - F. ARPA Grant
- V. Next Meeting Date
- VI. Adjournment

Nicki Johnson

Digital Services Specialist

Lakeland Library Cooperative

Nicki@llcoop.org

**Lakeland Library Cooperative**  
**Overdrive Group meeting**  
**May 17, 2021, 10:00 a.m.**

Members in attendance: Teresa Kline (AF), Britney Dillon (IB-Chair), Mary Cook (OA), Nicki Johnson (OG), Paula Wood (IC), Virginia Oakley (AS), Lisa Harmon (SF), Jackie Endres (MADL), Pam Osborn (SW), Virginia DeMumbrum (SW), Elyshia Hoekstra (OC), Jennifer Salgat (IL), Amy Stockwell (NW), Merri Jo Tuinstra (ES)

LLC Staff members: Carol Dawe, Sheryl VanderWagen (recorder)

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by chair, Britney Dillon

The agenda was approved as distributed (M/S Mary Cook/Leann Parker)

The minutes from the last meeting were tabled.

New Business:

**Update:** Nicki Johnson gave an overview of the status of our group activities. There were 482,515 checkouts over the last year from over 21,000 unique users. She noted that the period covered the pandemic and library closers but that the numbers have stayed high for the last six months. There is currently a 60/40 split of activity between ebook and eaudio. The group has 32,222 titles not including the magazine titles and there are currently 10,000 titles checked out. There were not questions for Nicki.

**Magazines:** Carol discussed the magazine renewal options for December 2021. The cost under RB Digital was around \$20,000 for the group, Overdrive's first price for renewal was around \$45,000. She noted that there has been some movement on the part of Overdrive to bring that price down. She gave the group a September 1, 2021 deadline to notify her of intent to renew. The number of libraries who want to proceed with renewal will largely determine the price, the more who renew, the less expensive it will be for everyone.

**RB Digital local money:** The RB Digital audio group no longer exists and any funds that libraries currently have budgeted will have to be re-directed locally.

**Possible Grant funds discussion:** Carol discussed the idea of the state using ARPA grant funds to fund Overdrive renewals/purchases at the state level. The ARPA grants which the Library of Michigan is currently considering are intended for broad swath statewide one-time projects. The State of Arizona did an Overdrive statewide purchase for all their public libraries. The Library of Michigan could opt to do something similar. Carol asked the group about how they might consider using these funds if Michigan did something similar. Would the libraries replace current funding or split funding between state and local in order to keep some local spending in their budgets. The group consensus was that most libraries would opt for some sort of split. If this were to be funded by the Library of Michigan, all libraries would need to open an Overdrive Advantage account. Not all members of the Lakeland group are in Advantage. Carol encouraged everyone to get an Advantage account set up regardless of whether this funding transpires. Nicki will send out a list of members who do not have Advantage accounts. Advantage accounts are free, libraries just need to commit to purchasing a few extra titles per year to

maintain them. There was a question about using ARPA funds on Hoopla, but it was noted that not everyone has Hoopla and their pricing structure is different on a pay-per-use model rather than purchasing the digital rights to specific titles for all to use. Carol will investigate this further.

Carol also asked those in attendance for possible other ideas for using ARPA funds, requirements are that the project be statewide one-time purchases. Databases do not qualify because they must be renewed. Send her any other ideas that might fit into this “big-picture” funding category.

NOTE: This funding has not been guaranteed. The Library of Michigan is still considering ALL possibilities for its use.

**Budget increase or stay the same:** The current budget for purchases is \$1800 per year per library. This will stay the same for now and possibly be reconsidered if grant funding becomes available.

**Next Meeting:** November 2021 or earlier depending on the situation with magazine renewals, date to be determined.

Motion to adjourn (M/S Paula Wood/Teresa Kline): 10:23 a.m.

Recorder,  
Sheryl VanderWagen  
Lakeland Library Cooperative  
ILS Manager