

Nevada Report
January 2010
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The Nevada Library Association had its annual January board meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2010. The videoconferenced meeting took place at the University of Nevada Las Vegas Lied Library and joined library staff from southern Nevada with our colleagues in Elko, Fallon and Reno. The meeting began with the passing of the gavel from out-going NLA President Jeanette Hammons, Director, Elko County Library to incoming President Joan Vaughn, Henderson Libraries. The Nevada Library Association currently has 314 members up from 309 members in 2009. A discussion took place on the 2010 Nevada Library Association conference. The conference is scheduled for October in Henderson, Nevada. Since both the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District and Henderson Libraries currently have hiring freezes in place and travel and training funds are on hold concern on attendance numbers was raised. The NLA Conference Committee and President will discuss this further and if needed; other options will be investigated.

News from northern Nevada libraries was rather grim with Washoe County libraries revenue cut 36 percent over the past year and recent lay-offs of 50 staff members. Other northern libraries have already put furloughs in place with the possibility of additional lay-offs in July when a reevaluation is done.

Las Vegas new jobless numbers came in yesterday (January 21) at 13.1. People all over the state are taking advantage of free computer access at all library branches to look for a job or type up a resume. All libraries are seeing an increase in circulation, program participation and computer usage as they take advantage of resources for free during a tough economy.