The year began with Jason Grubb as the incoming WYLCAT Members President, tasked with revitalizing the WYLD Governing Board. A Leadership Retreat was in the planning stages when he took the position of Sweetwater County Library Director – the demands of his new position resulted in his resignation as President in January.

Vice President Jill Mackey became president and Marci Mock agreed to move from Larger Library representative to Vice President. Jason wanted to remain involved and agreed to take over as the Larger Library representative.

The Governing Board has been working on four main objectives the past six months:

The first was to institute monthly Governing Board meetings via conference call. Thanks to my fellow board members for devoting time out of their busy schedules to participate in these meetings.

The second objective was to fill the various WYLD committee openings. These committees have been filled, except for one opening each on the Fees/Budget committee and the Online Quality committee. Thanks go to the individuals who stepped forward, willing to take on these positions. We had more volunteers than we had available openings in some cases – I’d like to assure those who weren’t appointed to committees that it wasn’t because they weren’t wanted! We appreciate their willingness and are keeping their names in a “parking lot” (as Brian Greene calls it) for future needs.

Our third objective was a mad scramble to organize this Annual meeting. Thanks to Brian Greene and the WYLD staff, Brad Matthies and his team here at the college, and Marci Mock for their assistance in pulling this off!

And, finally, our fourth objective was to push on with plans for a retreat for WYLD leadership. This retreat will be held on October 8-10 in Lander with the Governing Board, Regional Council, and all committee chairs in attendance. This will be an opportunity for a hard look at the WYLD governance structure and where changes need to be made.

This will be the main challenge ahead of ALL of us this next year. WYLD has been with us for thirty years and the current structure is over ten years old. How can it change to more effectively adapt to changes in technology and in the state political structure? We will all be called on to struggle with this issue and help develop a new structure.

Our reward will be a strong, independent organization which can be flexible to the “winds of change,” providing the best possible service to the citizens of our state.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Mackey
Governing Board chair