

DEPARTMENT: LIBRARY

BY: Jacqueline Meriam

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RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes ___ No ___)

Video Policy

Consent from the Board of Supervisors approving the policy regarding access by minors to motion picture videotapes for Mariposa County Libraries.

By January 1, 2000 any Public Library that receives state funds pursuant to the Public Library Fund (PLF) and provides public access to motion picture videotapes must adopt a policy regarding access to minors. (see attached) The Public Library policy is attached. It is recommended that the Public Library should cease charging for videos, a resulting loss of \$800.00 revenue. In the past video purchases were prohibitive due to the high cost and the charge to check out videos was to help off set the cost. Currently videos prices have gone down and the price now averages \$19.00 each. The library will emphasize self help, educational, and classic videos. There is an inconsistency in the various branch libraries in that some charge and others do not. The County Library should be consistent in whether it charges or not.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board of Supervisors has approved an Internet Access for Minors policy.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

The Mariposa County Library System would lose state funding (PLF).

COSTS: () Not Applicable	
A. Budgeted current FY	\$ _____
B. Total anticipated costs	\$ _____
C. Required additional funding	\$ _____
D. Internal transfers	\$ _____
SOURCE: () 4/5ths Vote Required.	
A. Unanticipated revenues	\$ _____
B. Reserve for contingencies	\$ _____
C. Source description:	_____
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies,	_____
if approved: \$	_____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 99-355 Ord. No. _____

Vote - Ayes: 5 Nays: _____

Absent: _____ Abstained: _____

Approved _____ Denied _____

() Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

Recommended

Not Recommended

For Policy Determination

Submitted with Comment

Returned for Further Action

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: _____
Deputy _____

Comment: _____
A.O. Initials: JM

CALIFORNIA CODES
EDUCATION CODE
SECTION 18030-18032

18030. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, books and other library materials acquired or maintained by a public library as a part of the foundation program supported in part by state funds under this chapter shall be made available upon request to other public libraries in the state without charge, subject to any restrictions which may apply to the use of the materials by residents of the area normally served by the library.

18030.5. (a) Every public library that receives state funds pursuant to this chapter and that provides public access to the Internet shall, by a majority vote of the governing board, adopt a policy regarding access by minors to the Internet by January 1, 2000.

(b) Every public library that is required to adopt a policy pursuant to subdivision (a) shall make the policy available to members of the public at every library branch.

18031. The provisions of this chapter shall become operative July 1, 1983.

VIDEO

18032. (a) Every public library that receives state funds pursuant to this chapter and that provides public access to motion picture videotapes shall, by a majority vote of the governing board, adopt a policy regarding access by minors to motion picture videotapes by January 1, 2000.

(b) Every public library that is required to adopt a policy pursuant to subdivision (a) shall make that policy available to members of the public at every library branch.

Policy for Public Access to Motion Pictures Videotapes

The Mariposa County Library System has a videotape collection. The library has ordered and received as gifts various entertainment videos. The major emphasis of this collection will now be educational and 'how-to' videos.

Recognizing that libraries cannot act in loco parentis, the Mariposa County Library System acknowledges and supports the exercise by parents of their responsibility to guide their own children's reading and viewing. The interest of young people, like those of adults, are not limited by subject, theme, or level of sophistication. Published reviews of films and videotapes and/or reference works that provide information about the content, subject matter, and recommended audiences are made available to the public. This material may include information provided by video producers and distributors, promotional material on videotape packaging, and Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) ratings.

MPAA ratings and other rating services are private advisory codes. The Mariposa County Library will use MPAA codes to assist patrons in their selection of videotapes for their personal and family use. The guidelines will be posted in the library and video tapes will be labeled with the codes.

The codes will be:

G	General Audiences	All ages may view.
PG	Parental Guidance Suggested	Some material may not be suitable for children.
PG-13	Parents Strongly Cautioned	Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.
R	Restricted	Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.
0	Not Rated	No rating available.

All patrons, regardless of age, will be allowed to check out videos. However, children under the age of 17 who want to check out videos with the code of **PG, PG-13, R, or 0**, must have a parental agreement signed and filed with the library.

There will be no charge for videos. Videos may be checked out for 3 weeks at a time with a limit of 5 videos per patron.