



## Electronic Resources Committee Regular Meeting

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY  
LIBRARY SYSTEM  
2420 Mariposa Street  
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September 18, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Teleconference

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### DRAFT MINUTES

#### A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### B. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present: Mike Drake (Fresno), Fahra Daredia (Kern), Alma Madrigal-Ward (Madera), Matt Johnson (Mariposa), Smruti Deshpande (Merced), Alisha Rodriguez (Tulare County)

Members Absent: Nathan Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron), Ashley Nuhfer (Kings), Heidi Clark (Tulare Public)

Others Present: Amy Boese (Merced), Abby Mattos (Tulare Public), Stephen Guenzi (SJVLS)

#### C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as written.

#### D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the June 12, 2025, meeting were approved.

#### F. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

##### 1. DISCUSSION: Update on Systemwide Digital Magazines

Boyer updated the committee on discussions regarding a systemwide digital magazines subscription. Though ERC had previously recommended Flipster, Admin Council felt there was too much duplication of titles with some member library's OverDrive magazine offerings. During the August 2025 meeting, Admin Council directed SJVLS to discuss systemwide magazines with OverDrive.

Boyer, Chris Wymer, and Stephen Guenzi met with Kevin Coon last week. Coon acknowledged that the previously discussed methods of offering OverDrive magazines to SJVLS were not suitable for users. Coon proposed creating individual magazine subscriptions for the member libraries that don't already offer them so that all ten member libraries have OverDrive magazines integrated into their existing OverDrive/Libby collections. OverDrive would bill SJVLS for all the individual subscriptions.

SJVLS is waiting for a quote from OverDrive. Wymer will likely present the quote to the directors at the next Admin Council meeting in October. Boyer will update the committee as more information is available.

Committee members discussed some of the features and potential benefits of OverDrive magazines. Drake shared that the entire collection of magazine titles is available for an annual fee. Daredia added that back issues of titles are also included. Boese noted that adding a new app or resource can be challenging. Being able to offer magazines within an existing resource will benefit patrons.

## 2. DISCUSSION: Tutor.com: Marketing, Training, and Usage

Boyer asked about Tutor.com promotion and usage at the member libraries. Because it is still early in the school year there is not much to report yet. Johnson announced that Mariposa has issued a press release and is planning to use printed materials provided by the vendor. Mattos reported positive patron comments regarding Tutor.com but has not seen usage numbers yet. Boese shared that Merced is starting a literacy program in the coming weeks that will include homework help resources for families.

Boyer announced that the vendor has asked about virtual training for staff. Committee members expressed interest. Boyer will contact the vendor about scheduling and possible recording for staff who can't participate live.

Libraries that provided logo graphics and access instructions for printed Tutor.com bookmarks and promotional materials will receive those directly from the vendor. Boyer hopes to send logos for the remaining libraries to the vendor this week. That second group of libraries will also receive materials directly from Tutor.com.

SJVLS does not have any usage stats for Tutor.com. Boyer will contact vendor to provide whatever is needed to set up access to usage stats and reports.

## 3. DISCUSSION: Next Priorities for Systemwide Resources

The committee discussed other resources that could be added for all system members, especially those identified by patrons during the Fall 2023 survey.

Patrons often ask about streaming video options, particularly for Kanopy and hoopla. Members discussed the availability of new releases and popular content on streaming services. Neither Kanopy nor hoopla provide many popular new release movies. Other content, such as shows and series, are often exclusive to consumer streaming services and not available on services available to libraries.

Members also discussed monthly checkout and budget limits for streaming video. Daredia mentioned that hoopla offers binge passes that allow patrons to watch an entire series without counting individual episodes toward monthly limits.

The committee remains interested in hearing about the options for providing streaming video to all member libraries. Boyer will contact vendors.

Committee members also discussed options for providing digital news and newspaper content. Rodriguez shared that Tulare County has recently met with ProQuest to discuss digital availability of the Visalia Times-Delta. Boyer polled the committee on

what type of content they would like to see for digital newspapers. Most were interested in local news, followed by California and then national news. There was little interest in International and foreign language news. Boyer will contact vendors to discuss options and coverage.

Deshpande, Daredia, and Johnson expressed interest in resources for basic digital literacy. Drake suggested looking into the resources that were offered by the California State Library as part of the CAreer Pathways program. Boyer will collect more information on those resources.

#### **G. STATUS UPDATE ON SYSTEM RESOURCES**

1. NY Times

Because SJVLS subscribed to The New York Times through Califa, usage stats only show usage for the entire system. Boyer is trying to use EZproxy stats to find usage by jurisdiction. Those numbers do not show in usage inside the library. Rodriguez commented that few patrons are accessing the Times inside the library; most are accessing remotely. Boyer will continue working on the usage totals and will add those reports to the other systemwide usage stats as soon as possible.

2. CloudLibrary

Boyer informed the committee of recent and potentially ongoing issues with CloudLibrary content. CloudLibrary switched to a new audio provider earlier this month. There have been some isolated issues with access and availability, but those have been resolved within a few hours. Some audiobooks, including some popular new release titles, are showing as unavailable, even after purchase. This is also related to the transition to a new provider and should be resolved soon. System will monitor and provide updates if it becomes a larger problem.

#### **H. CALENDAR ITEMS**

The next meeting will be December 11, 2025, at the Tulare Public Library.

#### **I. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.