

# DRAFT

## Collections Development Policy

Effective Date:

Reviewed by & Approved by: Board of Trustees

Authority for acquisition, retention, display and use of library resources and authority for use of library facilities is delegated by the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) for Meeker Regional Library District (the “Library”) pursuant to §§ 24-90-109(1)(c)(I), 24-90-109(1)(m), and 24-90-122, C.R.S. to the Library Director. The Library Director is responsible for implementing these functions in accordance with the policies set forth by the Board.

The Library primarily serves the residents of the Town of Meeker and County of Rio Blanco, with an approximate population of 6,607. The Library is over 50 miles from major communities or larger public libraries. The predominant industries are open pit coal mining, oil and gas industries, railroads, and agriculture.

The Library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas. It is therefore the duty of the Library to provide resources and services for all segments of the community. The public has the right to access a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral and other ideas and experiences through the Library. Each Library resource is provided for the interest, information and enlightenment of the community and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole. The Library shall make facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affirmations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

### **Selection Criteria**

In considering acquisition, retention, display and use of library resources, the Library Director will consider the following criteria:

- Contemporary significance or permanent value;
- Popular demand and anticipated interest;
- Purpose and quality of the material;

- Representation of diverse viewpoints, trends, creators, cultural movements and/or perspective of marginalized groups, including those identified in § 22-1-104(1)(a), C.R.S.;
- Relation to existing collection, including the need to provide differing viewpoints of the same subject;
- Creator’s reputation, skill and significance;
- Critically reviewed in professional, literary or general periodicals;
- Address gaps in subject areas;
- Budget and/or space limitations;
- Availability elsewhere in the region;
- Materials of local and regional interest;
- Non-traditional objects for productivity and recreation;
- Online resources based on accessibility and availability of library licenses; and
- Consideration of growing demand for eBooks and eAudiobooks.

It is the responsibility of the Library to challenge censorship in the fulfillment of its responsibility to provide information and enlightenment to the community. The Library will not exclude a resource because of the ethnic origin, ethnic background, or gender identity of those contributing to the creation of the resource or because of the topic addressed or the opinions expressed in the resource. The Library will not proscribe or prohibit the circulation or procurement of a resource because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

The Library prohibits discrimination based on age, background, political or religious views, origin, disability, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, or ancestry in the selection, retention, display, use or reconsideration of resources and facilities.

### **Deselection or “weeding”**

At the professional discretion of the Library Director, materials or resources may be de-acquisitioned or weeded from the collection on the basis of:

- Condition (damage, age);
- Being superseded by more current information or edition; or
- Lack of use (between 3-10 years, depending on subject and category).

Materials will not be removed for purposes prohibited by § 24-90-122, C.R.S. The Library Director will follow widely adopted library methodologies, MUSTIE and CREW, to guide the weeding process.

### **Purchase Suggestions**

The Library encourage users to participate in the collection development process so it can build a collection that accurately reflects the needs and interests of the community. All suggestions will be reviewed by the Library Director using the selection criteria outlined above. For items not purchased, users will have the option to request them through the Interlibrary Loan service, if the title is available at another library.

### **Reconsideration Requests**

Any resident of the Library's service area who would like to request reconsideration of library resources may do so by submitting a Material Reconsideration Request Form, available from the Library. The Material Reconsideration Request Form is not considered a library user record pursuant to § 24-90-119(4). Therefore, it is an open record under the Colorado Open Records Act and identifying information will not be redacted. The Library will not reconsider the same library resource more than once every two years.

Upon submission of the Material Reconsideration Request Form, the Library Director shall undertake a thorough evaluation of the resource in question, consistent with the provisions of this Collections Development Policy and § 24-90-122, C.R.S. Following this review, the Library Director will issue a written determination, which will be submitted to the Library Board. The Board shall then review the Director's determination and issue a final written decision, which will be made publicly available and will detail how the decision aligns with this Collections Development Policy and § 24-90-122, C.R.S.

A Library employee, contractor, or volunteer shall not be subject to termination, demotion, discipline, or retaliation for refusing to remove a resource before it has been reviewed in accordance with this Collections Development Policy and § 24-90-122, C.R.S. or for making displays, acquisitions, or programming decisions that the Library employee, contractor, or volunteer believes, in good faith, are in accordance with the standards specified in § 24-90-122, C.R.S.

The Board acknowledges that the standards established under federal obscenity law will be observed in all aspects of Library functions. Specifically, Section 1466A(a)(1) and (b)(1) of Title 18, United States Code, makes it unlawful for any person, in connection with interstate or foreign commerce, to knowingly produce, distribute, receive, or possess (with intent to distribute) visual depictions, including drawings, cartoons, or paintings, that portray a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct and that are obscene.

The Board further recognizes that the legal standard for materials considered harmful to minors differs from that applied to adults. For purposes of minors, harmful materials include any communication depicting nudity, sex, or excretion that:

- (i) appeals to the prurient interest of minors;
- (ii) is patently offensive according to prevailing standards in the adult community regarding what is suitable for minors; and
- (iii) lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.

Accordingly, the Board will adhere to the standards set forth above and in Section 1466A(a)(1) and (b)(1) of Title 18, United States Code, as well as Section 18-7-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, in connection with any reconsideration requests and in the acquisition, retention, display, and use of library resources.