



August 24, 2021

Mr. John Williams, President
Village of Cottage Grove
221 E Cottage Grove Road
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

Dear Mr. Williams:

I am responding to your request for an opinion regarding the establishment of a municipal public library, under section 43.52 (1) of the Wisconsin Statutes, in the Village of Cottage Grove, Dane County, Wisconsin.

The Division for Libraries and Technology is required under Wis. Stat. sec. 43.52 (1) to render an opinion regarding the feasibility and desirability of legally establishing a public library before final action is taken.

We believe that the establishment of the municipal library you propose may help achieve improved library service to residents of the Village of Cottage Grove.

You and your library planning committee are to be commended for the time you have devoted to careful consideration of the library services offered to Cottage Grove residents. The depth of research and level of commitment to understanding your community's needs as demonstrated in your report is outstanding.

The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning would consider it feasible and desirable to establish a public library for the Village of Cottage Grove that meets minimum Wisconsin Public Library Standards and Dane County Library Standards. In addition, the following are also required for the Village's establishment of a public library to be considered feasible and desirable by the Division:

1. The village must establish the library under Section 43.52 of the Wisconsin Statutes.
2. The village must appoint a library board according to the provisions of Section 43.54 with the authority of Section 43.58 of the Wisconsin Statutes and the library must be operated according to the provisions of Chapter 43.
3. The library must employ a library director who is eligible for Grade 1 public librarian certification by the Division for Libraries and Technology.
4. The establishment of the public library will agree with the Dane County Plan for Library Service.
5. The library will be a participating member of the South Central Library System.

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This letter meets the requirements of s. 43.52 (1) for an opinion from the Division for Libraries and Technology regarding the feasibility and desirability of establishing a new public library. If you do establish a new public library, please notify us so that we can update our records.

Good luck in your efforts to provide quality public library service to the Village of Cottage Grove. If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon M. Schultz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannon M. Schultz, Public Library Administration Consultant
Division for Libraries and Technology

Cc:

Tessa Michaelson Schmidt, Assistant State Superintendent, Division for Libraries and Technology
Ben Miller, Director, Library Services Team, Division for Libraries and Technology
Melissa Ratcliff, Library Planning Committee
Martha Van Pelt, Director, South Central Library System
Tracy Herold, Director, Dane County Library Service