Motion: Move to extend the initial five-month pilot reciprocal borrowing program with Sturgis through December 31, 2020.

Background: Beginning in April 2019, Rapid City Public Library and Sturgis Public Library entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to provide reciprocal library services, whereby borrower’s cards in good standing from one library will be accepted at the other library. This reciprocal configuration is made possible by the shared system used throughout the Black Hills Library Consortium. The initial 5-month pilot of this MOU ends on August 31, 2019.

The reciprocal borrowing MOU has had minimal impact on library services for Rapid City Public Library while allowing improved access for those living at Ellsworth Air Force Base, as well as to Meade County residents who live adjacent to Rapid City. As of June 30, 594 items have been checked out by 28 Sturgis cardholders; six Rapid City cardholders have checked out 9 items at Sturgis.

In order to continue gathering usage statistics, gage any negative impacts and encourage other Black Hills Library Consortium partners to try other reciprocal borrowing models, the library recommends that the pilot program be extended until December 31, 2020.