RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes____ No____)

Sign Services Agreement with San Joaquin Valley Library System to provide interlibrary loan to Mariposa Library and authorize County Librarian to sign participation agreement to allow Mariposa County Library to become part of the San Joaquin Library System.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Mariposa County Library was a member of the 49-99 Library System when under contract with the Tuolumne County Library.

The Board has in the past authorized other county departments to participate in joint agreements with agencies outside Mariposa County.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the Board did not approve this action, we would have to look at other alternatives to providing interlibrary loan, or not offer interlibrary loan.
List Alternatives and Consequences of Negative Action

Currently Mariposa residents are using other County Libraries (at a cost to those counties) to obtain this service. We have not offered interlibrary loan since December 1992.

(According to California Library law: "No library jurisdiction may reduce or fail to maintain or improve the level of service to its residents for the purpose of placing undue reliance on the library services of neighboring jurisdictions.") Currently Mariposa County Library may be placing undue reliance on neighboring jurisdictions for Interlibrary Loan Service.

Explanation of Recommended Action

To enhance the level of service offered in California libraries, jurisdictions may join a larger system. With the exception of 7 libraries in California, all public libraries are members of a larger system. System membership provides services such as interlibrary loan, the forwarding of more difficult reference questions, benefits of grants at the system level, cataloging services etc.

We have the option of joining any library system that has a contiguous border to our county. This would be the 49-99 System or the San Joaquin Valley Library System in Fresno. The SJVLS System has more to offer us and with the approval of the Board of Supervisors Mariposa could join them as of FY94-95.

The SJVLS System can provide interlibrary loan service on an interim basis from the present to July 1, 1994 with the Board's approval of the attached contract. Interlibrary loan service after July 1, 1994 would be included as part of system membership.

In the Mariposa County Library budget for FY93-94, provisions are made for interlibrary loan costs under the line item: contractual services. In the library fee schedule adopted by the Board, a fee of $1.25 per item was set to help offset the charges for mailing items back to the libraries they were borrowed from.

There is a $4,000 anticipated cost associated with the agreement for providing service for the balance of this fiscal year which is covered with the existing budget. Next year's cost will be based on a percentage formula of population and circulation in the county libraries, and is estimated to be between $5,000 and $6,000.