

NWLS Board of Trustees
July 13, 2019
10:00 A.M.
NWLS HQ

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Jeff Burke called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Present: Connie Cogger (Bayfield County), Sandy Mackie (Washburn County), Samuel Pomush (Douglas County), Ron Leino (Douglas County), Jocelyn Ford (Washburn County), Jeff Burke (Vilas County), Clarence Campbell (Ashland County), Susan Hendrickson (Douglas County), Opal Roberts (Iron County), Buzz Byrne (Burnett County), Kathryn McKenzie (Douglas County), Courtney Dietsche (Douglas County), Dian Delong (Sawyer County), Jim Bassett (Sawyer County), Donna Knuckey (Winter Public Library), Sherry Machones (Director), Michelle Gostomski (Business Manager) Connie Meyer and Kathy Klager (LD&L).

Absent: Jim Crandall (Bayfield County), Vivian Markley (Douglas County), Laura Rachford (Burnett County), Joyce 'Pep' Kebasa (Ashland County).

2. Guest Comments

None.

3. Cross County Funding Presentation

Connie Meyer, Director of the Bridges Library System and Co-Chair of LD&L, and Kathy Klager, member of the County Funding Subcommittee of LD&L presented the history of County payments and insight on how funding is calculated.

4. Approval of the May 18, 2019, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Motion by Samuel Pomush, second by Jocelyn Ford to approve the May 18, 2019 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of May and June 2019 NWLS Expenditures

Motion by Susan Hendrickson, second by Samuel Pomush to approve the May and June 2019 NWLS Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of June 30, 2019, Financial Statement and Budget Report

Motion by Sandy Mackie, second by Opal Roberts to accept the June 30, 2019, Financial Statement and Budget Report. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of the Quotes for Flooring at NWLS Headquarters

Sherry Machones gave background on the scope of the project, showcased samples, and described the ecological specifications of materials. Motion by Susan Hendrickson, second by Kathryn McKenzie to approve the quotes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Director's Report

Updates from member libraries:

- Angie Bodzislaw (Spooner) was awarded a scholarship from NWLS to attend the WLA Leadership Institute and Ann Larson (Hayward) was chosen to attend the DPI Youth Services Institute, both in August.
- Lac Du Flambeau has now gone live in Sierra and is a full member of the Merlin Consortium. (See attached article)

Updates from the Director:

- Tony Kriskovich has been hired as our Technology Support Specialist and will be moving into a managerial role here at NWLS. Tony worked for us from 2003-2011 and our library directors couldn't be happier that he is returning.
- After conversations with DPI, we will no longer be receiving the LSTA Delivery Grant after this year.
- PLSR: DPI issued a PLSR Implementation Strategy Draft at yesterday's COLAND meeting.
- SOMBAW members had asked DPI representatives at the September 2018 meeting if they would be able to help facilitate a better annual report procedure in order to make the reports more meaningful and consistent. DPI, in turn, announced that they would hire a consultant to develop a Financial Management Reference Guide for public library systems. At their last meeting, SOMBAW members decided to write a letter to DPI staff further explaining that a standardized chart of accounts probably would not be useful in standardizing the reporting. SOMBAW members are willing to use the September 2019 meeting to compile a list of system expenses and through consensus, map each expense to a program category on the annual report. If possible, SOMBAW would like to have this completed by May 1, 2020 for implementation in the 2021 budget and system plan process.
- State Budget: The Governor signed the biennial budget for the next two years. While the Governor did exercise his veto power, none of the vetoes directly impacted public libraries. You can read all about it here:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/proposals/reg/asm/bill/ab56>.

Here's what's important to know:

BadgerLink and Newsline for the Blind were funded as requested (with cost-to-continue increases).

Contracts with Milwaukee Public Library, CCBC, UW-Madison, and Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library were funded as requested (with cost-to-continue increases).

The state aid to library systems was funded at the same level as 2019. That means the amount of state aid each library system received in 2019 is the same amount that will be received in 2020 and 2021.

While we didn't get all we'd hoped for, we are grateful for the stabilization of library system aid. The legislators actually had to provide an increase of \$1m each year to keep us at our 2019 funding level because the increase in the 2017-2019 biennial budget was a one-time increase. This budget also establishes a new base funding level for state aid which is important and will be helpful moving forward.

- Conferences attended: ALA Annual Conference (Report to come at our next meeting), Lake Superior Library Symposium

- Meetings attended: IDEA Team, LAWDS and Workforce Development, ALA, LEAN WI, WLA Board.

9. Closed Session

Susan Hendrickson motioned, seconded by Samuel Pomush to go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1)(c): “Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility” for the Director’s evaluation. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote. Sandy Mackie motioned, seconded by Samuel Pomush to come out of closed session. Motion carried unanimously. *Courtney Dietsche left at 12:10 pm.* Jeff Burke summarized the Board’s shared thoughts and remarked that the Board continues to be impressed and supports the Directors level of passion and tenacity, as well as commitment to NWLS and its future. Board members stated that Machones and Gostomski should consult with Jeff Burke during budget calculations to include meritorious increases for both individuals.

10. Adjourn

Samuel Pomush moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:17 p.m. Susan Hendrickson seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Machones, Director