

NWLS Board of Trustees

July 22, 2023

10:00 A.M.

Virtual Only

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

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

**Present:** President: Jeff Burke (Vilas County), Vice President: Jocelyn Ford (Washburn County), Jim Crandall (Bayfield County), Laura Rachford (Burnett County), Sue Hendrickson, (Douglas County), Ron Leino (Douglas County), Courtney Dietsche (Douglas County), Samuel Pomush (Douglas County), Opal Roberts (Iron County), Dian Delong (Sawyer County), Richard Logan (Vilas County), Linda Featherly (Washburn County), Michelle Gostomski (Business Manager), Sarah Wargin (System Support Specialist), Sherry Machones (Director)

**Absent:** Treasurer: Clarence Campbell (Ashland County), Connie Cogger (Bayfield County), Buzz Byrne (Burnett County), Donna Knuckey (Library Representative from Winter), Kathryn McKenzie (Douglas County), John Righeimer (Sawyer County).

### **2. Guest Comments**

None.

### **3. Approval of the May 20, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Sue Hendrickson, second by Linda Featherly to approve the May 20, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes as amended to include specific financial details of the reserve fund motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **4. Approval of May and June 2023 NWLS Expenditures and Financial Report**

Motion by Ron Leino, second by Jim Crandall to approve the May and June 2023 NWLS Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

### **5. Approval of the June 30, 2023 Financial Statement and Budget Report**

Motion by Sue Hendrickson, second by Jocelyn Ford to approve the June 30, 2023 Financial Statement and Budget Report. Motion carried unanimously.

### **6. Approval of the 2023-2024 LSTA Grant Applications**

Motion by Sue Hendrickson, second by Samuel Pomush to approve the 2023-2024 LSTA Grant Applications. Motion carried unanimously.

### **7. Approval of a Facility Assessment Committee**

Motion by Linda Featherly, second by Samuel Pomush to approve a five-member Facility Assessment Committee. Committee members: Sue Hendrickson, Jocelyn Ford, Richard Logan, Jeff Burke, and Jim Crandall.

## **8. Discussion of 2024 Budget Impacts**

Machones gave an overview of increased state funding for 2024 and the NWLS contribution to the NWLN 2024 budget. She also notified the board of two areas where there will likely be higher costs: delivery and the LEAN WI Partnership.

## **9. Director's Report**

### **Updates from member libraries:**

- Kaye Petts is staying on as Director of the Eleanor Ellis Public Library in Phelps part time.
- Beth Chladil is filling in as Director of the Lac du Flambeau Public Library until September.
- The Evelyn Goldberg Briggs Memorial Library in Iron River is currently experiencing challenges to four books.
- The Superior Public Library is being challenged by an individual erecting a political booth in their parking lot.
- The Forest Lodge Library in Cable will be advertising for Director on August 1st.
- The Boulder Junction Public Library is beginning succession planning for their Director.

### **Updates from the system:**

- Continuing Education Update:
  - [Tech Days 2023](#) is a virtual webinar series held on September 12 and 13, where librarians can learn from top tech experts without having to travel.
    - Tuesday, September 12:
      - Artificial Intelligence and the Library: The Current Landscape: 10 - 11:30 a.m.
      - Dealing with Digital Distractions: Ideas and Recommendations for Libraries: 1 - 2:30 p.m.
    - Wednesday, September 13:
      - When a Service Desk Isn't Enough: One-on-One Tech Assistance: 10 - 11:30 a.m.
      - Making the Most of BadgerLink: 1 - 2:30 p.m.
  - New Resource on [Wisconsin Library Buildings and Spaces](#)
    - The new Wisconsin Library Buildings & Spaces Project is live! Library staff and trustees may view these on-demand webinars and sign up for the accompanying LIVE Q&A Sessions taking place this month:
      - Accessible & Inclusive Spaces - 12 p.m. on Monday, July 24
      - Building Maintenance Basics - 12 p.m. on Tuesday, July 25
      - Statewide WI Public Library Facilities Assessment - 12 p.m. on Thursday, July 27
      - Budgeting & Planning for Capital Costs - 12 p.m. on Friday, July 28
  - [Trustee Training Week 2023](#)
    - As always, these webinars are all online and at noon each day. They are also archived on the site so you can watch at any time, and even go watch previous year's offerings. This year's lineup is:

- Monday, August 21 - No More Neutral: How to Use Marketing to Position Your Library in Challenging Times with Angela Hursh
  - Tuesday, August 22 - Wisconsin Library Law with Kris Turner
  - Wednesday, August 23 - Nurturing Your Library Culture with Jeannie Dilger
  - Thursday, August 24 - LGBTQ-Inclusive Trusteeship with Ray Lockman
  - Friday, August 25 - Elected Officials are People, Too with Lori Fisher
- ILS Update:
  - NICE (Northern Wisconsin ILS Consortium Exploration) Project Update
    - NICE Project Report Presentation (Around 15 minutes)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5ZOct3W7o>
    - NICE Project Website <https://nicelibraries.org/>
    - Full NICE Report <https://nicelibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/NWLS-WVLS-ILSMerger-Feasibility-Report-2023.pdf>
    - NICE Report Summary <https://nicelibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/NICE-Project-OnePager.pdf>
  - Cooperative Cataloging Project Update
    - [Cooperative Cataloging Full Report](#)
    - [Cooperative Cataloging Report Summary](#)
- Technology Update:
  - Training Robert Watson, the Technology Support Specialist.
  - Helpdesk tickets: 5/10/23-7/13/23 we had a total of 286 tickets.
  - Spring Dell Bulk Order has been completed.
  - Recycling Pickup on 6/9/23 for a total of 2259lbs.
    - Since the beginning of 2021, we have recycled 10,171lbs (about half the weight of a school bus) total.
  - Future Projects:
    - Purchased new Ubiquiti EdgeRouters with LSTA funds. Will start configuring and exchanging member libraries current routers purchased in 2018.
    - Working with AT&T and TEACH on connecting member libraries to the new BadgerNet circuits. Looks to be pushed towards fall, with their efforts to get school districts converted over summer.
    - Bulk Toner Order – Bulk order to bring down the cost of toner cartridges for member libraries. Upgrade any Windows 2012 servers before EOL in October.
  - LEAN WI Partnership Updates:
    - Implemented new applications:
      - PatchMyPC – Updates 3rd party applications updates such as Google Chrome, Adobe Reader, etc.
      - Snipe-IT – IT asset management software. Allows all members of the LEANWI IT department to see device inventory across all three networks.
    - Continued promotion of InfoSec IQ Security Training.
      - Renewed with LEANWI funds, this provides library staff with security awareness training.
    - Reviewing new Princh mobile printing solutions.

- Met with their sales team on their new product Princh Copy & Scan, which is a photocopier management product.
- Reviewing mobile hotspot options with current Kajeet's agreement coming to an end 12/2023.
- Library Location Migrations to WiscNet RDC (Regional Data Center) –
  - Need to coordinate with RDC, IFLS, WVLS, TEACH, BadgerNet, and WiscNet on moving NWLS headend Internet connection to RDC location.
    - Update: On hold until IFLS is moved off incorrect IP block that WiscNet provided.
      - WiscNet is requesting that we stop using certain external IP address block they accidentally gave out in error.
        - LEANWI IT have decided to combine all our external IP addresses under one common IP subnet range for consistency for all three systems. This will allow each of our member libraries to have their own external IP addresses and no longer share from a common pool. Allows libraries to purchase their own database subscriptions to allow access, help with finding\eliminating malicious network traffic, and protection for other locations in the case of a blacklisted IP.
        - With this change, I have contacted all our database vendors to add the necessary IP changes.
        - Internet facing ILS servers external IP addresses will then be changed.
        - Monitor network traffic to make sure the NWLS headend is no longer being used.
        - Continuing with the decommission of NWLS WiscNet headend ISP.

Updates from the Director:

- Current legislative activities:
  - The Governor signed the legislature's Joint Finance Committee (JFC) budget which approved inclusion of the full Wisconsin Library Association's 2023-2025 biennial budget state library aid request
  - [Assembly Bill 15](#) An Act to amend 119.04 (1); and to create 43.75 and 118.073 of the statutes; Relating to: pupil or minor access to harmful material in public libraries and to harmful material or offensive material in public schools.
  - [AB-308](#) Obscene Materials Protection from prosecution for employees of libraries and educational institutions possessing obscene materials.
  - [AB-309](#) Obscene Material Purchase Prohibiting the use of common school fund income distributions for the purchase of obscene material.

- NWLS County Library Plans: Ashland, Vilas, and Washburn Counties have been revised. They are now in the process of being sent to their County Boards for approval.
- Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Postponed: The Affordably Connectivity Program (ACP) is administered by the Federal Communications Commission to give low-income residents a discount on their internet cost. DPI coordinated an application to the Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach Grant on behalf of 4 library systems (NWLS, WRLS, Kenosha, Winnefox), to hire staff for one year to promote the ACP program directly to eligible community members and hold sign up events. NWLS was informed in June that the ACP is due to run out of funds within 3-6 months and the federal government has not appropriated any further funds at this time. All 4 library systems agreed to postpone moving forward until there has been another 2 year appropriation passed.
- ALA Conference Highlights:
  - Kicking off the conference was author and historian Ibram X. Kendi, who headlined the Rally for the Right to Read on June 22. Presenting at the rally were library workers and students who have been fighting book challenges in their communities.
  - I was asked to be an Emerging Leader mentor for this year's cohort and joined them for half of their graduation/presentation day.
  - Middle-grade fiction authors Rick Riordan and Mark Oshiro discussed their collaboration on the latest installment of Riordan's Percy Jackson and the Olympians series, The Sun and the Star.
  - Native Hawaiian teacher, author, and filmmaker Hinalaimoana Wong-Kalu, joined then-ALA President Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada for the ALA President's Program. Wong-Kalu discussed her new picture book, Kapaemahu, and what it means to be māhū—a descriptor for a third-gender person who occupies the space between kane (male) and wahine (female).
  - I was able to meet with our ILS vendor, Innovative, and their new Vice President about our needs and our future plans.
  - I was also able to meet and listen to many authors, attend the Stonewall Book Awards, and the historic Rainbow Roundtable Gala.
  - ALA Council:
    - Approved the first update to the Association's Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated or Detained since 1992 ([CD#14.1](#)). These services were the focus of "Expanding Information Access for People Who Are Incarcerated: Service Standards and Mapping," where librarians discussed ongoing projects to expand individuals' freedom to read.
    - Resolutions passed to no longer require preregistration for members to vote in person at hybrid membership meetings ([CD#10.2](#)); to reaffirm the freedom to read ([CD#55](#)); to condemn discrimination against library workers and support the LGBTQIA+ community ([CD#58](#)); to investigate the possibility of changing dates for future Annual Conferences, noting LGBTQIA+ members regularly have to miss their local Pride events to attend ([CD#59](#)); and to call on the Policy Manual Revision Working Group to review the process for vacancy appointments to the ALA Executive Board and the Bylaws Committee and develop recommendations regarding a process in which Executive Board

actions “may be reviewed, amended, or overturned by Council or Membership” ([CD#60](#)).

- Julius C. Jefferson Jr., chair of the International Relations Committee (IRC), presented a resolution asserting ALA’s objection to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) choosing Dubai, United Arab Emirates, as the location for IFLA’s 2024 World Library and Information Congress because of the country’s criminalization of homosexuality. Proposed amendments clarified ALA’s disapproval of the location unless IFLA can ensure the protection of LGBTQIA+ participants and the unfettered inclusion of related programming, or otherwise find a new location in the region. The motion passed as amended.

## **9. Adjourn**

Motion by Sue Hendrickson, second by Jocelyn Ford to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 am. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Wargin, System Support Specialist, and Sherry Machones, Director