

**WISCONSIN VALLEY LIBRARY SERVICE**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
March 19, 2016  
WVLS Office – MCPL lower level  
Wausau, Wisconsin

NOTE: These minutes are to be regarded as the unofficial record of the meeting until the Board of Trustees has approved them. The next Board meeting is May 21, 2016.

President Tom Bobrofsky called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Roll call was taken by Wendt and a quorum was declared.

**Present**

Tom Bobrofsky, President  
Douglas Lay, Vice-President  
Michael Otten, Treasurer  
Sonja Ackerman, member  
Tyson Cain, member  
Peg Jopek, member  
Paul Knuth, member  
Louise Olszewski, member  
Pat Pechura, member  
Katie Rosenberg, member  
Alice Sturzl, member  
Elaine Younger, member

**Others Present**

Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director  
Josh Klingbeil, WVLS staff  
Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS staff  
Susie Hafemeister, WVLS staff  
Augo Hildebrand, WVLS staff  
Judy Bobrofsky

**Excused**

Jim Backus, member  
Eileen Grunseth, member  
Marilyn Sauer, member

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:** (Exhibit 1)

No changes were made to the agenda order.

**Lay/Pechura motion to accept the agenda as posted. All aye. Motion carried.**

**Jopek/Lay motion to approve January 16, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CURRENT BILLS:** (Exhibits 2-7)

**Lay/Sturzl motion to accept and approve the financial reports and current bills as presented.**

**All aye. Motion carried.**

**REPORTS:**

**Resource Library:** (Exhibit 8) Members were directed to the MCPL Board minutes and director's report included among their meeting documents. Rosenberg gave a brief renovations planning update.

**WLTF: Lay** shared updates upcoming WAPL programs about implementing the Return of Library Materials bill (Act 169), trustee essentials, and a library friends panel.

**COLAND:** (Exhibit 9) Lay directed attention to the Board packet materials from the most recent COLAND meeting in Altoona.

**WVLS Director's Report:** (Exhibit 10)

Full report may be found here <http://www.wvls.org/meeting/board-trustees-march-19-2016>

The following items were updated and discussed during the meeting.

**V-Cat Update - V-Cat statistics** were compiled and shared with member libraries in late January 2016. V-Cat Administrator Inese Christman created a manual documenting this process. **E-Commerce** became fully functional. Since the soft roll out in December 2015 there has been a steady increase in the number of patrons using this feature. The **WVLS Patron Privacy Policy, Terms of Use** and **Digital Certificate** were placed on the WVLS and V-Cat websites. The WVLS/V-Cat Steering Committee met on March 7 to vet the **draft 2017 V-Cat budget** in preparation for presenting it for discussion at the April V-Cat Council meeting. From March 15-19 **Inese Christman** and Marathon County Public Library staff member **Chris Luebbe** will be attending the Innovative User's Group (IUG) Conference in San Francisco.

**Legislative Update – Wendt** reported that SB 717/AB 704, **the Tribal College and Joint County Libraries** bill co-authored by Senator Tom Tiffany (R-Hazelhurst) and Representative Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) with Senators Wanggard and Bewley co-sponsoring, has passed both legislative houses and is on the Governor's desk for signing. The bill will allow a tribal college-county joint library to participate in a public library system. WLA registered in support of this bill which was initiated by DPI/DLT.

WLA LD&L will present a WAPL program co-sponsored by WLTF as a follow up to SB 466/AB 609 **the Return of Library Materials bill** which **was signed into law as Act 169 by Governor Walker on February 29**. Working title for the WAPL session is: "Collecting what's due: Implementing the Return of Library Materials Act" to provide the resources to both understand the interpretation and implementation of the law.

With passage of THREE proactive library related bills (the two above and Act 99 regarding minimum number of system board members)...AND maintenance of funding for public library systems, the four statewide resource contracts and BadgerLink...this has been one of the most successful sessions on record for library issues. The bills championed by WLA provided further opportunities for relationship building activities and fostering a greater understanding of what public library systems are and do. LD&L and DPI/DLT will capitalize on that momentum when work begins on the *next* budget proposal later this spring.

**The "Libraries Transform" poster project** unveiled at Library Legislative Day had the goal of capturing all 132 legislators as well as the constitutional officers. The WLA Foundation has granted \$2500 to cover cost of duplication and distribution of finished posters to libraries in each district, details yet to be determined. Governor Walker and Lt. Governor Kleefisch have both posed for posters. With the Legislature in recess for campaign season, more opportunities for relationship building will become available at the local level.

**Wendt** distributed a voter registration information flyer shared with all member libraries to assist with reference questions leading up to the April 5 presidential primary and spring election.

**Mobile Hotspots Pilots – Klingbeil** reported five libraries across WVLS and IFLS were identified in Sprint 4G service areas which agreed to be initial pilot libraries. Each

library received five devices, and encouraged to develop usage models, policies, and lending agreements that fit their respective communities. The libraries are in week two of their free service period. **Klingbeil** elaborated on the pilot projects at WVLS libraries in Medford, Merrill and Tomahawk and outlined anticipated next steps, as well as an overview of ongoing collaboration with IFLS.

**Rural Broadband Development** – **Klingbeil** reported on progress in Lincoln, Clark, Taylor and Forest Counties working with various partners and interested stakeholders toward enhanced development of Broadband availability and accessibility. Improving bandwidth access was an issue discussed with legislators at Library Legislative Day.

**V-CAT Council:** (Exhibit 11) Board members were directed to documents in their meeting materials without additional comment.

**V-Cat Steering Committee:** (Exhibit 12) **Sturzl** reported on the March 7 meeting. Discussion shared by library directors and WVLS trustees present resulted in a recommended V-Cat budget for 2017 that maintains current services with no bottom line increase. The draft budget will be reviewed by the V-Cat Council at its April meeting. Directive changes by the V-Cat Council will be returned to the Steering Committee for consideration. Otherwise, the budget recommended by the Steering Committee will be returned to the Board's May agenda for final approval and no additional Steering Committee meetings are anticipated. A few member libraries have expressed an interest in hearing the initial budget discussion process which could be addressed by creating an opportunity to listen in via GoToMeeting and/or public comments.

**Library Legislative Day:** (Exhibit 13) **Sepnafski** drew the board attention to the report from Thorp Public Library Director Julie **Beloungy**, who attended for the first time this year. The WVLS delegation included three member library directors besides Beloungy (Ralph **Illick** from MCPL, Mary **Dunn** from Tomahawk, and Anne **LaRoche** from Medford), three WVLS trustees (**Bobrofsky**, **Olszewski** and **Lay**), and five WVLS staff members (**Sepnafski**, **Wendt**, **Klingbeil**, **Heitman** and **Hildebrand**). General discussion ensued.

**2015 WVLS ANNUAL REPORT – retroactive approval:** (Exhibit 14)

Discussion and approval was postponed until the May meeting at the request of Board members who had experienced technical difficulties while attempting to download and read the large file in its entirety. Board members may request paper copies from the WVLS office in the interim.

**ARSL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION - review:** (Exhibit 15)

The 2015 application form and scholarship criteria was reviewed and revised for WVLS staff to finish and distribute to member libraries. ARSL 2016 is October 27-29 in Fargo, ND.

**WVLS DIRECTOR EVALUATION PROCESS:** (Exhibit 16 a&b) The time table for Director evaluation was discussed. Evaluation forms were distributed, with a return deadline of April 1.

**COURIER-SORT OPTION – PROJECT UPDATE:** (Exhibit 17 to be shared at meeting) The courier-sort option was rolled out in early March following extensive research and consultation with other systems already using the process. "Best practices" guidelines were developed and are being fine-tuned with input from member libraries. Transition issues are being addressed. A follow-up survey is planned for August. **Pechura** relayed a positive report and thank you from the Minocqua Public Library staff to WVLS staff, especially to **Hildebrand** for her hard work.

**WAPL CONFERENCE PLANS:** (Exhibit 18 to be shared at meeting) Spring WAPL Conference will be in Oshkosh May 11-13. Bobrofsky provided an overview of registration and reimbursement procedures and encouraged attendance by Board members.

**CONCERNS, COMMENTS, AND REPORTS FROM AREA LIBRARY PERSONNEL AND TRUSTEES:**  
**Bobrofsky** reminded Board members that April 10-16 is National Library Week and April 12 is National Library Workers Day. **Wendt** noted that the NLW “Libraries Transform” theme has also been adopted by WLA for its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in connection with legislative advocacy and relationship building. **Pechura** relayed appreciation to **Klingbeil** and **Heitman** from Minocqua Public Library Director Mary Taylor for their recent assistance with technology issues. **Olszewski** praised the WVLS “Button Proof Leadership” workshop which she attended and found to be enjoyable and informative. **Sturzl** provided an update on Laona library centennial activities. **Ackerman** announced that children’s author Beverly Cleary will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 4. **Judy Bobrofsky** thanked **Sepnafski** and **Hafemeister** for the New Director Orientation at Loyal. **Klingbeil** is soliciting input for the upcoming revision of the WVLS Technology Plan.

**WESSLER SCHOLARSHIP:** There was no report.

**REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Director evaluation, ARSL scholarship application, Retroactive approval of the WVLS annual report, WVLS statistics booklet, continuing education survey, draft technology plan.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Pechura/Olszewski motion to adjourn. All aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Adams Wendt, Meeting Recorder