

DRAFT MINUTES

WVLS Library Advisory Committee

April 10, 2014

Wausau Room, Marathon County Public Library, Wausau

CALL TO ORDER: President Mary Dunn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Jackie Rammer, Stacy Stevens, Ed Hughes (by phone starting 9:55), Ralph Illick, Tammie Blomberg, Erica Grunseth, Lorelee Petersen, Mary Dunn, Carol Lee Saffioti-Hughes (by phone), Mary Taylor (by phone), Todd Mountjoy, Robin Gettelman, Sonja Ackerman, Cathy Retzer, and Gary Gisselman.

Members Absent: none

WVLS Staff and Other Guests Present: Marla Sepnafski, Inese Christman, Josh Klingbeil, Kyle Schulz, Kris Adams Wendt, Marilyn Sauer.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS: Wendt distributed updates to LAC binder info. Dunn invited members to introduce themselves and the roll was called to determine a quorum was present.

MINUTES: STEVENS/GRUNSETH MOTION to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2013 meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE WVLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Sauer presented a report on behalf of the WVLS Board of Trustees. A copy is appended to these minutes.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Dunn appointed Stevens and Mountjoy to serve as the nominating committee.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING: WVLS Continuing Education Coordinator Schulz provided an overview of opportunities planned thus far for 2014 and solicited suggestions for future programs. Stevens is interested in more hands-on opportunities for additional technology training.

2014 GRANT UPDATE: Klingbeil and Wendt reported on the following Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants awarded to WVLS for 2014 by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

- \$7,314 Digital Content Buying Pool Grant to help cover the \$51,194 WVLS subsidy to the 2014 Wisconsin Public Library Consortium \$1,000,000 E-Content Buying Pool
- \$26,900 Technology Grant to enhance Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) capabilities, complete the security and bandwidth enhancement project for member libraries, and ensure that each public library member has at least one patron accessible eReader.
- \$17,370 Special Needs Grant to install hearing loops in 13 library locations (Antigo, Crandon, Granton, Greenwood, Laona, Medford, Owen, Rib Lake, Stetsonville, Westboro and the MCPL branches of Spencer and Stratford, as well as Spooner Public Library in Washburn County, a member of Northern Waters Library Service) and provide one testing/training and portable receiver for each of the 9 WVLS libraries that received hearing loops as part of the 2013 LSTA grant project (Abbotsford, Colby, Loyal, Minocqua, Rhinelander, Three Lakes, Thorp, Tomahawk and Wausau). An associated training workshop is scheduled for May 29 in Medford.

Christman reported on Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) Digital Library and Buying Pool activities and improvements.

2015 GRANT PROJECT SUGGESTIONS: Wendt shared the 2015 grant categories, reminding members that needs that don't fit into LSTA priorities can also be incorporated into continuing education offerings. Klingbeil gave an overview of continuing technology projects. Ideas were solicited. Discussion included the topics of school and public library collaboration on early literacy projects, computer literacy skills for older adults, technology assistance for smaller libraries serving low income patrons with few resources, partnering between Nicolet College and local libraries for technology education and digitization, collaborative digitization projects between libraries and local historical societies, preservation of local history, and continuing dialog with the Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake School facility for juvenile offenders.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Nominating Committee advanced the name of Todd Mountjoy as 2015 Vice-President/2016 President-Elect.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT: HUGHES/ILLICK MOTION to accept the Nominating Committee report and elect Todd Mountjoy as 2015 Vice-President/2015 President-Elect by acclamation. All aye. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY UPDATE: Wendt reported that the legislative session ended on April 1 with no additional floor periods to be scheduled before the end of the year except by special request from the governor. Legislators are now focused on the November election. Focus for both legislators and library advocates is campaign/election season. The WLA legislative committee met on April 4. During the next seven months, library advocates need to actively engage in relationship building with legislative incumbents and reach out to all candidates with invitations to learn more about library service to their constituents. The only open seat in WVLS territory will be the 87th Assembly District (Medford, Rib Lake, Stetsonville, Westboro, Gilman and MCPL Athens Branch) where Rep. Mary Williams is retiring. Nomination papers may be circulated from April 15 through June 2, with the partisan primary held on August 12 and general election on November 4. Both WVLS and WLA plan to enhance the advocacy tools on their website.

FUTURE WVLS MULTI-TYPE COLLABORATION/Concerns and needs, ideas: Wendt gave an overview of WVLS historic support for multi-type library collaboration and opened discussion among LAC members for sharing of current projects and exploration of future multi-type efforts. Among the topics discussed were: TB Scott Library is working on a number of collaborative projects with the Merrill School District, including e-book coaching in the middle school and 3-D printer projects. MCPL is working in partnership with the Early Years Coalition on early literacy initiatives. Tomahawk Public Library is also actively partnering with their school district, daycare centers and Headstart programs. Wabeno Public Library is also partnering with Headstart and offering 1000 Books before Kindergarten. The library at Nicolet College is reaching out to libraries throughout the district and has offered 68 outreach events in the past year, including expanded access to technology training tools and topics. Withee Public Library is also working with their local school district; a communications class has developed posters, bookmarks and other items in a campaign to promote the library as a place for families. Klingbeil will be following up on potential partners for digitization projects. Christman distributed information regarding Wisconsin Heritage Online that has now rebranded as Recollection Wisconsin.

STAFF REPORTS: Sepnafski reported that there is 2014 LSTA money available for projects addressing LEAN practices in public library systems under the direction of DPI/DLT. A small amount has also been set aside to address the merger of public library systems, to be used if the boards of smaller systems request assistance with planning and implementation. Sepnafski also gave an overview of Project WIN, a participatory process whereby WVLS, IFLS and NWLS are exploring merger of their respective integrated library systems (ILS), the software that handles the online catalog, check-

in/check-out functions and inter-library loan facilitation – but not the kind of merger that would result in shared governance. Work on this project is creating a structural template that could be replicated in other areas. All three library systems use Innovative’s Sierra for their shared catalogs. If successful, 99 libraries would be combined into one shared catalog. WVLS directors will be meeting on April 23 to review the work done so far by a number of committees made up of representatives from all three systems. Representatives of all 99 libraries will be gathering later in May. \$75,000 in 2015 LSTA funds is available to assist projects of this type. This project is providing key leadership in breaking down barriers to wider, better and more efficient service to our library patrons. Two additional systems are closely watching this process. Wendt elaborated on the necessity of informing elected officials on the local, county and state level of forward progress in this regard and its potential impact on their constituents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Christman reported that Innovative purchased the Polaris product on March 17. The merger will utilize the Polaris enhance customer support and enable more applications of its products for greater convenience to libraries and their patrons as an expanded web-based rather than a just a client based product. V-Cat committees have been working to enhance training materials and clarify guidelines for daily operations. The V-Cat steering committee made up of WVLS Board members and member library representatives have been hard at work on a by-laws revision and budget for 2015, to be discussed at both the V-Cat Council and Board of Trustees meetings.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The date selected was August 21. The meeting will be held at the WVLS Office with call to order at 9:30 AM.

ADJOURNMENT: Ackerman/Petersen motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11.35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Adams Wendt, Meeting Recorder.

WVLS LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WVLS Office - Wausau
April 10, 2014

Report of the WVLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

The WVLS Board of Trustees met on April 5 and has its next meeting scheduled for May 17. Since the last Library Advisory Committee meeting in August 2013, highlights of Board actions include:

- Current officers of the WVLS Board of Trustees are Tom Bobrofsky as President, Vice-President Doug Lay and Treasurer Mike Otten.
- Last fall, the Board made the transition from paper copies of meeting documents to digital format. Members are now using WVLS-issued iPads.
- The WVLS/V-CAT Bylaws Steering Committee has been working on revised V-CAT Bylaws and associated documents, as well as the draft V-Cat budget for 2015. The committee includes combined representation from both the WVLS board and member libraries covering all seven counties.
- **Project WIN** has been initiated to explore combining the Integrated Library System (or ILS) software that handles the online catalog and check-in/check-out functions for WVLS and two other public library systems.

Public libraries in the MORE (Indianhead Federated Library System), MERLIN (Northern Waters Library Service) and V-Cat (Wisconsin Valley Library Service) ILS consortiums recently received the first drafts of the recommendations reports from the Project WIN exploration committees – Leadership Team, Governance and Budget, Cataloging & Collections, Resource Sharing, Technology, Patron Experience, and Software, Circulation & Training. Libraries were encouraged to review the recommendations and to complete a survey that corresponded with each report by Friday, March 21st. The feedback and recommendations from the surveys will help the Project WIN exploration committees refine recommendations into a final report.

Because the S in ILS stands for “system” there is the potential for confusion over exactly what “merger of systems” means. Merging the *governance* of WVLS, IFLS and NWLS is not being discussed as part of this process.

- The WVLS Board is implementing new guidelines for its members to attend WLA and other conferences in rotation so that everybody has an equal opportunity to participate and the budgeting for expenses is more predictable.