

**WISCONSIN VALLEY LIBRARY SERVICE**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
September 16, 2023  
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 November 18, 2023.

President Tom **Bobrofsky** called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Roll call was taken by **Wendt** and a quorum was declared present.

**Present**

Tom Bobrofsky, President  
Pat Pechura, Vice-President  
Sonja Ackerman, member  
Jim Backus, member  
Carol Bartlein, member\* present until 10:45 AM  
Eileen Grunseth, member  
Kay Palmer, member  
Diane Peterson, member\*  
Judy Peterson, member  
Petra Pietrzak, member\*  
Kari Sweeney, member

**Others Present**

Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director  
Kristie Hauer, WVLS staff\*  
Josh Klingbeil, WVLS staff  
Jamie Matczak, WVLS staff\*  
Brenda Walenton, WVLS staff  
Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS staff\*  
Judy Bobrofsky, guest

\*denotes remote attendance

**Excused**

Jessica Bernett, member  
Louise Olszewski, member  
Mike Otten, Treasurer

**Vacant**

Marathon County representative

**NOTE:** All exhibits may be accessed at <https://wvls.org/bot-agenda-exhibits/>.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

**Pechura/Palmer motion to approve the agenda as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Exhibit 1)**

**Grunseth/Ackerman motion to approve minutes from the August 19, 2023 WVLS Board meeting. All aye. Motion carried.**

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

**Pechura/Sweeney motion to approve the financial reports and current bills as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**JANUARY - AUGUST 2023 TREASURER'S REPORT (Exhibit 8)**

**Ackerman/Palmer motion to approve the January - August 2023 WVLS Treasurer's Report as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2024 HEALTH INSURANCE (Exhibit 9)**

Walenton presented comparison rates for 2024 WVLS employee health insurance. WVLS will continue to provide the maximum allowable contribution to monthly premiums.

**Ackerman/D. Peterson motion to approve the 2024 staff health insurance options and costs. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2024 WVLS PLAN – draft (Exhibit 10)**

**Sepnafski reported no changes had been made to the 2024 WVLS System Plan since the board reviewed the draft for the first time on August 19.**

**Palmer/J. Peterson motion to approve the 2024 WVLS System Plan as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2024 WVLS BUDGET – draft (Exhibit 11)**

**Klingbeil** explained format changes since the August 19 board meeting have made it easier to identify V-Cat, LEAN WI, and grant project revenue and expenditures without duplication of information. The bottom line remained the same.

**Grunseth/Backus motion to approve the 2024 WVLS Budget as revised. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2025 WVLS TECHNOLOGY PLANNING GUIDE – draft (Exhibit 12)**

**Ackerman/Palmer motion to approve the 2025 WVLS Technology Planning Guide for member libraries as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2023-2024 LSTA GRANTS (Exhibits 13, 13a)**

**Sepnafski** introduced the NWLS/WVLS Improved Discovery Solutions LSTA Collaborative Cataloging Grant Pre-Application and Memorandum of Understanding. It was noted there is currently an unprecedented level of discussion related to collaborative services taking place among Wisconsin's regional library systems.

**Ackerman/Sweeney motion to approve the NWLS/WVLS Improved Discovery Solutions LSTA Collaborative Cataloging Grant Pre-Application and related Memorandum of Understanding as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: LEAN WI TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT CONSULTANT POSITION (Exhibit 14)**

**Sepnafski** explained the MOU defines the parameters and costs of sharing a LEAN WI Technology Support Consultant among the IFLS Library System (IFLS), Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) and WVLS as part of the LEAN WI partnership. The position will provide website assistance and training, digitization support, and data consultation as outlined in the position description. For payroll purposes, the individual to be hired will be an IFLS employee under the terms and conditions of employment outlined in the IFLS Employee Handbook. The 40-hour per week position cost will be allocated among the three systems based on each system's percentage of 2024-2025 state aid.

**Palmer/J. Peterson motion to approve the LEAN WI Technology Support Consultant Memorandum of Understanding as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

#### **REPORTS:**

**Resource Library (Exhibit 15):** The Marathon County Public Library Resource Library Report includes the agenda and Director's Report for the upcoming September 18 MCPL Board of Trustees meeting, as well as agendas and minutes from August 2023. **Sweeney** reported the 2024 MCPL/WVLS Resource Library Agreement was approved by the MCPL Board in August, and expressed appreciation for WVLS scholarships for library staff to attend the WLA Annual Conference on October 24-27.

**WVLS Director's Report (Exhibits 16):** **Sepnafski** and other WVLS staff members in attendance took turns reviewing items in the Director's Report while taking comments and questions.

**NWLS/WVLS Joint ILS Consortium Exploration (Exhibit 17):** **Sepnafski** drew board members' attention to the September 2023 Northern Wisconsin ILS Consortium Exploration (NICE) Team Report. The NICE Team will meet on Tuesday, September 19 to review the findings and recommendations of the ILS Merger Feasibility Report, set the

project timeline, and begin forming targeted workgroups. Questions and concerns may be shared via an [online form](#). Answers will be shared on the NICE Libraries [FAQ page](#).

**COLAND** (Exhibit 18): **Klingbeil** shared highlights from the September 8 COLAND meeting, including a presentation on "National Public Library Trends in Intellectual Freedom" by NWLS Director Sherry Machones and discussion of the [2021-2023 State Superintendent's Report on Intertype Library Cooperation and Resource Sharing](#).

**V-CAT Council** (Exhibit 19): **Sepnafski** drew Board members' attention to the agenda and minutes from the September 7, 2023 V-Cat Council meeting.

**Library Advisory Committee** (Exhibit 20): **Matczak** drew Board members' attention to the minutes of the August 17 WVLS Library Advisory Committee. Highlights included a round table discussion on library marketing, and a thorough exploration of the 2024 WVLS System Plan and budget.

**2023 ALA Conference Report:** **Ackerman** and **Sweeney** shared information about presentations they attended at the 2023 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago on June 22-27.

**CONCERNS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM AREA LIBRARY PERSONNEL AND TRUSTEES:** Topics shared in the round robin discussion included relationship building among local and county library boards, town/municipal boards and county boards, as well as presentation tools to illustrate an array of library services during budget deliberations. Library service presentations by Clark County librarians and members of the Clark County Library Board to the Clark County Board of Supervisors have so far received favorable reception, with a final decision on Act 150 funding yet to be made. A brief discussion of board member attendance at the WLA Fall Conference also ensued. Bobrofsky reminded Board members to reply promptly to WVLS staff requests for who can/cannot attend future meetings to facilitate the quorum count.

**REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Items were not solicited.

Calendar

WLA Fall Conference, Middleton – October 24 – October 27, 2023  
WVLS Board of Trustees meeting: Saturday, November 18, 2023

**ADJOURNMENT:** Grunseth/Ackerman motion to adjourn. All aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kris Adams Wendt, Meeting Recorder

