

WISCONSIN VALLEY LIBRARY SERVICE
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 17, 2024
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 March 16, 2024.

President Tom **Bobrofsky** called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM. Roll call was taken by **Wendt** and a quorum was declared present.

Present

Tom Bobrofsky, President
Mike Otten, Treasurer
Sonja Ackerman, member
Jim Backus, member*
Candice Grunseth, member
Louise Olszewski, member
Kay Palmer, member
Judy Peterson, member left meeting 11:45 AM
Petra Pietrzak, member
Kari Sweeney, member left meeting at noon

Others Present

Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director
Erica Brewster, staff*
Kristie Hauer, WVLS staff*
Susie Hafemeister, WVLS staff
Josh Klingbeil, WVLS staff
Rachel Metzler, WVLS staff
Brenda Walenton, WVLS staff
Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS staff
Katie Zimmerman, WVLS staff

*denotes remote attendance

Excused

Carol Bartlein, member
Jessica Bennett, member
Diane Peterson, member

Vacant

Marathon County representative
Oneida County representative

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

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Olszewski/Sweeney motion to approve the agenda as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Exhibit 1)

Ackerman/J. Peterson motion to approve minutes from the November 18, 2023 WVLS Board meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CURRENT BILLS (Exhibits 2-7)

Olszewski/ Pietrzak motion to approve the financial reports and current bills as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

2023 WVLS TREASURER'S REPORT (Exhibit 8)

J. Peterson/Ackerman motion to approve the 2023 WVLS Treasurer's Report as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

REPORT OF 2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nominating Committee **Sweeney** (Chair), retiring board member Eileen **Grunseth** and **Ackerman** met in 2023 and recommended a slate of 2024 officers returning **Bobrofsky** as President, **Palmer** as Vice-President, and **Otten** as Treasurer, along with at-large Executive Committee members **Olszewski**, **J. Peterson**, **D. Peterson** and **Sweeney**.

Ackerman/Pietrzak motion to accept the Nominating Committee report as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF 2024 OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Otten/Sweeney motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominated officers. All aye. Motion carried.

WVLS CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURE FORM (Exhibit 9)

Board member conflict of interest and disclosure forms for 2024 were distributed among members attending in person. Copies will be mailed with a postage paid envelope to members absent or attending virtually with the request that they be updated and returned promptly.

SELECTION OF DATES FOR 2024 MEETINGS OF THE BOARD, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND V-CAT STEERING COMMITTEE (Exhibits 10, 10a)

Dates for the remaining 2024 WVLS Board of Trustees meetings: March 16, May 18, August 17, September 21 and November 16. Executive Committee meetings will be scheduled as needed. The V-CAT Steering Committee will meet on March 21.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON PARAMETERS AND COSTS OF SHARING LEAN WI TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT CONSULTANT POSITION (Exhibit 11)

Sepnafski presented an updated MOU for the LEAN WI Technology Support Consultant position. **Brendan Tuckey** has been hired to the LEAN WI Support Consultant position and will be for payroll purposes and employment conditions a member of the WVLS staff rather than an IFLS employee as originally planned. The Winding Rivers Library System has been added to the MOU, in addition to but not as a part of the (IFLS, NWLS, WVLS)LEAN WI partnership. The NWLS Director's name has changed from Sherry Machones to Sherry Anderson. Shared costs were revised accordingly.

Sweeney/Palmer motion to approve the updated Memorandum of Understanding on Parameters and Costs of sharing Lean WI Technology Support Consultant Position. All aye. Motion carried.

DISPOSITION OF 2023 UNENCUMBERED BALANCE/2024 BUDGET REVISIONS (Exhibit 12) V-CAT REVISED APPROPRIATIONS PLAN 2024 (Exhibit 13)

Walenton drew the board's attention to details and recommendations enumerated in Exhibits 12 and 13.

Otten/Palmer motion to approve the recommendations for disposition of 2023 unencumbered balance and corresponding 2024 budget revisions as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

V-CAT REVISED APPROPRIATIONS PLAN 2024 (Exhibit 13)

Zimmermann reviewed the revised 2024 V-Cat Appropriations Plan approved by the V-Cat Council on February 1. **Sepnafski** noted that the Board will receive revised documents for both the WVLS 2024 Budget and V-Cat Appropriations Plan at the March meeting.

Olszewski/Ackerman motion to accept the revised 2024 V-Cat Appropriations Plan as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

2023 WVLS ANNUAL REPORT, INCLUDING 2023 WVLS STAFF REPORT (Exhibits 14, 14a, 14b, 14c)

Hafemeister walked the Board through the WVLS Annual Report for their approval prior to its submission to the Department of Public Instruction.

Sweeney/Ackerman motion to accept the 2023 WVLS Annual Report. All aye. Motion carried.

Sepnafski, Brewster, Hauer, Klingbeil, Metzler, and Zimmerman shared highlights from the 50-page 2023 WVLS Staff Report that will accompany the WVLS Annual Report to Madison.

Ackerman/Olszewski motion to accept the 2023 WVLS Staff Report 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 January 22, 2024 MCPL Board of Trustees meeting, as well as the agenda and minutes from October, November, and December 2023 meetings. **Sweeney** reported that the MCPL Board has initiated a strategic planning process facilitated by WILS after an RFP process. A strategic planning committee of MCPL Board members, MCPL staff and community members will work with WILS.

WVLS Director's Report (Exhibits 16, 16a, 16b, 16c, 16d-1, 16d-2): **Sepnafski** introduced and welcomed **Candice Grunseth** to the Board as a new member appointed by the Taylor County Board for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2024. **Bobrofsky** and **Palmer** have been reappointed to represent Clark County and Marathon County respectively for another 3-year term. It was noted that the Director's report was designed to be a 2023 overview rather than focusing on events since the November 18, 2023 Board meeting. The Board's attention was drawn to the V-Cat Top 10 infographic and WVLS Leadership list enumerating examples of valued participation in various endeavors by WVLS Board and staff members, as well as member library staff.

Wendt reported that 2024 **Wisconsin Library Association Library Legislative Day** was well attended on February 6 with 183 librarians, trustees and other supporters registered from around the state. The morning briefing program held at the Best Western Park Hotel included remarks from Governor Tony Evers, Senator Mary Felzkowski, Representative Tony Kurtz, Assistant State Superintendent Division for Libraries and Technology Dr. Darrell Williams, and WLA Government Relations Advisor Steve Conway. Senator Felzkowski, her staff aide Stamen Ivanov, Representative Kurtz and his staff aide Danielle Zimmerman were given special recognition for their work to secure an additional \$6 million in state aid to public library systems in the 2023-2025 state budget from the Joint Finance Committee.

Attending LLD24 from WVLS member libraries were Antigo Public Library Director **Ada Demlow**, Crandon Public Library **Laurie Renel-Faledas**, Loyal Public Library Director **Teresa Hall** and Trustee **Jim Mildbrand**, Marathon Co. Public Library Director **Leah Giordano**, Minocqua Public Library Director **Peggy O'Connell**, Neillsville Public Library Director **Janay Ziebell**, Rhinelander District Library Director **Virginia Roberts**, Simek Memorial Library (Medford) Director **Maxx Handel**, Tomahawk Public Library Director **Heidi O'Hare**, and T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill) Director **Laurie Ollhoff**. WVLS was further represented by WVLS staff members **Sepnafski**, **Brewster**, **Walenton** and **Wendt**. The WVLS team visited all 11 legislators whose districts include portions of WVLS counties, sharing some appointments with five colleagues from IFLS, NFLS and NWLS.

Board members **Bobrofsky**, **Olszewski**, **Otten**, **Pietrzak**, and **Sweeney** shared their impressions from attending LLD24, remarking on the excellent conversations and exchange of ideas and information shared with legislators and legislative staff. **Wendt** provided a brief update on library-related legislation and drew the board's attention to Exhibits 16d-1 and 16d-2.

NWLS/WVLS Joint ILS Consortium Exploration (Exhibit 17, 17a, 17b): **Zimmermann** drew the Board's attention to three exhibits, providing updates about the NICE project including next steps. The ILS Vendor Selection Targeted Workgroup has recommended Koha from the vendor Bywater with a caveat that the acquisitions module needs to be fully functional for consortia in time for the anticipated NWLS and WVLS migration in 2025. It was noted that Marathon Co. Public Library is currently unable to support the ILS selection due to staff and operational stability concerns related to the change yet to be addressed. Delivery Targeted Workgroup recommendations were also shared.

COLAND (Exhibit 18): **Otten** and **Klingbeil** shared highlights from the January 12 virtual COLAND meeting that included presentations on intellectual freedom, outreach and engagement. The January meeting agenda and minutes from the November 10, 2023 COLAND meeting were included in Exhibit 18.

V-CAT Council (Exhibit 19): **Zimmerman** summarized highlights from the February 1, 2024 V-Cat Council meeting. The 2024 weighted vote calculations were discussed and approved.

2023 WLA Conference WVLS Scholarship Reports (Exhibit 20): WVLS scholarship recipient reports from the 2023 WLA Conference aggregated in Exhibit 20, included submissions from **Krista Blomberg** (Rib Lake Public Library), **Maxx Handel** (Simek Memorial Library, Medford), **Rita Ludvigsen** (Western Taylor Co. Public Library, Gilman), **Denise Chojnacki** (Rhineland District Library), **Andrea Bennett** and **Maria Pregler** (both TB Scott Free Library, Merrill), and **Alexander Johnson** and **Sarah Moscatello** (both Marathon Co. Public Library).

CONCERNS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM AREA LIBRARY PERSONNEL AND TRUSTEES: Topics mentioned included author/illustrator Yuyi Morales' exhibit at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, local news coverage of Antigo Public Library events and the new security system at Withee Public Library.

Updated WVLS Information (Exhibits 21, 21a, 21b): Sepnafski presented the 2024 WVLS Fact Sheet, Organizational Chart, and Library Acronyms and Glossary.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Items were not solicited.

Calendar

WVLS Board of Trustees meeting: Saturday, March 16, 2024

V-Cat Steering Committee meeting: Thursday, March 21, 2024

2024 WAPL Conference: Wednesday, May 1 – Friday, May 3, 2024

ADJOURNMENT: Grunseth/Palmer motion to adjourn. All aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kris Adams Wendt, Meeting Recorder