

MINUTES
System and Resource Library Administration Association of Wisconsin
February 2, 2009
WLA/SCLS Offices

1. Call to order

Chair Mark Arend called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

In attendance were: Mark Arend (WLS; proxy for John Thompson (IFLS)), Bernie Bellin (LLS), Bob Bocher (DLTCL), Walter Burkehalter (MWFLS), Mike Cross (DLTCL), Phyllis Davis (SCLS), Terry Dawson (Appleton PL), John DeBacher (DLTCL), Sally Drew (DLTCL), Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (WLS/Oshkosh PL), Jim Gingery (MCFLS, proxy for Paula Kiely (Milwaukee PL)), Rick Grobschmidt (DLTCL), Bob Hafeman (MCLS), Tom Hennen (WCFLS, proxy for Jane Ameel (Waukesha PL)), Terrie Howe (DLTCL), Kelly Krieg-Sigman (LaCrosse PL), Rick Krumwiede (OWLS), Jessica MacPhail (Racine PL), Bryan McCormick (Janesville PL), Ruth Ann Montgomery (ALS), Stef Morrill (SCLS), David Polodna (WRLS), Krista Ross (SWLS), Kathy Schneider (WiLS), Lynn Stainbrook (Brown County PL), David Weinhold (ESLS).

2. Quorum Determination

Chair determined a quorum of the membership was in attendance.

3. Introductions

Members introduced themselves.

4. Changes/Additions to the agenda

No changes to the agenda were made.

5. Approval of the minutes from the November 4, 2008 meeting

Motion by Polodna, second by Gilderson-Duwe to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer's Report

Polodna reported that twelve systems have paid the fee for 2009 which is on track for this early in the year and that the treasury is in good shape.

7. Legislative Issues

Federal Issues:

Bob Hafeman is the 2009 Wisconsin Library Association Federal Relations Advocate. We are all cordially invited to attend National Library Legislative Day, May 11th & 12th in Washington, DC. There is a \$20 registration fee. Please contact Bob if you are interested. Polodna reminded the group that SRLAAW traditionally sends one person and can provide to \$1000 in financial support.

State Issues:

At the State of the State address, Governor Doyle remarked that flat funding is the new increase. The budget address should be coming in a few weeks. The Governor's office has been waiting on word about the federal stimulus package and how that may affect Wisconsin.

No specific library legislation has been introduced yet. Representative Townsend's office is currently looking into the Public Library District legislation issue. Stainbrook asked if any legislation will be coming out of the Visioning Summit. Cross answered that no legislation has been introduced, but the Division is looking at CE rules and guidelines as well as the statewide library card idea which both came out the summit.

Hennen asked if any counties appear to be going after Act 420. Cross said, not that the Division is aware of, however, the Division met with the Wisconsin County Association to discuss library issues. The biggest complaint they heard had to do with the fact that counties that have a consolidated county library or a joint city-county library do not have to pay Act 420 payments, but receive them.

In a recent issue of the *Municipality*, the League of Municipalities discussed pursuing county reimbursement for capital costs.

8. Breakout sessions for resource library director and system directors

Stainbrook asked for the history of the breakout sessions and why they are no longer held. Several people responded. The breakout sessions were originally intended as a means to get more Resource Library Directors to attend SRLAAW meetings. Other factors that influenced the creation of these sessions were: meetings tended to be dominated by System issues and there were quite a few joint directors at the time and the other resource library directors felt that they had separate issues they needed to discuss. Three to four breakout sessions were actually held, but attendance was so low that the practice was stopped.

Gilderson-Duwe commented that we are still in the same place and there are issues like, "what does it mean to be a resource library?" that Resource Library Directors could benefit from discussing.

Stainbrook indicated she would be interested in that topic and others. Hafeman reported that Manitowoc PL now has a new director, Cheryl Stewart.

Gilderson-Duwe and Stainbrook will organize a meeting of the Resource Library Directors, perhaps meeting right before the SRLAAW meeting.

9. Act 420 Procedures.

Weinhold reported that there is still considerable confusion surrounding Act 420 payments—how billing should be handled, to whom the payments should be made, etc. Some counties work with Systems in billing and payment. Other counties want direct billing from each library and to make direct payments to each library. He is wondering if there can be some standardization.

Polodna pointed out that unfortunately the wording in the Statute gives the county the right to decide how the billing and payment goes. There is no stated role for Systems in the language of the Statute.

Standardization may be very difficult and requires voluntary cooperation from the counties. If the counties agree to the Systems acting as billing and disbursement agents, that is perfectly legal. Krumwiede suggested having the County Library Service Plan address this issue to set the procedure for county payments.

10. Letter from State Treasurer regarding LGIP

Bellin reported that he had received a letter from the State Treasurer about funds held in the LGIP. Several others indicated that they had received the same letter, others were unsure. As of Feb. 15, 2009 certain types of investments (credit papers and) will no longer be insured. The question is, what does this mean? Cross hasn't been able to touch base with anyone yet on this issue. Grobschmidt asked if this was a concern. The consensus was yes and this is the place where potentially large sums of money (funds for automation systems) are held. It is hoped that further clarification would be coming from the State Treasurer's office. Someone asked if a system does not have funds in the LGIP, where are they held. Many answered in a regular bank.

11. OCLC and new WiLS services

Schneider updated the group about the situation with OCLC. WiLS has an agreement to continue to do billing & marketing for OCLC services. They are negotiating for the role as a preferred partner for resource sharing. WiLS is not doing a lot of training for cataloging. OCLC prices for next year will be out in March 2009 and Schneider doesn't know what we should expect.

There was discussion about the OCLC record use policy. Schneider reported that OCLC appears to be listening to the feedback and a review board has been created to look into this issue. The effective date of this policy has been delayed until the third quarter of 2009.

Schneider distributed a handout listing proposed new service directions for WiLS. If approved, these services will be viewed as menu options rather than negotiated individually. Some systems and libraries are serving as pilot sites for many of these services.

There will be a new definition for membership to WiLS. For the most part, most public libraries are part of a group membership. Full membership in WiLS will have a different meaning after July 1, 2009. The goal is to have it cost a little less, but no more, than what libraries/systems are paying now for membership and surcharge. (There will be no surcharge after July 1st)

Davis asked about the status Ohio's open source resource sharing project. Ohio decided to use their LSTA funding and partner contributions and went ahead with a RFP. The deadline for the RFP was Friday, January 30, 2009. They have a fairly aggressive schedule with March 6, 2009 as the target date for vendor selection. There is a separate ILS piece, but no RFP has been seen as of yet.

12. DLTC Reports

- **State and federal budget update:** The state budget was talked about earlier in the meeting. There has been no word on the request for statewide delivery. Everyone is pretty tight-lipped around the Capital these days. As far as the federal budget goes, we are still waiting for the LSTA budget to be approved. There have been delays while waiting for the administration changeover and now the stimulus package. We have no idea when we will know how much, if any stimulus money Wisconsin will receive.
Hennen asked: Should we be planning for a 0% increase? And will the budget be done by July? Grobschmidt answered that the Governor has said education and libraries are priorities, but nothing is off the table and "No increase is the new increase". No idea whether the budget will be passed by July, but that is the hope.
- **Public Library Annual Reports:** DeBacher reported that progress is being made on the online annual report problem as the vendor is now working on the forms. There were problems with the pre-populated field and some data was not showing in the final report. DeBacher is asking the Systems to try to help libraries "clean up" funny looking data. The Division is hoping to switch to another reporting software program after this year. Another reminder that OverDrive and NetLibrary circulation stats should be reported at the System level and not the local level. The goal is still to have the reports, including the System Annual Report, ready for March 1.
- **Gates Hardware grant update and Technology survey:** Update on Gates Hardware grant—16 of 17 Systems had eligible libraries. Bocher sent an email to systems asking if they would help remind grant participants of deadlines, handle the disbursement of grant funds and aid in the purchasing/configuration/installation of the PCs. He has heard from several systems. He needs to know so that he can figure a budget to propose to the Gates people for reimbursement to

Systems for this assistance. Not sure what the final total will be, one idea is to set an amount per PC awarded.

Grant timeline:

March 2: will notified of eligible libraries, how many PCs awarded and total \$ amount. Libraries will then need to send a letter to Bocher accepting or declining the grant.

Late Sept/early Oct.: Participating libraries will need to send a representative to the PLA advocacy programs in Chicago.

Participating libraries will be required to fill out the ALA Technology survey every fall.

The libraries will also be responsible for coming up with the matching funds. The grant is divided into 2 sections. The first year (2010) there is a 25% match required and the second year (2011) it's a 50% match required.

Libraries will have to accept the total number of PCs awarded—not just decide to take a fewer number. There may be some consideration if space is truly an issue.

Technology Surveys:

A few years ago, the Division did a technology budget survey. Bocher handed out copies of that survey. This survey may be repeated in the near future and Bocher would like input on the survey form. Contact him if you have comments.

Lara Clark, from the ALA Research & Stat. Division would like to use Wisconsin as a showcase for some work ALA does in collecting data on technology. Bocher will be asking some of the Systems if we would be willing to host focus groups in our area. Look for more information in a few weeks or so.

- **Personnel Update:** Cross reported two retirements from the Public Library Development Team—Al Zimmerman and George Hall. One of the key IT support people for the online annual report retired as well. Drew reported three retirements at Reference and Loan—Terry Wilcox, Loretta Harmatuck and Willeen Tretheway. The Governor has imposed a hiring freeze so it's not likely that these positions will be filled until at least July 2009, if then.

Given the reduction in staff, the group was asked about need for certain information that Al and or George produced:

1. Do we still need a print copy of the library statistics? Consensus was **no** as they are available online.
2. Does the Public Library Directory need to be printed? Consensus was **no**, but it was requested that a PDF of the directory be made available online for those who wish to print it for themselves.
3. The Levy rate calculations—do we still need? Consensus was **yes**.

The goal is to prevent and/or limit layoffs and furloughs for State employees.

Hennen moved, seconded by Hafeman, that Arend sent letters to all the recent PLD & Ref & Loan retirees thanking them for their service to the library community. Motion carried.

Grobschmidt informed the group that Brian Solomn from the DWD would be holding a workshop to assist those who work with people seeking employment. There was interest among those present, so he will send more details.

Motion to adjourn mad by Bellin, seconded by Hafeman. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista Ross (SWLS)