

**System and Resource Library Administrators
Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW)
Q4 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Date: Friday, November 22, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Recorder: Hannah Good Zima (NFLS)

1. Call to Order

Vreeke called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Quorum Determination

Members Present - Tracy Vreeke, Chair (NFLS), Steve Hesper, Vice Chair (MCFLS), Kristen Anderson, Treasurer (WRLS), Karin Adams (Manitowoc PL), Brandi Cummings (Kenosha), Nick Demske (Racine PL), Tana Elias (Madison PL), Garrett Erickson (Sheboygan PL), Darryl Eschete (Oshkosh), Bruce Gay (Waukesha PL), Leah Giordano (Marathon County PL), Shanneon Grant (La Crosse), Sue Heskin (Superior PL), Joan Johnson (Milwaukee), Karol Kennedy (Bridges), Jessie Lee-Jones (Platteville PL), Angela Noel (SWLS), Steve Ohs (PPLS), Collen Rortvedt (Appleton PL), Becky Scherer (MCLS), Marla Sepnafski (WVLS), Clairellyn Sommersmith (Winnefox), John Thompson (IFLS)

Excused: Shannon Schultz (SCLS), Nancy Kerr (LEPMPL), Sarah Sugden (BCL), Riti Grover (Monarch), Steve Platteter (PLLS)

Affiliated Members/Guests – Ben Miller (DPI), Beth Tomev (DPI), Teresa Schmidt (DPI), Monica Treptow (DPI), Laura Sauser (WLA), Steve Conway, Jennifer Chamberlain (WiLS), Kristen Whitson (Recollection WI), Ellen Kupfer (COLAND)

3. Proxy Announcements

Tracy Vreeke will serve as proxy for Sarah Sugden.

4. Introductions/Welcome Guests (Vreeke)

1. Approval of the Agenda (Vreeke) –
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Ohs, seconded by Girodano. **Motion carried.**
2. Approval of the Minutes from August 2, 2024 (Vreeke)
Noel made a motion to approve the minutes as amended to remove Jen Chamberlain as WiLS representative. Motion seconded by Ohs. **Motion carried.**
3. Treasurer's Report (Anderson)
Johnson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Sommersmith. **Motion carried.**

4. LD&L Report / Legislative Report (Gay/Conway)

- New posters are being developed as part of the Libraries Transform campaign.
- Election brought many changes to the Senate which means priority to meet and befriend new Senators. Sen Felzkowski is the new Senate President which is helpful to our position. LD&L team and library volunteers are ready to take on the work this year.
- Reminder for systems to send in info if you have not done so. Need to start working on the data. Received increases over the last 2 budget cycles so likely will not receive increase this cycle.
- Seeing trend in higher rates of homeschooling in WI. Public libraries are the source of curriculum for these families which will be important to many legislators. However, in some communities, these are the groups that are bringing book challenges.
- Continuing to work with County Association to encourage better library board appointments and bring the legislators into their local libraries.
- How much consideration is given to potential changes in funding at the federal level – IMLS, etc. Project 25, etc. (Johnson)?
 - LD&L is looking at the issue and it is on the radar. 2025 funds are likely safe but moving past that is unknown. This year IMLS will need to be reauthorized by Congress.

5. ALA Councilor Report (Wichitchu)

- Wichitchu provided a report. WLA will name new councilor at December board meeting.

6. Appointment of Nominations Committee (Vreeke)

- Vreeke appointed the following members as the nominations committee: Sommersmith, Sepnafski, Kennedy, and Grover.
- Steve Hesper will move into chair position. Anderson will remain as Treasurer. Will need to elect Vice Chair for 2025. Reach out if you are interested or have a nomination to put forward.

7. Affiliated Organization Reports:

- DPI
 - i. Michael Dennison will return to DPI as the new ILL coordinator.
 - ii. System payments (75%) for 2025 will be issued after system plan review.
 - iii. Badgerlink procurement process is complete. There are a few new resources. Starting a new Badgerlink cohort if anyone is interested.
 - iv. Attended LSTA conference in MKE and it was awesome!
 - v. Teresa Schmidt hosted a virtual “Ask me anything” session in lieu of bootcamp. Well received and attended. Only invited new directors.
 - vi. Data dashboard – upcoming webinar
 - vii. New certification manual was released
 - viii. System merger guide is available now
- Recollection Wisconsin
 - i. Formalizing mission and vision statements. Great process for looking at short- and long-term goals for RW.
 - ii. Digitization internship – nearing end of first semester.

- WiLS
 - i. Coop purchasing – A new suggestion form has been created. Reach out especially if there is no vendor listed.
 - ii. New relationship with Ingram and new discount program for libraries participating in WiLS Coop Purchasing. Does not apply to systems.
 - iii. Culture Keepers Gathering – May 14-16, 2025 in Red Cliff, WI
 - WPLC
 - i. Continuing to work on strategic plan. Looking for goals and objectives to come out of the plan.
 - WLA
 - i. Great WLA Annual Conference
 - ii. Seeking regional host sites – reach out if you have some space at your libraries, systems or local facilities.
 - COLAND
 - i. Major focus is AI and policies for libraries and librarians, in schools, broad based approach for looking at AI in all types and forms.
 - ii. Attempting to do more outreach to introduce COLAND and its purpose to the library world.
 - iii. Meetings are always available online and are 2nd Friday every month. Everyone is always invited to join. If a system wants to host, let us know. Love to tour different libraries throughout the state.
8. Discussion Items:
- Statewide Letter to Hoopla (Steve Ohs)
 - i. PRLS working group is looking at digital collections. Digital content is now a core service for many libraries but is very expensive. Hoopla will not work with consortiums to offer discounts.
 - ii. Do not want to face pushback from patrons if the service is discontinued.
 - iii. One thought was to send a letter to begin negotiations with Hoopla. Try to explain challenges that libraries face to engage in better pricing structure.
 - iv. Want to tell patrons that we have made every effort to keep this service before discontinuing. Had to make a hard decision based on budget and demand.
 - v. Is there interest from others to participate? Would this be a bad idea?
 - vi. Hesel likes the idea as MKE's Hoopla costs have become unsustainable.
 - vii. Letter will be written in a tone that will not make Hoopla to be the bad guy but try to understand how they are being charged by publishers, and ask for better transparency around pricing. They will move ahead with the letter with the support from SRLAAW.
 - ChatGPT in Libraries and DPI AI Report
 - i. Reach out to Monica Treptow, School library media specialist at DPI, if you have any questions, comments, or feedback.
 - ii. Sommersmith – Generative AI is another piece of technology librarians will need to learn just as we have over the last 20 years in regard to all types of

technology. This is just part of how technology continues to evolve and librarians will evolve with it.

- iii. Kenosha Public Library has a new policy for library and staff, guidelines on how to use and how not to. Build awareness around it for staff. Cummings will share.
- iv. Here's the podcast, courtesy of the DPI report as summarized by Google's Notebook LM: <https://notebooklm.google.com/notebook/3114ce31-a31b-4f16-8281-26eafc1e5895/audio>

9. Member Roundtable

- Demske – Municipal budget had 40 unnecessary amendments which was difficult and painful. Big morale hit. Initially the library took a \$200,000 budgetcut. However, 200+ people showed up at city hall to support library. Council tried twice to limit public comment. In the end funding was restored! Not the end of challenges but gives the library a year to begin building relationships to prevent future cuts.
- Eschete – The library had a very positive experience with their council this year and will be getting \$500,000 in tax levy. Council recognizes value of library to the community.

10. Next Meeting: Monday, February 10, 2025 at the South Central Library System in Madison.

11. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.