

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
Technology Collaboration Steering Committee – Meeting Notes
May 9, 2022, at 1:00 pm
via zoom*

ATTENDEES: Kristen Anderson (WRLS), Wyatt Ditzler (ALS), Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (WLS), Bill Herman (DPI), Steve Hesel (MCFLS), Karol Kennedy (BLS), Sherry Machones (NWLS), Marla Sepnafski (WVLS), Vicki Teal Lovely (SCLS), John Thompson (IFLS)

ABSENT: none

PROJECT MANAGERS: Melody Clark (WiLS), Jennifer Chamberlain (WiLS)

1. Call to order

Chair J. Gilderson-Duwe called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

2. Review Agenda – changes or additions

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

3. Approval of minutes – [February 14, 2022](#)

J. Thompson moved approval of the minutes, M. Sepnafski seconded. Motion carried.

4. Reports: Committee/Workgroup Updates

a. WPLC Technology Operations Committee Meeting Notes – [April 4, 2022](#)

A quick update of the projects was given. For the Deep Freeze project, Project lead Robert Nitsch is getting updated pricing from Faronics and is reaching out to all systems to ascertain interest. Those libraries/systems that are interested may also do trials.

Regarding the data dashboard project, it was decided that more information and research needed to be done. The group wants to better understand what proficiencies are required to administer various platforms. The group is also looking to identify individuals in the state who may be experts in this area to help identify/review products but also to potentially work on setup. If any committee members have recommendations for subject matter experts, please Operations Committee members or project managers know.

Project managers are working with EZ Proxy reps on pricing.

5. New Discussion Items

a. Discussion: WPLC Potential Collaboration Participant Agreement/MOU

At the new Technology Backup Steering Committee meeting, the group discussed the current project's MOU. This MOU is an agreement made for participating libraries in the backup and/or digital archives project. At the meeting, the group discussed how this MOU could be used as an agreement for other WPLC opt-in collaboration projects. The group reviewed the [backup and digital archives project MOU](#) and discussed its potential for an opt-in collaboration template for other WPLC projects.

W. Ditzler asked if any attorneys reviewed the document, and V. Teal Lovely confirmed that SCLS did have attorneys review it.

J. Gilderson-Duwe noted that the Good Faith section seems particular to the project, so there would need to be changes made to make it more general.

J. Thompson agrees having a template or framework is helpful for opt-in projects. He noted this agreement is more than a simple service agreement or collaboration agreement, so it may be more complicated than needed for some projects. Perhaps two templates should be created.

The committee agreed to hold off on designing a template until the committee has a project that requires an MOU for an opt-in project. The MOU presented today could serve as a foundation.

b. Discussion: Potential Project – Purchase of on-premise licensing for Microsoft Office

S. Hesel introduced the topic. The group discussed the possibility of this collaboration including next steps and involvement of the Technology Operations Committee.

Microsoft is encouraging users to move to their cloud-based software, unfortunately, that version is not a viable option for public workstations. Cloud licenses are tied to specific users. On-premise licenses are costly without a Techsoup discount, so Hesel is exploring pricing through VendorNet. B. Herman had nothing to report on the state contract, but he has gotten in touch with a Microsoft representative to discuss options purchasing vendor direct.

S. Hesel, B. Herman, and W. Ditzler will meet with Microsoft, and will report back what they learn. If a cooperative purchase makes sense, we could kick this to the operations committee for implementation.

M. Clark will add to the next meeting agenda for an update.

c. Discussion: Funding for Technology Collaboration Projects

V. Teal Lovely introduced this topic for discussion. The group discussed identifying sustainable resources for statewide collaboration projects.

DPI was acknowledged for its significant funding of these projects. The steering committees for each project will work out budgets. V. Teal Lovely raised a larger question and concern about all systems being able to support these large-scale collaborations in the future. J. Gilderson-Duwe asked if there is a funding crisis on the horizon for the two big storage projects? V. Teal Lovely said that the replacement cycle should be 5 years, but due to funding realities for many systems, they are looking at pushing that to 7+ years. Not certain if all systems are able to plan for future replacement cycles in their current budgets.

V. Teal Lovely asked the committee to consider exploring new ways of funding these large-scale projects. Should we be requesting additional state aid to support this?

S. Machones recommended the committee bring this concept to SRLAAW this week, however she feels it is too late for the upcoming biennial budget ask. This project came out of PLSR, and S. Machones feels this should be supported by DPI since that work was prompted by that project.

Other suggestions included thinking about funding this project as a service contract or a separate line item within the DPI budget.

J. Thompson voiced concern about embedding this into the system budgets.

The committee agreed to introduce this topic at SRLAAW, with the understanding there may likely not be an opportunity to include this in the current biennial ask. In essence, the end goal is to stabilize funding for these bigger projects that aren't relying upon annual LSTA funding requests or that risk excluding systems that cannot afford to participate. Funding concerns maybe 5 years down the road. 2025/26 might be the better timeframe for looking at a state contract.

J. Gilderson-Duwe suggested each project steering committee work on budget and funding scenarios. J. Gilderson-Duwe suggested a model that has systems floating incubation/experimentation, and once concept is proven, interested libraries will buy into it and share costs.

It was also suggested that a small group meet with DPI staff to discuss a broader strategy for building a funding roadmap for large-scale projects like this. J. Gilderson-Duwe will reach out to Ben Miller at DPI to frame the need for a discussion. Meeting should include V. Teal Lovely, J. Klingbeil, B. Herman, S. Machones, E. Pfothauer, A. Hoks, and K. Schwartz.

Related to this, v.Teal Lovely shared costs associated with building the new data center at SCLS. Estimates are around \$200,000 to supply proper HVAC, fire suppression system, generator, racks, etc. M. Van Pelt has been talking with DPI for LSTA funds to purchase some of these pieces. This topic will be brought to the WPLC board meeting.

6. Committee information sharing and questions

- Beloit Public Library is hoping to host Gov. Evers on May 18th.
- MCFLS: Multifactor authentication for Outlook – curious if other systems rolled this out all at once or one library at a time?

J. Gilderson-Duwe provided a meeting recap:

- MOU Template – The committee will use the MOU shared as inspiration for drafting future opt-in project MOUs when warranted.
- Microsoft office licensing - A small group will continue the conversation and bring back pricing information to the next meeting.

- Funding backup projects – A small group will schedule a meeting with DPI to discuss strategy and funding options for large-scale PLSR-related projects like the backup infrastructure.

7. Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm.

The next meeting is on August 15, 2022, at 10:00 am.