

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
Board Meeting Notes
June 10, 2021 at 10:00 am

PRESENT: Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (WLS), David Kranz (SWLS), Mellanie Mercier (BLS), Steve Heser (MCFLS), Rachel Metzler (WVLS), Steve Ohs (LLS), Rob Nunez (KLS), Steve Platteter (ALS), Gina Rae (NWLS), Rebecca Schadrie (MCLS), Bradley Shipp (OWLS) also proxy for Tracy Vreeke (NFLS), Martha Van Pelt (SWLS), Maureen Welch (IFLS)

ABSENT: Kristen Anderson (WRLS), Monarch

GUESTS: David Dowling (LLS), Ben Miller (DPI)

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

1. Call to order/Welcome & Introductions

Vice Chair D. Kranz called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Review agenda
- b. Approval of minutes from [April 29, 2021](#)
- c. Acceptance of Digital Library Steering Committee minutes from [May 20, 2021](#)
- d. Acceptance of Technology Steering Committee minutes from [May 4, 2021](#)
- e. Decisions made between April 29, 2021 and current meeting: None
- f. [YTD Budget](#)

S. Platteter moved approval of the consent agenda, M. Van Pelt seconded. The consent agenda was approved by consensus.

3. Updates from Previous Meetings/Projects

a. Advocacy Workgroup Update

S. Heser reported that he met with COLAND in May about supporting Wisconsin's Digital Library, and while the support is there, it is too late in the year to add funding from this year's budget. S. Heser will draft a letter to send to the state legislature, and will meet with COLAND again on July 9th. He will also be at the LD&L meeting in July to promote Wisconsin's Digital Library and hopefully gain some funding from them. J. Gilderson-Duwe asked if the idea is to keep moving forward in the next biennial budget, to which S. Heser answered that is the plan. J. Gilderson-Duwe expressed concern about potential restrictions on the collection that could come with that funding.

4. New Business

a. Discussion and action: Magazines Renewal

At the last Board meeting the group discussed the magazine renewal. The group decided it would be ideal to have the DL Steering Committee make a recommendation as soon as possible, so that, if need be, it could be included in the 2022 budget which this body will review and approve at this meeting. The DL Steering Committee met on May 20th and is recommending a

renewal of magazines for two years, using the buying pool formula for 2022 and then review the formula to use for 2023, after a year's full use of magazine circulation.

The Board was asked if there were any questions regarding the recommendations.

M. Van Pelt asked for clarification on the price: will it change in the second year, requiring another vote? M. Clark answered that WPLC will not need to renegotiate the price for the 2nd year: the price will remain \$100,000 per year for the two years. G. Rae mentioned that while NWLS is working to have the funding to keep magazines, they are concerned about its sustainability, especially if there is no county reimbursement for electronic materials. Additionally, a few systems reported that their patrons prefer Flipster's platform over OverDrive's. However, it was noted that Flipster's price is very high.

J. Gilderson-Duwe moved approval of the magazine renewal using the buying pool formula with a review of the formula for 2023 budget, S. Ohs seconded. Motion carried.

b. Discussion and action: 2022 Budget

The Budget Committee has recommended a budget for 2022. Last year the Digital Library Steering Committee recommended a buying pool amount that included an increase for five years. This budget includes that increase.

M. Mercier brought up that some of the libraries are seeing higher increase costs than expected due to usage and is concerned about that sustainability as they (BLS) already put a lot into their Advantage account. M. Welch suggested that it might be better if the buying pool formula was adjusted, maybe to a 3-year usage average, especially since buying and circulation increased because of the pandemic. M. Clark said that one option is to modify the formula for Digital Library Steering seat apportionment to include Advantage and she will prepare reports with and without the Advantage numbers. The buying pool formula cannot be updated for 2022, but discussion can be included in the agenda for August's meeting, if the board would like to continue the conversation. J. Gilderson-Duwe noted that the buying pool formula has been well thought out and good and doesn't think the group should change it. S. Ohs noted that it may be a good idea to approach the systems that have indicated challenges with the budget or funding formula, prior to any process to review the current formula, to solicit formula suggestions from them that will make it easier for them to continue on in support of the buying pool.

G. Rae asked for clarification on Transparent Languages. M. Clark said that even though it shows on the WPLC budget, it's a pass-through and doesn't affect the buying pool. The cost for Transparent Languages is holding steady for 2022, and the subscription is still being handled by WiLS.

S. Ohs moved approval of the 2022 recommended budget, S. Platteter seconded. Motion carried.

c. Discussion and action: Social Media Printing Budget

At the February meeting of the Board the Social Media Committee asked for systems that would be interested in partnering with the Committee for printing services. OWLS shared they have printing services and the group has been working with OWLS to create a budget and a list of

assets for printing and distribution to all systems. The Committee is requesting \$1,400 in Reserve Funds.

The group was asked to review and act on the proposal. M. Clark added that this is for promotion and marketing materials to give to patrons. All of the printed materials will be sent to libraries through the delivery system. PDFs will also be available for local printing.

M. Welch moved to approve the Social Media Committee printing budget request, S. Ohs seconded. Motion carried.

d. Discussion: Selector and Advantage Selector Support Resources

As a part of the 2020 recommendations, additional resources for selectors and Advantage selectors have been compiled and created. This includes a new selector list and update form, several purchasing resources including guidelines, templates, videos, tutorials, a data dashboard and more. These can all be found on the WPLC website here:

<https://wplc.info/selectorresources>

The Board was asked to review and discuss the resources and provide any feedback to project managers before the site and resources go live in mid-July.

5. Information Sharing from Partners

S. Hesper said that MCFLS is talking about MARC records for Advantage titles, and there seem to be two ways to get them: Free from MARC express, and \$1.50/record from OCLC. He is wondering what other systems are doing? G. Rae said that NWLS is using Pika to sideload MARC records, and they really like it. S. Ohs said that LLS is using eResource, which connects directly to OverDrive and sideloads MARC records—this also they aren't doing much with imports anymore. D. Dowling also suggested that some vendors have local APIs that can be used to automate the process.

J. Gilderson-Duwe shared that prior to the pandemic, WLS built into their contract with the county reimbursements for ebooks. The formula they use is based on the proportion of city circulation to the proportion of township circulation. This agreement also includes a procedure if it's underfunded. WLS also serves as a conduit for all of the counties in the system. He will share the contract with the board. *NOTE: after the meeting, J. Gilderson-Duwe followed up and noted "after looking at our Winnebago County Plan and Agreement it seems that I misspoke in saying we had incorporated digital materials circulation explicitly in our agreement. The text of the agreement does not mention eBooks or eAudio. It must have been more of an informal agreement with our county board oversight committee that we ought to include those circs in our formula." If any library or system has questions or would like to look at their county agreements, contact J. Gilderson-Duwe directly.*

B. Miller shared from DPI that Jill Underly is the new state superintendent and Tessa Michaelson Schmidt is the new Assistant Superintendent of Libraries. Also, LSTA will be funding WPLC, based on the consortium's great advocacy work!

J. Chamberlain shared that part of the State's budget process included *not* funding Recollection Wisconsin: The state is not funding any new projects, and the Recollection Wisconsin proposal for

the upcoming year was submitted as a new project. WiLS is currently talking with Ben Miller and LD&L to talk about funding opportunities. WiLS is also working on getting private funding.

S. Ohs and S. Platteter talked about their recommendation to explore merging ALS and LLS. Ideally, the roadmap will take them through 2022, with implementation of the merger in 2023.

6. Adjourn

Next meeting: Board Meeting on August 9, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 11:29 am