



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PIERCE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 14, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Allen Rose called to order the regular meeting of the Pierce County Rural Library District Board of Trustees on January 14, 2009, 3:34 pm. Board members present were Paul Chasco, Eugene Matsusaka, J.J. McCament and Budd Wagner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the December 9, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
2. December 2008 Payroll, Benefits and Vouchers in the total amount of \$2,669.39
 - a. Payroll Warrants 2863 - 2766 dated 12/01/08 – 12/31/08 in the amount of \$517,642.12
 - b. Payroll Disbursement Voucher dated 12/05/08 in the amount of \$591,085.99
 - c. Payroll Disbursement Voucher dated 12/22/08 in the amount of \$536,709.60
 - d. Accounts Payable Warrants: 605395 - 605766 dated 12/01/08 – 12/31/08 in the amount of \$1,329,079.25
3. Strategic Visioning Workshop Contract

Ms. McCament moved for approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Matsusaka seconded the motion and it was passed.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Budd Wagner: Mr. Wagner reported that he had attended a Gig Harbor city council meeting at which Lynne Zeiher, Managing Librarian, was requesting the city sign a proclamation in support of Pierce County READS. Mr. Wagner said that Ms. Zeiher did a great job representing the Pierce County Library System.

Eugene Matsusaka: Mr. Matsusaka thanked Clifford for preparing an explanatory mill rate memo and discussing it with him. He also reported that his wife had gotten a Tacoma Public Library card through the reciprocal borrowing program and preferred Pierce County Library System branches.

OFFICER REPORTS

Mill Rate Calculations: Mr. Jo briefly reviewed the process used in calculating mill rate numbers and revenue. Pierce County recalculates the mill rate after determining what the revenues will be in the following fiscal year. The mill rate does not control year-to-year revenues unless voters approve lifting, as happened in 2006. If the mill rate were to exceed 50¢, Pierce County automatically reduces the revenue so that it doesn't exceed 50¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Survey for Outlying Community Residents: Sally Porter Smith, Outreach Services Director, reviewed the results of a survey of residents in outlying communities. The survey was intended to assess the degree to which remote communities are using library services and which services are most valued. The Minutes of January 14, 2008 Regular Meeting

surveys were distributed on the bookmobile, at care facilities and during community meetings. Ms. Porter was particularly concerned about access to high-speed Internet service and was pleased to learn that 70% of respondents have such access. Valuable information was provided by the survey responses, although she was disappointed that there were very few from people with children under 18.

Explorer: In its 2009 budget, the City of Lakewood chose not to support funding for continuation of the Explorer bookmobile service for Lakewood residents. Since 2002, the city, through their Human Services Collaboration, provided a small percentage of the cost of the Explorer program. At the request of a city representative, a memo was sent to the city outlining the effects of the loss of funding for the Kids bookmobile. Youth Services and the Community Outreach Services will review the Explorer services being offered to Pierce County and Lakewood to determine if the distribution of services meets existing community needs.

HAPLR: Ms. Parikh reported that the HAPLR report ranks Washington State Libraries scoring 4th in the nation. Ohio is ranked 1st and Oregon is 3rd.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. 2009 Election of Officers: Ms. McCament moved to elect Paul Chasco to serve as Chair of the Board and Eugene Matsusaka as Vice-Chair in 2009. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion. The motion was passed with 4 ayes and 1 abstention.

Mr. Rose passed the gavel to Chair Chasco and he led the rest of the meeting.

2. Facilities Master Plan: Ms. Parikh distributed an updated list of invitees to the Strategic Vision Workshop and the five regional Community Leader Advisory Groups. She was pleased to announce that Ron Sher will be one of the speakers during the Strategic Vision Workshop. Mr. Sher is a pioneer in "Third Place", a community gathering place in communities. Ms. Parikh also briefly reviewed considerations used in inviting business leaders, community organizations leaders, planners and planning advisory commission members, school representatives to the meetings. Lorie Erickson reported that the Staff Advisory Committee has been formed and is active.

Ms. Parikh reported a new trend of increasing square footage per capita in library construction. Libraries need more physical space as technology takes up space and more people are sitting in the library using their laptops and accessing computers.

3. University Place Project: Ms. Erickson reported that the steel and metal decking have arrived on site. Unfortunately, the last four construction meetings were cancelled by the city, so there is nothing new to report.

Evaluation of Facility Concerns at the Temporary Location: Georgia Lomax spoke to concerns related to the temporary library space. Originally, the temporary space was intended to house the University Place branch library for a maximum period of 2 years, moving out January 2009. Inexpensive materials and equipment were used and have not held up as the location has been used twice as long as estimated. In addition, the site will continue to be used an additional 2 years. There is not enough physical space for public use. Furnishings, equipment and the rug are worn out. There is no community meeting space so the branch can offer only very limited programming. The parking is minimal and hazardous.

Ms. Erickson reviewed recommendations to mitigate part of the problems and better utilize the space. The reconfiguration and upgrade recommendations would cost approximately \$30,000 in construction costs and \$15,000 for increased seating, tables and a cyber-bar for PCs. It would increase seating by 15 and add 6 computer stations. Ms. Parikh stated that funding for the work should be included in the agreement with the City of University Place.

Chair Chasco directed that Ms. Parikh express to the city the library's concern that construction meetings have been cancelled and no progress updates have been given to the Board.

4. Tacoma Public Library: Reciprocal Borrowing Report: The Board had been sent the second quarter progress report on the pilot reciprocal borrowing project between Pierce County Library System and Tacoma Public Library. .51% of Tacoma residents received a PCLS card, and .35% of PCLS residents received a Tacoma Public Library card. Tacoma residents usage of PCLS increased by 44% in the last quarter. The per capita use by cardholders during the first two quarters was 18.4 items. Tacoma Public Library use represented 1.7% of PCLS circulation in the past six months and represented 6.5% of new cardholder registration during the same time period. Ms. Parikh noted that she has not received information from Tacoma Public Library, but anecdotal information from residents appears that the project is successful and well appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2009 Board Calendar of Work: The Board reviewed the draft 2009 calendar of work. Ms. Parikh asked for topics the board would like to consider in 2009. Mr. Chasco noted that he would like to hear reports on what other libraries are doing locally and nationally.

2. Inter-Local Agreement Between King County Library System and Pierce County: King County Library System and Pierce County Library System have been discussing a formal reciprocal use agreement for a year, in response to a concern from King County Library System related to cross use. The inter-agreement before the Board was been approved by the King County Library System Board at its last meeting.

Mr. Rose moved to approve the Inter-Local Agreement between King County Library and Pierce County Library System. Mr. Matsusaka seconded the motion and it was passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Wagner moved to enter into executive session as per RCW 42.30.110 at 4:38 pm for 45 minutes to discuss an agreement with the City of University Place, the Peninsula property purchase and a personnel issue. Mr. Matsusaka seconded the motion and it passed.

At 5:18 pm, Chair Chasco announced the executive session would be extended by 15 minutes.

At 5:32 pm, Chair Chasco announced the executive session would be extended by 15 minutes.

The Board reopened to public session at 5:46 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Chasco thanked Allen Rose for his two years of service as Chair of the Board.

Mr. Rose announced that he was now serving in the Pierce County Executive's Office as Executive Director of Justice Services.

Chair Chasco asked if the library would continue to provide Explorer services to the Lakewood program previously funded by the City of Lakewood. Ms. Lomax responded that the programs would not be served and general service in Lakewood is being generally reassessed to best meet the needs.

Chair Chasco asked if any branches were damaged during the recent flooding. Ms. Erickson stated that beyond some small water leakage at the Sumner, there was no damage to library branches. The City of

Orting was evacuated, so the Orting branch was closed during that time. Apparently, flood waters did come within a few inches of flooding the branch.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 pm on motion by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Matsusaka.

Secretary

Chair