

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PIERCE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 8, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eugene Matsusaka called to order the regular meeting of the Pierce County Rural Library District Board of Trustees on April 8, 2009, 4:22 pm. Board members present were J.J. McCament, Allen Rose and Budd Wagner.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Wagner moved to enter into executive session as per RCW 42.30.110 at 4:23 pm for 15 minutes to discuss property in Gig Harbor and Lakewood. Ms. McCament seconded the motion and it passed. The Board reopened to public session at 4:46 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John McDonagh, a Pierce County Library System staff member, read a prepared statement regarding his allegations of age and gender discrimination in the workplace against the Community Outreach Services Department for the Pierce County Library System and the subsequent investigation. He requested that the investigation be reopened and an investigator from an outside agency be selected to conduct a more detailed and unbiased investigation.

Chair Matsusaka noted for the record that the Board acknowledged receipt of Mr. McDonagh's request and asked that the Director provide a report to the Board in Executive Session during the May Board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the March 8, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
2. March 2009 Payroll, Benefits and Vouchers in the total amount of \$3,094,289.80
 - a. Payroll Warrants 2789 - 2793 dated 03/01/09 – 03/31/09 in the amount of \$4,164.18
 - b. Payroll Disbursement Voucher dated 03/06/09 in the amount of \$530,432.66
 - c. Payroll Disbursement Voucher dated 03/20/09 in the amount of \$543,855.87
 - d. Accounts Payable Warrants: 606444 - 606792 dated 03/01/09 – 03/31/09 in the amount of \$2,093,189.80

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

Chair Matsusaka reported that due to an administrative request, the New Business item "Unattended Child Policy" was being moved forward in the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Unattended Child Policy: Judy Nelson, Youth Services Director, stated that proposed policy relates to children that are at the library without an adult and those children accompanied by parents, but the parent is in a different area of the facility, thereby, leaving a child unattended in the branch. A library task force will be formed to develop administrative guidelines and conduct staff training to ensure guidelines

are followed. The intent is to provide a safer environment for children in the branches. It was important to note that procedures would be triggered by behavioral issues by the child.

Mr. Rose moved to approve the unattended child policy as presented for first reading. Ms. McCament seconded the motion and it passed.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no member reports.

OFFICER REPORTS

ALA Conference: Ms. Parikh announced that the American Library Association conference will be held in Chicago in July, 2009 and asked if any Board were interested in attending. Chair Matsusaka indicated his interest.

Board Vacancy: Keri Rooney, Executive Director – External Affairs will serve on the Interview Panel, representing the Pierce County Executive’s Office. Ms. Rooney toured the Processing and Administrative Center and will return to tour the Explorer bookmobile and continue discussion with Ms. Parikh.

Facilities Master Plan: Draft recommendations regarding size and location of branches and service delivery models will be presented at Community Leader Advisory Group meetings during the month of May. The Board will preview that report before the meetings. At the next Board meeting, Ms. Parikh will present policies related to site selection criteria and establishment of a branch.

1st Amendment to the Amended and Restated Agreement between the City of University Place and Pierce County Library System: The City of University Place approved signature of the 1st amendment to the agreement.

University Place Capital Campaign: Lynne Hoffman, Development Director, reported that a topping off and beam signing ceremony at the site of the new University Place Library is scheduled on April 27th.

Federal Stimulus Package: Ms. Parikh reported that the library is interested in the broadband portion of the package and hoping to work in partnership in grant application.

Pierce County READS: Mary Getchell, Communications Director, distributed an updated results report on the Pierce County READS project. The author event was extremely successful. Ms. McCament complimented the Pierce County Library Foundation for their work in sponsoring the reception and offered her compliments to the Staff Committee that worked so hard on this successful effort.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. City of Fife: Ms. Parikh and Ms. Lomax attended the Fife City Council to discuss annexation by the city to the library district. Ms. Lomax had received a request from a Fife city councilmember for an example of a 6,000 sq. ft. branch and prepared examples and a representative image of such a sized branch. It was a good visual image and explained space ratio of traditional and contemporary facilities. By a 4 – 3 vote, the city council approved an annexation agreement should annexation occur. A public hearing will be held in Fife on April 14th and two weeks after, the council will vote on putting the annexation issue on the November ballot.

Ms. Parikh noted that concerns had been expressed over the library's requirement to open a branch if no suitable leased space were available. The concern was that if suitable space were not available, PCLS would not open a facility within city limits. Ms. Parikh expressed to the council that it that was the library's intent to open a facility and the language was not meant to delay opening. Compromise language was developed that mitigated the council's concern and meet the library's need.

Ms. McCament moved for approval of the annexation agreement as presented this date, with approval of the change in paragraph 2.a, "If PCLS is unable to secure suitable space to accommodate the June 1, 2011 opening date, the City and PCLS shall negotiate an extension of the open date. Space shall be deemed suitable if it meets the criteria attached hereto as Exhibit A". Mr. Wagner seconded the motion and it passed.

2. Board of Trustees Vacancy: Ms. Parikh reported that newspaper advertisements have been placed and the application packet has been distributed to the branches and community organizations for recruitment purposes. She asked the Board for their suggestions regarding the "Roles and Responsibilities" document included in the application packet. Board members made several suggestions, including reference to approving signature of contracts rather than signing themselves and inclusion of a reference to their role in determination of placement of issues on the ballot. A note that the board is a policy-making body and management of the library is performed by administrative staff should be placed in the introductory paragraph.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. McCament moved to enter into executive session as per RCW 42.30.110 at 5:50 pm for 10 minutes to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion and it passed. The Board reopened to public session at 6:01 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm on motion by Ms. McCament, seconded by Mr. Rose.

Secretary

Chair