

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES  
June 15, 2011**

The Board met in regular session at the South Valleys Library, 15650A Wedge Parkway, Reno, Nevada. Chair Judy Simon called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Tom Cornell, Dianne Drinkwater, Fred Lokken (by remote), Judy Simon and Al Stoess

Library Staff Present: Brenda Baxter, Kristin Cannard, Tammy Cirrincione, Max Conelly, John Crockett, Arlene Dempsey, Corinne Dickman, Dave Eveland, Debbie Gunderman, Nancy Keener, Barbara Lentz, Julie Machado, Arnie Maurins, Maureen McElroy, Brenda Owens, Pam Rasmussen, Bonnie Saviers, Donna Smith, Terri VanHoozer, Scottie Wallace, Linda Weagel, Beate Weinert and Rocky Badolato

County Staff Present: Assistant District Attorney Herb Kaplan

Friends of Washoe County  
Library Present: Lucina Moses

Public Present: Erin Banahan, Nancy Cummings, Bev Dummit and Carol Lloyd

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Dr. Stoess, seconded by Ms. Drinkwater, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the minutes of the May 18, 2011 meeting. Mr. Cornell abstained.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Supplemental Budget Reduction Plan for FY 2011/12**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

On questioning by the Board, Mr. Maurins advised that the details of the plan will be brought back to the Board once the actual target savings amount is known, and he is only asking for approval of the plan in

concept. He then explained the spreadsheets pertaining to the “no layoff scenario.” Mr. Maurins further noted that the materials budget has already been cut more than half from four years ago.

On further questioning by the Board, Mr. Kaplan advised that someone from the County executed the agreement containing the perpetuity requirement in connection with the Verdi Library, and Mr. Maurins informed the Board that only two branch closures are proposed because staff feels it can maintain service at the remaining libraries by changing how the service is provided. For example, North Valleys Library will have a reduced physical footprint, while others will provide fewer services in accordance with the needs of the local population. Possibly only two libraries will be considered full service.

On further questioning by the Board, it was noted that while the Amazon “wish list” program is currently in place, it is still too new to project how it will affect the materials budget.

On motion by Ms. Drinkwater, seconded by Mr. Cornell, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the supplemental budget reduction plan in concept, with the understanding that Mr. Maurins will return to the Board with more specific information once the budget reduction target number has been determined. Ms. Simon opposed the motion. Dr. Stoess stated that while he voted in favor of the motion it was very reluctantly, and he is not happy with it.

Mr. Maurins suggested that the Board may want to suggest fine and fee revenue ideas, one of which might be a charge for placing holds.

Ms. Simon opened the meeting to public comment.

Carol Lloyd stated that if the public is being asked to donate books to the Library through Amazon or other means, it would be a lot to ask them to pay for placing a hold.

Bev Dummit, Verdi resident and member of the Verdi Mystery Book Club, said she is “appalled that you would think and I must say that I am just appalled that you would think of closing our little Library. We get very little services as it is from the City of Reno, although we are in, what do they call it, the sphere of influence. And it just is very upsetting to me to think that our senior and adult population, many of whom do not drive, will be deprived of a service that has been around forever. I’m just appalled.”

### **Position of the Library Board on Outsourcing of Library Services**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet, which Mr. Maurins noted was the statement that was read into the record at the last meeting of the Citizens’ Advisory Committee on the Future of the Washoe County Library System by William Hartman, Chair. It was the consensus of the committee that this statement should be read into the record at the Library Board meeting, which he did. The statement is as follows:

#### “Item 8 – Discussion and Possible Recommendation to the Library Board Regarding the Potential Outsourcing of Library Services”

“The Library Director and I discussed placing this item on the agenda to bring perspective to its status. Please note the idea of a recommendation at this time is outside of the timeline we have established for making recommendations.

“In your packet, Item 8 is a synopsis of the discussion from our May 5 meeting. Since that meeting, I attended the Library Board meeting on May 18 and had the opportunity to discuss the LSSI information notes and the five points listed in Item 8. It is obvious from all discussions there are many considerations regarding numerous aspects of social responsibility when it involves outsourcing. Regardless of who is ultimately responsible for making the decisions that may impact the Library’s cultural contribution, operations and staff, it is my opinion nothing further should be done until all decision makers thoroughly discuss critical factors.

“The original intent concerning LSSI was to acquire as much information as possible and to create an awareness of this alternative. Based on feedback to date, both intents have been fulfilled. The idea LSSI put forth for the Library to provide information for further analysis was premature on their part. In addition, the budget environment has changed in the last couple of days. I don’t interpret this as a signal to ease up, but more of an opportunity to continue reviewing how to change with perhaps less stress.

“Since I raised the issue earlier in the year, I am compelled to offer a solution. I believe this information should be placed alongside all other information previously gathered, and to be gathered, as part of our learning experience, to be included with the final report as information only.”

Mr. Maurins noted that all references to “I” in the statement refer to William Hartman, on behalf of the Committee.

As liaison to the Citizens’ Advisory Committee on the Future of the Washoe County Library System, Mr. Lokken advised the Board of the following:

- This was a well-vetted topic with several specific concerns
  - Commissioner Jung was concerned that LSSI is “the only game in town” and, as such, there would be no competitive bid
  - LSSI is a poorly tested solution: it comes by invitation only, primarily targets and serves small libraries and library systems
  - The Committee recognized the value of the current Library staff, which is familiar with the needs of its patrons
- The strategies and tactics used by LSSI are consistent with what the Library Board and Library staff have been doing over the last three years to deal with the budget cuts
- The one strategy clearly used by LSSI is eliminating librarians and underpaying those who work in the Library System
- The Committee spoke to respecting the quality and the talent of the staff and trying to find ways by which that could be retained and removing LSSI from the table

Upon motion by Mr. Lokken, seconded by Ms. Simon, which motion duly carried, the Board accepted the statement as the position of the Citizens’ Advisory Committee on the Future of Washoe County Library. Mr. Cornell opposed.

To clarify for the Board, Mr. Maurins read a sentence from the minutes of the previous Library Board meeting, “Mr. Maurins stated that he will probably bring the topic of outsourcing back to the Library Board in June to allow the Board to make a recommendation to the County Commissioners so that that information would be available to the OEC and its consultant . . . “

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approval of the Revised Public Use of Library Technology Policy**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

On motion by Dr. Stoess, seconded by Ms. Drinkwater, which motion duly carried, the Board approved the revised Public Use of Library Technology Policy, effective immediately.

### **Election of the Library Board Chair to a Term of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012**

Ms. Simon nominated Dr. Stoess, and Mr. Cornell nominated Ms. Drinkwater, and Dr. Stoess was elected with a vote of 3-2.

### **Election of the Library Board Vice-Chair to a Term of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012**

Mr. Lokken nominated Ms. Drinkwater, who was elected by acclamation.

Mr. Lokken was excused at 4:46 p.m.

### **Staff Demonstration of Library Computer Stations Accessible to Individuals with Certain Disabilities**

Max Conelly, Department Computer Application Specialist, informed the Board of the following prior to demonstrating the capabilities of the model computer station:

- A grant was received last year to furnish libraries with ADA-compatible software and hardware on public computers
- Each library received a computer station similar to the demonstration model
- The Downtown Reno, South Valleys and Spanish Springs Libraries also received Braille printers
- The stations are also public internet stations when they are not being utilized by patrons with disabilities, except at the Spanish Springs Library
- Patrons with disabilities make reservations and are allowed unlimited time

### **Staff Report on South Valleys Library Programs, Activities and Operations**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

Mr. Stoess commented that he is impressed with the activities and staff should be commended. He requested that these reports be sent to the County Commissioners.

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORT TO THE BOARD**

The Library Board reviewed the information submitted in the packet.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Library Board reviewed the information distributed at the meeting.

## **MONTHLY LIBRARY USAGE STATISTICS REPORT**

The Library Board reviewed the information distributed at the meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **BOARD COMMENT**

Ms. Simon commented the Nevada Revised Statutes is in conflict with the Library Board of Trustees bylaws as it relates to her reappointment and has requested revision of the bylaws be placed on the next agenda.

Mr. Maurins reported an ad soliciting applicants was published in the Reno Gazette Journal as well as the Lake Tahoe Bonanza. He noted that legal counsel suggested Ms. Simon submit her name along with other applicants for review by the BCC.

Ms. Drinkwater commented she visited a library in Minneapolis that charged to have a premium place in line for a select group of best sellers. The same books were also available through normal rotation. She noted this might be worthwhile to investigate.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Ms. Drinkwater, seconded by Mr. Cornell, Ms. Simon adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.