



Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, March 22, 2019

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

WLA Office

4610 South Biltmore Lane, Suite 100, Madison, WI

MINUTES

Members present: Kathy Pletcher *remote*, Connie Meyer, Kris Adams Wendt, Mark Arend, Nick Dimassis, Heather Johnson, Paula Kiely *remote*, Kathy Klager, Larry Oathout, Vicki Teal Lovely, Sherry Machones, Steve Ohs *remote*, Scott Vrieze, Plumer Lovelace (WLA Executive Director), Steve Conway (DeWitt, Ross & Stevens) *remote*.

Members absent: Amy Birtell, Bruce Gay, Pete Loeffel, Jim Ramsey,

Guests: John Thompson (PLSR) *remote*, Kurt Kiefer (Dept. of Public Instruction), Martha Berninger (DPI) Dee Pettack (DPI) *remote*

Co-chair Meyer called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The agenda order was approved without changes.

Approval of minutes from the January 25, 2019 meeting. The minutes of the January 25, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Arend seconded by Dimassis.**

Governor Evers' budget and JFC budget process. Conway reported the LD&L budget team met with all members of Joint Finance Committee (JFC) prior to Library Legislative Day on February 12 and found them to be receptive to the WLA proposals. It is likely that the JFC majority will choose the route of "based budgeting" (re-examining the current two-year budget as the starting point for change going forward) rather than taking up and making changes to the Executive Budget proposal. Rep. Loudenbeck is now JFC vice-chair on the Assembly side. Though no longer a member of JFC, Rep. Felzkowski is still very much engaged with the WLA agenda.

The Governor delivered his Executive Budget to the legislature on February 28. It included the state library aid items WLA anticipated except for Recollection Wisconsin, which appeared as "the Governor recommends supporting public library digital archiving efforts by expanding WISELearn authority" (Item 43, DPI section) without a specific funding amount instead of as a fifth state resource contract. Kiefer stated he is open to the change; the WISELearn appropriation is used to full capacity, available for different purposes, many of which are ongoing. Answers to questions regarding whether the WISELearn platform was capable of hosting a large amount of archival data, potential fees, and how administrative/fiscal oversight would be shared given Recollection WI is currently in the WiLS wheelhouse, were not definitive at this time. Conway stated that promoting a fifth contract through JFC was not out of the question. It is important to sort this out and maintain consistent messaging without losing sight of higher priority items. Conway will work with Pettack on this issue going forward. Conway

and Lovelace will attend Superintendent Taylor's testimony and Q&A session regarding the DPI budget before JFC, expected to be scheduled for the first week in April.

Concerns were expressed over the reduction of TEACH supplies and services funding, as well as regarding the Executive Budget proposal to transfer and redirect federal e-rate funds to the Universal Service Fund for the purpose of broadband expansion grants in underserved areas. The e-rate surplus had been mentioned at the January LD&L meeting as a potential source of funding for the proposed public library system collective data backup and digital content archive project.

Library Legislative Day debrief. Conway expressed appreciation to the LD&L team and WLA staff for successfully managing the event on a difficult weather day. Registration edged close to 200 before the statewide storm forced many to cancel their travel plans. The decision to provide individual folders to all 132 legislators this year was fortuitous in that delivery of the information could take place in the absence of conversations with registrants who couldn't make it. Klager had suggestions for improving the legislator folder distribution. Conway reported several feedback comments from legislators that the WLA Legislative Day is always well organized and something they looked forward to. Library Champion award presentations to Senator Darling, and Representatives Felzkowski and Loudenberg will be rescheduled at libraries in their home districts. Pettack expressed appreciation for her Library Champion recognition, as did co-chairs Meyer and Pletcher for the special recognition they received for leadership. Ramsey will meet with Lovelace regarding suggestions for next year's registration and appointments process. Berninger complimented LD&L members for the transformational success she has witnessed during the years she has been a guest at the table and suggested that submitting an article to *ALA Journal* should be seriously considered.

Legislator listening sessions in district, and JFC budget hearings. Wendt has been flagging LD&L members and other colleagues to listening sessions scheduled by legislators at libraries in their home districts as she becomes aware of them from monitoring the Wheeler Report and other sources. She provided examples from sessions held in the 12th SD at the end of January. JFC public hearing dates and cities have been announced for April 5 (Janesville), April 11 (Oak Creek) [Recorder note: date subsequently changed to April 10 by the JFC clerk], April 15 (River Falls) and April 24 (Green Bay), with physical locations to follow. Wendt volunteered to coordinate JFC hearing efforts statewide and asked for site captain volunteers: Dimassis and Ohs for Janesville, Klager for Oak Creek, Johnson for River Falls, Pletcher for Green Bay.

Cross county payments. Klager and Arend revisited previous LD&L discussion of best practices regarding automatic renewals; consensus emerged that the System and Resource Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) should be engaged in clarifying the extent of current use and making recommendations going forward to avoid potential misunderstanding over reporting. Klager also reported on an informational meeting regarding cross county payments held February 5 with a representative from Washington County government and a member of Rep. Brooks' staff at which she, Pletcher, Meyer, Lovelace, Conway and Jean Anderson represented WLA.

Libraries Transform posters. Wendt will update the list of freshmen and other legislators for whom posters have not been created and share at the next meeting. Determining the "who" isn't as problematic as figuring out the "how" of organizing capture of necessary photos. Lovelace will check with the WLA Foundation as to capacity to continue to underwrite presentation posters.

Federal Relations Coordinator report. Machones reported that organization and staging of National Library Legislative Day activities are in transition. A congressional “fly-in” was held February 24-26 in Washington, D.C. to which a limited number of participant invitations were extended to each state. Machones was the only person invited from Wisconsin and kept appointments in the offices of Senators Baldwin and Johnson, and Representatives Duffy and Pocan. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funding was once again zeroed out by the President’s budget and ALA is requesting contact with each state’s congressional delegation to urge signing onto “Dear Appropriator” letters. An alert with further information regarding the “Save the Internet Act of 2019” will be distributed to the library community next week. The McMillan Memorial Library in Wisconsin Rapids was recently named by IMLS as a Finalist for the 2019 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Arend mentioned the Poy Sippi Public Library was among 15 libraries named nationwide to receive a 2019 Small Libraries Create Smart Spaces thanks to an award from IMLS.

DPI/DLT update. The DPI/DLT report is attached to these minutes. Discussion centered on questions regarding the Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND) sponsored Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) project listening sessions beginning March 28 in four different locations plus one virtual session. If the implementation phase requires more conversations then they will be organized as needed, but the listening sessions will otherwise be the last opportunity for input. Kiefer explained Superintendent Taylor decided COLAND was the appropriate body to conduct the final public review via the listening sessions. The PLSR report is not on a par with Every Student Succeeds (ESSA) report, for example, and doesn’t require conducting more formal public hearings.

PLSR update. Thompson thanked LD&L for sharing important feedback with the PLSR report writing team and praised the time invested by the PLSR Steering Committee, sentiments echoed by Kiefer who commended the leadership of Thompson and Kiely and is looking forward to the implementation phase. Meyer also noted the extraordinary commitment made by Steering Committee members, work group members and all other colleagues involved at various stages of the process.

WLA Conference LD&L program. Ideas mentioned were (1) how to interact successfully with legislators as well as municipal and county officials, including recording a video improv demo that could be used for Library Legislative Day preparation and (2) a panel from League of Women Voters of the Northwoods which has developed voter registration tools for use in libraries. Pletcher will work out the details and submit a proposal to the conference committee.

Announcements and other business. Wendt asked for an update on the WLA conduit discussed at the March meeting. Lovelace is working with AJS Consulting LLC to develop a proposal for discussion with the WLA Board. Klager asked that LD&L be kept informed on what DPI communications platform will replace Google Communities. Kiefer indicated he would send out that information statewide later in the day.

Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM on a **motion from Arend seconded by Oathout.**

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder

DPI/DLT report to LD&L March 22, 2019

LAWDS

- Grant-submitting partners met on March 19th to work on agenda for Project Advisory Council (PAC) face-to-face meeting in Madison on April 24.
- Wisconsin Workforce Development Boards will be delivering the first training module on Workforce Development Boards Roles and Responsibilities. Scheduling is being worked out with systems.
- May 2nd (10 a.m.) members of the Project Advisory Council will present and update at the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries conference

School Libraries

- [WEMTA Conference - Many Voices, Many Choices](#) March 31- April 2, 2019. State Superintendent Dr. Stanford-Taylor will address the group during their luncheon on April 1.
- [Summary](#) of School Library Work Group Meeting
- Common School Fund distributions for the 2018-19 school year will be \$30.67 (rounded) per census student. This figure is based upon the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands' estimate of \$36.2 million being available for payment. This amount is a conservative estimate and the Department of Public Instruction is confident the funds will be distributed in April 2019.
- Library Planning with Future Ready Tools, a series of workshops offered through all 12 CESAs to improve library programming, continues with spring meetings where participants are outlining goals and formatting plans in preparation of presenting them to their school boards. Monica is attending virtually to answer questions and provide feedback. Data from the [2018-19 Digital Learning Survey](#), showing 45% of districts reporting the absence of a current library plan, supports the continuation of this work into 2019-20.
- [Wisconsin Schools Digital Library Consortium](#) (WSDLC) is now serving over 131,000 Wisconsin students and now has audiobooks in addition to ebooks. Enrollment is now rolling and prorated to September 1st, so districts can join at any time during the year.

PLSR

- [Web site](#) now "static," any contacts from there are now directed to DPI-PLD staff
- COLAND scheduled listening sessions for input on the [final report](#) implementation for four locations beginning March 28 and listed on their [web page](#). Slides summarizing report is [linked there](#), too. COLAND will include its feedback in its biennial report to the State Superintendent in July.

Annual Reports, State Aid to Systems

- All but two libraries, West Allis and Hales Corners, both in MCFLS, have completed and submitted their annual reports. The System Director informed his board that they will need to develop a plan to ensure the libraries establish practices that ensure completion by the deadline in the future. Both libraries have filed late previously; The director at West Allis is chronically tardy and dismissive of the statutory requirement.

LSTA Advisory Committee

The State Superintendent's office has appointed new members to the [Committee](#), and the DLT will conduct a training session via Skype on Monday, March 25.