

# **DRAFT**

## **COUNTY OF WOOD LIBRARY BOARD**

### **Meeting Minutes for Thursday, January 27, 2022**

#### **Members Present:**

Dave Barth  
Betsy Mancl  
Joe Zurfluh  
Brad Hamilton  
Linda Schmidt  
Bill Voight  
Susan Feith

#### **Library Directors Present:**

Jill Porter, Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library  
Darla Allen, Lester Library, Nekoosa  
Stacy Kunding, Lester Library of Arpin  
Andy Barnett, McMillan Memorial Library, WR  
Tammy Hardinger, Pittsville Public Library  
Jean Anderson, SCLS Representative

**Also present:** Bill Clendenning, Wood County Supervisor

Chairman Barth called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. hosted at Lester Library in Nekoosa. A number of members and library directors attended virtually on Zoom.

Chairman Barth requested that the secretary present the minutes of the October 21, 2021, meeting for approval. Mr. Hamilton moved to approve the minutes as written. Second by Mr. Voight. Motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business:** Mr. Barth noted that the Wood County Library Board 2022 Reimbursement Request spreadsheet was distributed in the materials for this meeting and that the request was approved by the Wood County Board of Supervisors. Members expressed satisfaction with the result.

There was no correspondence.

There were no comments on agenda items or requests for future items.

There was no new business.

#### **Library Reports:**

Mr. Barnett announced his June retirement date. He reported that the Learning Futures renovation project at McMillan is approaching completion. Staff is “planning programs.” A Wisconsin Historical Society traveling exhibit on the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment is in place.

Ms. Porter reported that the Roehl Marshfield Library will also be focusing on succession planning, expecting that approximately 30% of staff will retire in a few years. Planning for summer reading club and stories in the park has begun, and an innovative e-bike delivery system for getting books to kids is poised to begin. The library’s participation in Marshfield’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary planning is continuing. Text and illustrations are complete for a popup book about Marshfield using children’s art. Information about 50 Marshfield people who have made significant contributions to the community has been compiled. Genealogy remains a popular and important part of library services.

Ms. Kunding reported satisfaction with the heating system improvements at the Arpin Lester Library. A staff vacancy has been filled and training is taking place. An expansion in the youth fiction collection is underway. Program participation is “a bit slow” which she attributes to travel difficulties for patrons and the impact loss of life in the community has had on the library patron base. An inspirational quotes program has been initiated on the library’s Facebook account. The library is also invigorated by a home school group which meets at the library twice per month.

Ms. Hardinger reported that the Pittsville Library had a “strong finish” to 2021. Collaboration and partnership events with other groups brought new faces and welcome extra income to the library. Current programs include “Read the World” and “Blind Date with a Book.”

Ms. Anderson reported on SCLS personnel changes and its new building plans and timeline, grant applications to be pursued and grants awarded, member library annual report process and due date, a project to provide intellectual freedom services to help member libraries face potential challenges to materials, a partnership with UWSP and UW Madison social work programs to host social work student interns in libraries, a project to provide statewide training opportunities through webinars, accomplishments in the digitization of local history, and significant library meeting and continuing education dates. Library Legislative Day in Madison is February 8. Due to the amount of information in the SCLS report, Ms. Anderson submitted her report in pdf format for distribution to Board members.

Ms. Allen reported that the Nekoosa Lester Library was significantly impacted in December by Covid contracted by patrons and staff, including herself. Eight frequent library patrons or their family members died in December. Concern over child patron safety continued and is being addressed through cooperation with City government. Summer reading program planning has begun. Craft night continues, and Adult Book Bingo is underway. The library is also continuing to work on a grant application to the Legacy Foundation. Ms. Allen is assisting a boxing club in their application for tax exemption. DVDs are being transitioned to open shelving to improve staff efficiency. Newspapers.com, a website Ms. Allen uses frequently to assist patrons in obtaining a variety of information, was suggested to SCLS as an online resource SCLS might provide. Zoom meeting capability is another resource she thought would be helpful and might be facilitated by SCLS.

Mr. Clendenning suggested that Wood County might be able to assist in the acquisition of Zoom capabilities.

Date of the next meeting was set for 7 p.m., Thursday, April 28, 2022, hosted at McMillan Library in Wisconsin Rapids and available on Zoom.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Mr. Hamilton and second by Ms. Schmidt.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Feith, Secretary