

**MINUTES**  
**System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin**  
**5 August 2005**  
**Marathon County Library**

**1. Call to Order -**

Chair Jessica MacPhail called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

**In attendance were:**

(Jim Trojanowski (NWLS); Mark Arend (Winnefox: proxy for Oshkosh PL); Sandy Robbers (IFLS); Jim Gingery (MCFLS); Tom Hennen (WCFLS); David Weinhold (ESLS); Mark Merrifield (NFLS); Mike Cross (DLTCL); Bob Bocher (DLTCL); Alan Zimmerman (DLTCL); Jessica MacPhail (Racine); Barb Dimick (Madison PL); Peter Hamon (SCLS); Sally Drew (DLTCL) Terry Dawson (Appleton ); Rick Krumweide (OWLS); David Polodna (WRLS); Heather Eldred (WVLS); Mary Bethke (Marathon County); Robert Hafeman (MCLS).

(Proxy votes: Hafeman for Engelbert MCLS/ Manitowoc PL Resource Library;)

**2. Quorum determination**

Chair determined a quorum of the membership was in attendance.

**3. Introductions**

**Members introduced themselves and identified the System or Resource Library that they represented.**

**4. Changes/Additions to the Agenda**

Dawson noted that the electronic mailing list had not performed as well as expected and that he hoped the bugs would be worked out by next meeting.

SB 258 was added to the agenda as was requested by Hamon.

**5. Approval of minutes from the May 11, 2005 meeting.**

Motion by Polodna, second by Eldred to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2005 meeting. Motion carried.

**6. Treasurer's Report - Polodna**

Polodna distributed a written Treasurer's report.

Motion by Hamon, second by Weinhold to approve the Treasurer's report.

Motion carried.

## **7. Funding for State contracts for ILL access at WiLS and Milwaukee PL**

Hamon asked to interject the state contracts for ILL access at WiLS and Milwaukee Public Library as an agenda item ahead of SB 258. Discussion ensued with Polodna stating that there is a danger in this funding becoming an LSTA entitlement and that it should be viewed only as a limited fix.

Motion by Hamon, seconded by Hennen: SRLAAW recommends to LSTA Advisory Committee to set aside money to fund the state contracts for ILL access at WiLS and Milwaukee Public Library, if necessary. **Motion carried.** (Polodna and MacPhail abstained).

### **AB 483, MOE - Weinhold and others**

Weinhold opened the discussion by stating that he understands AB 483 will come up for Executive Committee action next week and that the commentary has been posted to SRLAAW. Weinhold asked that all members contact their Senators and Representatives in an effort to keep the Bill from getting out of Committee.

Hamon stated that Representative Perisi understands the Bill and asked pertinent questions of Representative Gottlieb at the hearings. Hamon restated the need for members to contact legislators concerning AB 483. Lisa Strand has visited the governor's office to ask his position on the bill. The last step in stopping the legislation if passed by the House and Senate would be the governor's veto.

Hafeman stated that Engelbert had spoken with the Mayor of the City of Manitowoc concerning opposition to AB 483 and had received a positive response. Hennen stated that Engelbert's approach is correct and that he had spoken with the Waukesha County Board resulting in the Board taking no position on the bill. Madison PL has spoken to the City concerning AB 483; Dawson encouraged all those who have a mayor who opposes AB 483 to have him call Curt Wytinski and your Representative.

Weinhold reported that he, Strand and Hennen visited Representative Gottlieb concerning AB 483. Weinhold asked Gottlieb if he had suggestions of what would replace the MOE. Gottlieb suggested that there is a provision for locally produced library standards. Weinhold advised Gottlieb that only four Systems had standards at this time. Hamon stated that the people voting for standards are the same people who want to cut the budget. One alternative would be to form a DPI task force to study the issue. Polodna stated that not enough could be done to keep it in Committee.

All present were in agreement that local libraries would be hurt directly if AB 483 passed.

Mike Cross passed out the DPI testimony at the hearing concerning AB 483. DPI advanced the argument that library systems provide operational efficiencies because the MOE is in place and that there exists a provision for adjustment if a system can achieve cost savings. [Cit. 43.15 (4) (e)]. Cross went on explain that the language could

potentially be expanded for further cost savings if it could be proven that it provides equivalent services. Hamon stated that if the Bill could be stopped in Committee, it would not be brought up again for a while. Hennen suggested flooding legislators on the committee with mail protesting the passage of AB 483 and said that Lisa Strand will be contacting legislators in the near future.

**SB 258** - Hamon asked to address SB 258 – the Senate bill prohibiting a public library from loaning or renting an “R” rated movie to a minor without proof of parental or guardian consent. After a discussion concerning circulation being more of a local issue than a state issue, action was taken.

Motion made by Hamon, seconded by Hennen: SRLAAW opposes unequivocally any legislation that interferes with any local library circulation.

Motion passed.

## **8. WLTA Representative from each system - Hafeman**

Hafeman stated that this was an issue that the MCLS Board representative to the WLTA had asked him to put on the agenda for the SRLAAW meeting.

He asked that each library system be obligated to have a representative on WLTA and that, if traveling long distances presented a problem, that SRLAAW work with WLA in bringing about the ability to have meetings via call conferencing. Comments on the difficulties in travel and setting up call conferencing ensued. It was agreed, however, that each system director or coordinator would ask his/her System Board for a representative to WLTA and that teleconferencing might be a viable option if it could be scheduled.

The other position Hafeman offered concerned the Library Advocacy Roundtable not being made part of WLTA. The biggest concern was that it would attempt to combine two different types of groups. On the one hand, the WLTA represents Trustees that are legally appointed guardians of the library, responsible for funds and oversight. Friends and advocates, on the other hand, are not appointed, but, rather support libraries through sponsorship and fundraising by joining a Friend’s group.

After much discussion, Mike Cross pointed out that including other advocates and library supporters in the WLTA had nothing to do with any fiduciary or governance obligations of Trustees. Any governance issue of a Trustee’s obligation would be limited to being a local issue and would never be part of an advocacy group. He also stated that ALA’s Association of Library Trustees & Advocates (ALTA) encourages advocates other than Trustees to join their division.

Polodna stated that he believed it was mixing two separate groups with separate missions.

Motion made by Eldred, seconded by Trojanowski:

SRLAAW encourages WLTA to reconsider opening their membership to other library advocates. Motion carried. (Abstain: Engelbert (proxy), Hafeman, Polodna)

## **9. WLA Foundation's Campaign for Wisconsin's Libraries update - Krumwiedi**

Krumwiedi stated that the campaign is more important now than ever. The WLA foundation website is up and running. He also noted that both radio and public service campaigns have been started. The Foundation has received \$45,000 in contributions to date, with an annual goal of \$100,000. The Foundation will be contacting local groups for support through local library directors. Gingery and Hennen asked if it would be appropriate to put money into a Library System's budget for the Foundation. Weinhold asked if the Foundation would be producing any promotional material. Zimmerman stated he would check with DPI on the appropriateness of putting money into a System's budget for the Foundation and also see what the schools are doing. Hamon said that SCLS had done this before under Public Relations.

## **10. Wisconsin Libraries Distribution Service - Polodna**

Polodna stated that Bob Blitzke from SCLS handles this distribution. SCLS delivers library informational materials. Hamon stated that the publishers realize that some of the materials may not reach their destination and that it is a local decision on how to handle this type of material.

## **11. DPI Reports**

### **WISCAT Update –**

Bob Bocher will be contacting systems concerning the WISCAT Project. The Division has now completed the migration of the statewide library union catalog (WISCAT) and the interlibrary loan management (WISCAT ILL) to a new totally web-based environment the implantation of the first two phases of the project are well underway. The first implemented piece of the new resource sharing system was the union catalog. The WISCAT union database was transferred from the previous vendor to the new vendor, Autographics. The union catalog allows libraries to download individual MARC records for use in local online catalogs.

The second piece of the new resource sharing system to be implemented was the interlibrary loan management software created by Fretwell-Downing Inc. It is referred to as WISCAT-ILL. Traffic on the new system has averaged about 20,000 requests per month.

The third phase, a Z39.50 gateway, often called a virtual library, is still in the early implementation phase. The gateway will eventually allow libraries to enter a single search query looking at multiple library OPACs and facilitate the interlibrary loan of those items.

## **State budget update –**

At this time, Badgerlink looks safe in the Governor's budget.

## **New Property tax levy limits -**

There may be a new property tax limit in effect for 2006 & 2007. Preliminary information is that county library spending will be within the total limit. Concerns were raised about how this might affect the MOE.

## **Library Task Force Bills (SB 272 and 273)**

Two Senate Bills have been introduced in the legislature that are based on the recommendations of the State Superintendent's Task Force on Public Library Legislation and Funding.

SB 272 – Includes a provision that makes it easier for library system mergers; establishes three minimal requirements for library system membership (pay certified public librarian; minimum hours open; minimum spending on library materials) that are proposed in recognition of the fact that good library service requires a partnership between the state, the regional library system and the locality. Also has a provision for libraries in adjacent counties, including counties across library system borders (except for Milwaukee County FLS) to be reimbursed by adjacent counties for library use by residents of each of those counties who do not maintain a public library.

SB 273 – Includes exclusion of funding provided by the county for library capital costs in the calculation of the levy rate required for municipal exemption: allow a public library to retain system membership while providing only local municipal residents with remote access to electronic databases; change statute to allow for streamlined procedures like post-audit for the approval of library expenditures for salaries, benefits and other recurrent expenditures.

Hennen asked about those counties that are at the 70% reimbursement level under Act 150 and how this would affect them. Zimmerman stated that he was not sure.

Hafeman asked about the proposal that would allow Library Systems to consent to member libraries charging each other for interloans. Cross said that it would be permissive legislation and would be decided at the System level.

Cross also stated that he was beginning to hear complaints from other communities concerning AB 431, which would allow an alternative formula (per capita) for local library funding and that a limit on the levy is much different than a limit on the expenditure line.

Zimmerman stated that he has 18 responses from states comparable to Wisconsin that have an MOE. He will try to make the figures available before August 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Nomination Committee** - MacPhail will contact members concerning a nominating committee for SRLAAW officers, with Bernie Bellin, Chair and Rick Krumwiede serving as a member. The committee will report back in October.

There being no more discussion, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Hafeman  
Acting Secretary