

TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Chehalis Public Library  
Civic Center  
Chehalis, Washington

Minutes of June 22, 1972

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TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Chehalis Public Library  
Civic Center  
Chehalis, Washington

Minutes of June 22, 1972

Board of Trustee Members Present:

Dr. Wm. Lawrence, Vice-Chairman - Centralia  
Raeburn M. Hagen, Trustee - Aberdeen  
Elmer F. Keiski, Jr., Trustee - Olympia  
Marcel King, Trustee - Ocean Park  
Robert Baker, Trustee - Packwood

Board of Trustee Members Absent:

Rita McArthur, Chairman - Shelton  
Ruth Schmidt, Trustee - Olympia

Staff Present:

Louise E. Morrison, Director  
Virginia Barton, Assistant Director, Western  
Mary Stough, Assistant Director, Eastern  
Joy Ayres, Business Manager  
Michael Sheafe, Community Relations Officer  
Barbara Bruhns, Central Services Supervisor  
Irene Robbins, Central Services Assistant Supervisor  
Rayma Sullivan, Library Assistant - Service Center  
Mary Russell, Librarian - Chehalis  
Margaret Coppinger, Librarian - Olympia  
Marian Osterby, Librarian - Centralia  
Judy Wilson, Children's Librarian - Centralia  
Norma Maughan, Assistant Bookkeeper/Supplies - Service Center  
Lavina Phillips, Community Library Assistant - Yelm  
Kit Machin, Community Library Assistant - Oakville  
Elizabeth Gatlin, Community Library Assistant - North Mason  
Bob Zimmerman, Reference Librarian - Centralia  
Margaret Giske, Library Assistant - Chehalis  
Carol Nelson, Board Secretary Pro Tem

Visitors Present:

Bill Tilton, Centralia Trustee  
Rosanne Bridgham, Centralia Trustee  
James Gober, Chehalis Trustee  
Margaret Livingston, North Mason Friend  
Irene Davis, North Mason Friend  
Carol Getchman, Lacey Friend  
Lillian Schiendelman, Lacey Friend  
Kathleen Skaar, Oakville Trustee  
Elaine Markiewicz, Oakville Trustee  
Jo Pearson, Oakville Friend  
Norma Vancil, Yelm Friend  
Vera Brown, Yelm Trustee  
Martha Davis, Olympia  
Joe Semanski, Lacey

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Dr. Lawrence, Vice Chairman. Dr. Lawrence commented that the board was holding its regular monthly meetings in different libraries during the summer months when travel is easier. He said that the Chehalis Library looks very attractive.

1           Minutes of the Board Meeting held on May 18, 1972

Dr. Lawrence said that he would like to have the secretary record a change on page 2 item 2: "Dr. Lawrence said certain persons in Lewis County are proposing the dissolution of Timberland."

MR. KEISKI MOVED THE ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED. SECONDED BY MRS. KING AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2           Approval of vouchers

The board discussed the vouchers briefly.

MR. BAKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE VOUCHERS. SECONDED BY MRS. HAGEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3           Reports

A.   Board Committees

1.   Elmer Keiski - Public Relations Committee

Mr. Keiski said that the board Chairman appointed a committee to handle the question of dissolution of Timberland Regional Library that appeared to crop up in two rural areas of the 5-county district. Mr. Keiski said that the board had the impression because of letters to the editors of several papers that Granges were involved. He said that he had issued a news release questioning the Granges' role in this. In effect, the purpose was not to criticize the Grange, but to "smoke them out" as to where they stood on the question of dissolving the library. Most of the trustees were shocked to think that Granges might be involved in trying to dissolve the public library system. Mr. Keiski read his news release, which was carried widely throughout the region. Mr. Keiski said that a number of Granges have refused to circulate the petition which was sent to them by a member of Frances Grange #666. Mr. Keiski said that Timberland appears to be receiving more favorable publicity and support in the news media than negative. He said that he would like to read one response because it comes from a senior member of the Grange in Grays Harbor County and that it is indicative of library supporters. Mr. Keiski read the letter (see attached) from Mrs. Laura Tidwell of Montesano. Mr. Keiski said that a similar letter was received from Grapeview Grange members saying that they turned down the petitions against TRL.

Mr. Keiski said that another development was reported last month when Tenino came into the Timberland system and that despite some criticisms in other parts of the district, people still want TRL services. He

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said that today he had received in the mail from the Mayor of Hoquiam, the attached Resolution #2665. He said that the board has indication of support. (See attached resolution)

Dr. Lawrence asked Mrs. Barton to comment on the petition campaign. Mrs. Barton reported that apparently the petition campaign is not going too well, even in Pacific County. In the meantime the campaign has created so much favorable publicity for the district that circulation is climbing. She said that yesterday on the Raymond bookmobile the staff circulated 400 books in 4 hours and took 43 requests. They returned to Raymond with empty shelves and had to work until almost 10:00 restocking the bookmobile for the next day. She said there were many people the staff had not seen before in addition to the people who have been regular patrons. Mr. Olson of the Raymond Herald is the new editor and loves libraries. He has suggested a poster contest about bookmobile service in Pacific County, and the staff feels that it ought to be wider than just Pacific County. He suggested that each bookmobile run should have a winner in the contest, which should include all ages. Then an overall winner could be chosen. Dr. Lawrence felt this is an appropriate function for the Community Relations Officer.

Mr. Baker said in the Packwood area there is concern about what is going on. People come to him and ask what it's all about and why it started and if there is any chance of losing the library. One lady said she has been keeping a record of the books that she has read and she went back and edited it and found that she has read 1,000 books since the bookmobile started coming to Packwood. He said apparently no one has dared carry a petition in the Packwood area.

Mrs. Stough reported that on the bookmobile the other day in Lewis County there was a report that a person took a petition up to the east end to give to her sister-in-law. The one from the east end said no, she would neither sign nor take a petition. The person from the east end said, "If you take our bookmobile or our library away from us, what do we have up here?"

Mrs. Barton said that the copies of the Raymond Herald on the table are a gift from Mr. Olson. On the editorial page there are two letters, one from Mrs. Habersetzer in which she wishes to disclaim all credit for starting the petition campaign and one from a person who has been in favor of the district, Mrs. Slater. Dr. Lawrence read a letter to Mrs. Habersetzer which will be sent from the board. This letter explains that the petitions would not change library service but in actuality, it would destroy the service in the five counties. Mr. Baker remarked that he thought a copy should be sent to the newspapers. (See attached letter)

Mr. Keiski said that he had mentioned to the Chronicle reporter who had interviewed him that he felt it was a natural thing for people to look at all the taxes that are being levied and to examine the institutions being supported by taxes. He said that perhaps some of the people who are criticizing Timberland are short-changing the

Post Office Box 104  
Grapeview, Washington 98546  
June 2, 1972

Mr. Elmer Keiski  
2806 Crestview Drive  
Lacey, Washington

Dear Mr. Keiski:

A statement you made at the May board meeting of Timberland Regional Library was quoted in the Huckleberry Herald of June 1. The statement indicates that you may not understand Grange procedure. Grange policy is not formed at the top and handed down, it is initiated at the grass roots. Each local grange may pass opinions on to other granges by means of resolutions that are circulated to all the others, if it so chooses. The other local granges may agree or disagree. Resolutions are carried through the county to the state grange. (Which will meet June 12-16 this year.) At that time delegates from the entire state will act on the resolutions, and from their action official policy is made.

You see then that it is premature to speak of the movement to end Timberland Regional Library services as action of "the Grange." It is not "the Grange" that is "in the position of circulating petitions with the intent to destroy the library system," but one grange initially, joined by others in that county, where there have been some problems with the service.

It is certainly true, as you point out, that the Grange has fostered free public libraries, and I for one will be surprised, in fact astounded, if this movement gains any support to speak of among the granges in general. Anything that comes of it will be the result of ignorance, I am sure. For this reason I commend your remarks and the publicity that they have been given, especially as publicity will be needed to make sure that the true situation is understood by all the non-grangers who will vote on this if it is ever placed on the ballot. Many of them may not know as much about libraries as do the grangers. As you said in Hoquiam, "it is impossible to believe that the Grange as a whole could be opposed" to Timberland.

Sincerely,

*Emilie L. Spooner*

Emilie L. Spooner

Star Route 1504 1/1  
Montesano, Ida.  
98563

Mr. Elmer Keiski, Trustee,  
Timberland Regional Library  
Lacey, Ida., 2806 Crestview Drive.  
Dear Mr. Keiski,

Regarding the article, "The Grange  
and Timberland Library" in the  
June 1st edition of the Aberdeen  
World and the June 1st edition. I  
have been a member of the  
Grange over 50 years. I was shocked  
at your remarks. The Grange has  
always been fair and will  
continue, locally, County or Montana,  
state and National.

The trouble originated in a  
small community in Pacific  
County, perhaps the members of  
this particular Grange were  
worried about taxes too high.  
When our Grange met the petition  
was read, that was all. County  
When the Grange Harbor Granges or the

Pomona Grange met in May, 1917.  
petition was read, and discussed.  
then laid aside, nothing done.  
As our community we worked  
hard to help to get the Timberland  
Library. We had a speaker come  
explain to us, also a speaker came  
to our Grange Auxiliary, and the  
Home Ec. Club to talk to the ladies.  
I am truly sorry you wrote the  
article. Do not know how much  
harm it will do. We hope it will  
all come out all right so we feel  
our Timberland Library. We will  
with our part. Grange Harbor  
County is in the clear.

Very truly,

(Mrs) Laura Twidwell  
Star Route Box 74

Montesano, Ida., 98563

I make use of the Library.

City  
of  
Hoquiam

C O P Y

RESOLUTION NO. 2665

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Hoquiam, Washington, in regular meeting duly assembled, as follows:

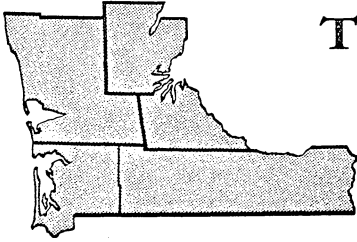
That the Mayor and Council reaffirm their support for Timberland Regional Libraries system for the reason that it has provided for the citizens of Hoquiam many different informational materials and a wider choice of books and reading matters.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council June 5, 1972.

JE McGuire  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Geraldine LeBlond  
City Clerk



# TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY

SERVING GRAYS HARBOR, LEWIS, MASON, PACIFIC AND THURSTON COUNTIES  
SERVICE CENTER: 1006 SLEATER-KINNEY S.E., LACEY, WA. 98503 (206) 491-8475

June 22, 1972

COPY

Mrs. Victor Habersetzer  
Frances, Washington 98543

Dear Mrs. Habersetzer:

Timberland Regional Library trustees wish to correct a statement you made in a letter to the editor of the Raymond HERALD, which was printed June 15, 1972.

Your statement: "This petition does not eliminate libraries as some are trying to make one believe .... get our library service back under the control of the counties ...." is incorrect.

A petition and vote to dissolve Timberland would dissolve all rural county library service in the five counties of Timberland.

Before Timberland, Pacific County and Grays Harbor County had individual County library service. Thurston and Mason Counties had the South Puget Sound Regional Library.

Those county and regional library systems ceased to exist when in November of 1968 voters in unincorporated areas of Grays Harbor, Mason, Pacific and Thurston Counties agreed by a large majority to change the type of library service available. At the same time, Lewis County voters agreed to establish library service which they did not have before.

Trustees of the district feel it unfair to allow the people in unincorporated areas to believe such a petition would only change library service when in actuality it would destroy the service.

Yours sincerely,  
Board of Trustees,  
Timberland Regional Library

by:   
Dr. William H. Lawrence  
Vice-Chairman



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public and are not examining some of the other junior taxing districts and looking at their revenues and expenditures. He said that, for example, we found it was not Timberland that had the highest increase in the percentage in taxes in 1972 in Lewis County; it happened to be the Fire Districts. Mr. Keiski said that questioning Timberland is a perfectly natural function and should be encouraged, but on the other hand as we talk about looking at taxes as property owners, we should look at all governmental agencies - not just one.

Dr. Lawrence thanked Mr. Keiski and the staff. He asked the director to see that copies of the letter to Mrs. Habersetzer are sent to the local newspapers.

2. Raeburn Hagen - Trustee Workshops

Mrs. Hagen said that the workshop this afternoon was enjoyable but that she felt there should have been twice as much time. She said that board members and staff were delighted with the number of participating trustees and friends of libraries. She stressed the ability of trustees and friends to serve as channels of communication, especially during the petition campaign. Mrs. Hagen said that the next workshop will be at the Bridges Inn in Raymond at 3:00 p.m. on July 20, 1972.

Mrs. Hagen also remarked that Mrs. Burton (Della) Wakefield had written an article for the Aberdeen Daily World in answer to Mrs. Habersetzer's first letter. She said that another lady had requested factual material regarding Timberland to distribute to Granges in Grays Harbor County. The lady had told her that if the petition should get on the ballot she would be out working in support of the library.

B. Staff

1. Director - Mrs. Morrison

Mrs. Morrison reported on recent congressional action on the Library Services and Construction Act funding for fiscal 1973. She said that the House had passed the following sums: Title I \$62,000,000 for Public Library Service (including Institutions); Title II \$15,000,000 for Public Library Construction; Title III \$7,500,000 for Interlibrary Cooperation. Mrs. Morrison said that the House had recommended that the Senate increase these funds as follows: Title I \$75,000,000; Title II \$30,000,000; and Title III \$15,000,000. These funds are then matched by the various states according to their allocations and provide funds to individual libraries for special grants.

Mrs. Morrison highly recommended that the board approve the joint request for a grant (which will come up for board action later in the meeting.) She reminded board members that she had mailed them a memo regarding this.

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The director said that there has been discussion on the subject of service to institutions in regard to staffing. Institutional Library Service is provided by public libraries under contract with the State Library. She said that the State Library provides funding and that persons providing the service in Timberland should be on the Timberland staff. This will provide a closer liaison with institutions as far as Timberland is concerned.

Dr. Lawrence asked who will be responsible for recruiting for positions and the director replied that it should be done jointly. She said that two positions were involved: one a transfer of an existing Library Assistant II and the other a librarian who would have to be recruited. She said that Timberland would have administrative control of the positions.

In reply to a question from Dr. Lawrence regarding the prognosis on her neck and shoulder injury, Mrs. Morrison said that apparently she is recovering. She said that, doctor permitting, she hoped to get away for two weeks vacation beginning next week.

2. Assistant Director, Western Area - Mrs. Barton

Mrs. Barton reported that she had attended a meeting on June 15 in Seattle of the Resource Directory Pilot Project Advisory Committee (Mrs. Morrison is a member of the committee) which involved a funding request from the Council on Library Resources. Mr. Larry Livingston, representing the council, was in Seattle to gather further information regarding the grant request, which is to help fund a prototype directory of library holdings throughout the state. The legislature has asked for this project, which will provide a basis for future planning. Mr. Livingston's main concerns were that 1) professional librarians (rather than computer specialists alone) be in charge of production of the prototype resource directory, and 2) that the MARC format (the internationally accepted standard for machine readable bibliographic information) be the only format considered.

Mrs. Barton said that the staff hopes to activate the Elma board. The Raymond area is receiving a great deal of service. The new person in charge of children's service there in the month of May did 33 story hour programs for 532 children, and visited 40 classes to give book talks to 740 children.

Mrs. King said that a 7th grade teacher from Ocean Park borrowed 400 paperbacks from the library because none of the 7th graders were doing any reading. He put them in the room and said this is not grade work, you don't have to read a book, you don't have to touch them, or you can read them all. And I think they read them all. The teacher felt that was the most successful project he has ever had in any of his classrooms. Mrs. Stough said that it was Bonnie Sayce who did book talks there and did start them.

Mrs. Barton reported that the one-day White House Conference on Aging, May 22, at the Capital Pavilion was very interesting. A gentleman from California who was present told of organizing the

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aged in that state for a legislative lobby. Since the conference, she said, we have had word that such a lobby is being organized in Washington State.

Mr. Keiski said that last meeting at Hoquiam we heard a rumor that the coastguard station at Westport was going to be abandoned. He asked if there is any substance to the rumor if that property is up for bid. Mrs. Barton said that she understands that it is true and that they are going to build a new joint facility. She said that she did not know when they will proceed and abandon the building. She said that she has checked one of the buildings which might possibly be suitable, but it is not movable. The other two are very very old, about 1910. They are beautiful, but not suitable for a library.

Dr. Lawrence said that the board and staff have always talked about doing something different in terms of outreach. If TRL could pick up a surplus house that might have some artistic possibilities for something other than a reading room, he said it should be kept in mind.

3. Assistant Director, Eastern Area - Mrs. Stough

Mrs. Stough read part of her report and reported the largest problem in Yelm is inability of the library board members to attend meetings. Chairman Don Miller contacted board members who have not attended more than one meeting in the past year and suggested they resign in order to allow someone to be appointed who will be able to spend the necessary time on the job.

The Lacey Library board met with Mayor Van Andel June 18 and discussed possibilities of building an adequate library facility. He is very anxious to get a new library built.

Oakville has a newly organized friends group which has begun to operate, helping with summer reading club. Trustees in this community are outstanding in their obvious interest and willingness to learn about the regional library by attending workshops as well as local library meetings. One of their main concerns is the physical facility in which their library is housed.

Centralia and Chehalis trustees are concerned with having more regional-type publicity by using the newspapers and radio.

Mr. Tilton commented that he believes within the Timberland district there are 9 radio stations.

Mrs. Stough said that she has not met with the Tenino Library Board yet. TRL service has begun and story hour attendance is overwhelming -- 52 attended yesterday's (June 21) story hour. Over 400 children's books have been purchased for Tenino and are now in use by summer reading club participants.

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4. Community Relations Officer - Mr. Sheafe

Mr. Sheafe said that he had pulled the TRL float with the car in parades in Montesano on June 3 and Winlock on June 17. The float has been well received from the comments he could overhear, he said. On the 20th of May he had accompanied Clayton and Susan Corzatte from the Seattle Repertory Theater, and they did two performances of G. B. Shaw's play in the South Bend and Ilwaco areas. They were well received, but the performances were not well attended. Mrs. King suggested better publicity, which she said was very poor in the Ilwaco area.

Mr. Sheafe said that he had attended the joint Lacey-Olympia-Tumwater Board meeting on May 22 at The Evergreen State College where Mr. Mutschler spoke on library buildings.

Mr. Sheafe reported that he met with James King, Public Information Officer for King County Library System, and compared problems with publicity.

Mr. Sheafe said that a copy of the Library Bill of Rights is displayed in every library building in Timberland.

Mr. Sheafe said that he talked to Roger Hills from the Crown Zellerbach Port Townsend Mill about the tests that have been run on book papers and the possibility of recycling discarded books.

Mr. Sheafe contacted Mr. Ericson from the regional office of Safeway Stores. Mr. Ericson has not had a response yet from the Oakland office about printing a library message on grocery bags.

Dr. Lawrence said that it might be well to take Mrs. King's comment to mind when we try some of these art functions. If attendance is low and these things fall flat, we lose the interest of the performers and the people who would have enjoyed this lose because they did not hear about it. He commented that he thinks this is important and wants to see this kind of activity develop for the library because it is much needed.

Mrs. Morrison said that because of the performers' schedule it was impossible to get the performers at any other time. She said that more publicity is needed in Timberland.

5

Unfinished Business

A. Decision regarding proposed gift site near Belfair

The meeting recessed briefly at 8:30 p.m. while Dr. Lawrence received a telephone call from Mr. Al Logan. Dr. Lawrence reported that Mr. Logan and Mr. Campana were concerned that the board had not responded to their offer of this library site within the time limit discussed. In effect, what they were doing was serving notice that they were quite interested in having the library there, but wanted to re-establish a deadline of one week for a decision of whether or not the

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board would accept this site. He said they had discussed the fact that there is clear title except for some water encumbrances on it of \$2 a foot for the water line that ran by, but that they could assure Timberland a clear title. They do have some interest in the site by some other party and they wanted to find out what the board's pleasure was. He said he had advised them that the board could not make a decision tonight at this meeting and that the next official meeting was the 20th of July and that if TRL were going to accept this proposal, they would have to wait until then. They understood and said if their plans changed between now and the 20th, they would call and give the board an opportunity to exercise its option on the site. He said that he had inquired about the stability of the soil because TRL has received advice from the Soil Conservation Service and the State Highway Department as to the slippage problems that occur in this area. He said they had talked a little about clay lenses that this is a marine area and they indicated there had been some excavations on that site and that some clay lenses had been removed and that they were very local in nature and that they did not anticipate any problems. Dr. Lawrence also told Mr. Logan that the library had also received information that the development of a commercial area there was not in accordance with the Mason County Planning Commissions' plans and this was somewhat dampening to the board's enthusiasm because the board must respect the planning commissions' ideas on development. He said that Mr. Logan had assured him that this property was still zoned commercial and had given him the name of the executive officer of the planning commission to contact. Dr. Lawrence said that he would ask the director to draft a letter to Mr. Connolly inquiring about planning commissions' views on such a development at that apex area. Then the TRL site committee will have to decide what it wants to do about the soil engineer's report. The Soil Conservation Service report indicated that the soil type is prone to slippage, but he said he recognized that this is a very general type of thing and that there are areas within this particular soil type that are slip zones and there are areas that are not slip zones. He said that to generalize from some office somewhere is not exactly an on-the-site appraisal.

Mrs. Livingston said that the North Mason Friends were waiting to see what the board had to say. She felt there is little more they can do. She said that they can contact the planning commission in Mason County and try to find out from Mr. Campana and Mr. Logan if they have any definite plans - or what their plans are. She said Mr. Campana and Mr. Logan have nothing scheduled with the planning commission yet.

Dr. Lawrence said that he feels the board would not want to plan any development of a site that did not fit the county's planning long-range program, because Timberland is a public tax-supported institution and must recognize that the planning commissions are the body of experts put together to plan the development of counties. He suggested that the North Mason Friends pursue this business of stability at that site and try and seek some other expert than Mr. Logan and Mr. Campana. He said that the board is interested in the Belfair area for a unit and if this particular site does not work

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out, that does not mean that the door is closed for other considerations which the North Mason Friends might want to offer.

The director said that two board meetings ago the board asked her to write to Mr. Campana or to Mr. Logan, or to both, and to ask them to state the conditions under which this site would be given. She said the letter went out almost immediately after the board meeting and she has had no response of any kind, not a phone call, not a letter, not anything. Dr. Lawrence said that Mr. Logan had apologized that he had not taken care of his correspondence as he should have done. Dr. Lawrence suggested that the North Mason Friends get Mr. Campana to answer Mrs. Morrison's letter because the board would have to have that letter answered before it could take any action.

Mrs. King said that she has never been to Belfair, but that she admires the North Mason Friends and all the things the group does do to raise money. She said she wondered if Mr. Logan and Mr. Campana could be asked very definitely when they plan to present this to the planning commission and go ahead with it. Mrs. Gatlin said that in Mr. Connolly's letter he mentioned that the planning commission did not look with favor on Belfair developing as a strip town, but she finds in the geography of the area that it cannot be anything else but a strip town.

Dr. Lawrence felt that the specifics which the group could ask Mr. Logan are 1) Please answer our letter; and 2) As Friends of the Library, I think that you are entitled to have some knowledge of what his proposal to the planning commission might be for the development of that site. We do want to locate our library in nice surroundings and have it convenient to the patrons.

3

Reports

B. Staff

5) Business Manager - Mr. Ayres

Mr. Ayres reported that Timberland's financial picture has changed quite a bit since last report. Expenditures so far are \$645,632.12 and revenue is \$704,714.18. He said that he had already invested \$40,000 and when \$1,000 more comes in, he can invest another \$20,000. This is not counting Thurston County's June report.

The Timberland staff including Mrs. Raab, Mr. Bernethy and Mrs. Coppinger met with Mr. Harry Wilson regarding the new mobile library. Everything is going fine.

Mr. Ayres said that Adler did not get the contract on typewriters with the state and that he would recommend that TRL buy the two Adlers.

MR. BAKER MOVED THAT WE PURCHASE THE 16 INCH AND THE 13 INCH TYPEWRITERS FROM COAST OFFICE EQUIPMENT - THE TYPEWRITERS WE HAVE HAD ON RENTAL AGREEMENT FOR A TOTAL OF \$383.10. SECONDED BY MRS. KING AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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6) Central Services - Mrs. Robbins

Mrs. Robbins said her written report is in the folder. The biggest project for the month was to go down to Tenino and get everything ready to open as a Timberland library.

4

Communications

A. Memo from Herb Mutschler re: Proposed joint grant request

Mrs. Morrison reported that the directors of the five cooperative use library districts wish to bring to their boards for decision their request to apply for a grant from the U. S. Office of Education for a \$100,000 study which would help to find ways in which the libraries could better serve their communities. She said that what the library directors are talking about is closer cooperation. The planning would consist of getting input from consultants and citizens, identification of possible funding sources for future services, development of a research design, development of a Prospectus which outlines the activities to be undertaken in developing a plan for a pilot area library network, preparation of the major grant application for the project, and other activities not yet identified. Dr. Lawrence read a letter from Mrs. McArthur, Board Chairman, to the board. Mrs. McArthur said:

"I urge strong board commitment to the policy of inter-library cooperative planning and participation, in order to realize the development of a network system which will provide total library services to all people. The proposed "Library Indicator" project is a step in that direction. A network system will simply extend our regional system. TRL has demonstrated, and serves as an example, that cooperating libraries can provide better services together than separately. The network concept is not new, and was a major influencing factor in our initial endorsements of the regional demonstration project. In my opinion, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to accept the challenge of fulfilling trustee obligation by: 1) planning ahead for library programs, 2) supporting the professional judgement of our staff, and 3) promoting the participation in federal projects aimed toward providing total library services to all citizens."

Mrs. Morrison said that she still feels very strongly that cooperation has to be based upon one final consideration: Is the borrower going to get better library service from it? And if he is not, forget it.

MRS. HAGEN MOVED THAT WE SUPPORT THE REQUEST FOR THE LIBRARY INDICATORS PLANNING GRANT. SECONDED BY MR. BAKER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Letter from Twanoh Grange

Mrs. Morrison read a letter from Twanoh Grange stating that Twanoh

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Grange supports the library and had returned the petition mailed to them by Francis Grange.

C. Letter from Reginald Taschereau of Tacoma

Mrs. Morrison read a letter from C. Reginald Taschereau commending the Timberland Regional Library for its excellent service.

D. Letter from Women's Guild of United Methodist Church, Ocean Park

Mrs. Morrison read the letter from the Women's Guild of the United Methodist Church which expressed appreciation for the excellent services provided by the Timberland Regional Library.

E. Letter from District Three Maintenance Engineer, Washington State Highway Department, re: proposed gift site near Belfair

Mrs. Morrison read a letter from D. D. Ernst, P.E. District Maintenance Engineer confirming information regarding the property at Belfair.

F. Letter from Thurston Youth Services Society - The Third Eye Communication Center

Mrs. Morrison read a letter from the Third Eye Communication Center thanking Timberland for providing them with an excellent library.

G. Letters from Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Grimm of Frances

5 Unfinished Business

A. Belfair Site Committee Meeting

Dr. Lawrence asked Mrs. Morrison to coordinate a meeting between Mrs. McArthur and himself so that the Belfair Site Committee can make some decision.

B. Consideration of proposal from Harry Prior and Associates

Mrs. Morrison stated that her feeling is that this is a very expensive pricetag and that a great deal of what would be gained from such a study will also come out of this \$100,000 grant request approved earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Baker asked what the "Prior Study" is and the director replied that it is a management study on staff allocation. She said that in the process of doing the five-library-district-study, staff allocations, how they are used, what they do, kinds of circulation, all these things will come up and TRL would have consultants at no expense. She said that she feels it is a pretty stiff price at \$30,000.

Dr. Lawrence said that he was not too impressed with the proposal because of the approach taken, but that he does think Timberland needs to have some management skills developed in senior staff and in the board itself.



Agenda Item  
No.

MR. BAKER MOVED THAT THE SECRETARY BE INSTRUCTED TO WRITE TO HARRY PRIOR AND ASSOCIATES AND TURN DOWN THE OFFER AT THIS TIME. SECONDED BY MR. KEISKI AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Keiski commented that he thinks the board and the staff can review management in Timberland to the point where the library district can do without this kind of expense. He said that he was a little sour on management studies by outside parties - that they are pretty and there is a lot of print to read, but that he has seen very few groups do anything with them once they have paid the bill and accepted them.

Mrs. King pointed out that Phase II of the proposed study is concerned with the Service Center, and that she thinks everyone knows what the trouble is in the Service Center - it is too small. Mrs. Hagen said that she concurred.

Dr. Lawrence said that he had talked with Mr. Schwartz, who is a person who works for Weyerhaeuser Company but has some outside affiliations with personnel management skills. He said that he told Mr. Schwartz of some thinking he had in response to the board's desire to develop a business management sense in the library. Dr. Lawrence said that he finds himself at odds with professional staff in his philosophy that management of a library of this size has to be a business enterprise but with the goal of service rather than profit. He said that he had talked to Mr. Schwartz about coming down and meeting the board and discussing some of these personnel evaluation things, communications and how to develop high-potential people so that a system this size can become a career opportunity. He said that Mr. Schwartz is willing to do so. Dr. Lawrence asked the board's permission to invite Mr. Schwartz to the next meeting at Lacey. He said Mr. Schwartz would come and discuss what his services might be to the board and then would undertake a data collecting survey where he would deal with the board and senior staff to find out how they view the problems and management of the library and then would come back with a proposal for trying to clear up these problems. The board agreed.

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Additional Agenda Items

Dr. Lawrence instructed the Director to search for a board secretary.

Mr. Tilton said that he has one recommendation: With respect to the previous readings of the letter from the grange, he said that he would feel that the district is losing by default if it does not release some publicity indicating that there are other points of view than those which have been expressed by some in the community. He said that the letter which was read earlier in the meeting is an indication of that. He also said that he would like to inquire what the situation is at Raymond in the matter of building occupancy. Dr. Lawrence replied that Timberland is paying \$2,000 to the City for the use of the Raymond library building. The contract was written for three years, he said, and it expires this December. He said that Timberland will not be paying a fee after that.

Agenda Item  
No.

MR. KEISKI MOVED THAT THE BOARD CONCUR WITH THE DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATION ON TRANSFERRING THE CHEHALIS LIBRARIAN TO LACEY. MR. BAKER SECONDED AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.  
The transfer is to be effective September 1.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Raine E. Morrison  
Secretary

William H. Harsany  
Chairman