

TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Ilwaco Timberland Library, 158 1st Ave. No., Ilwaco, WA 98624

October 20, 1982

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October 20, 1982

M I N U T E S

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dorothy Voege, Chair - Grays Harbor County
Doris Fourre - Thurston County
Jean Haakenson - Member-at-Large
Donald L. Law - Member-at-Large
Larry Parsons - Lewis County
Paul Polillo - Pacific County

BOARD MEMBER EXCUSED:

Alice Harris - Mason County

STAFF PRESENT:

Louise E. Morrison, Library Director
Mary Stough, Assistant Director for Public Services
Sally Loken, Assistant Director for Central Services
Tom Mayer, Supervisor-Personnel Administration
Mike Crose, Business Manager
Joan Mann, Ilwaco Librarian
Bonnie Sayce, Ocean Park Librarian

Liane Bascou, Board Recording Secretary
Herbert H. Fuller, Timberland Attorney

GUESTS PRESENT:

Charles Doupe', Chair, Ilwaco Library Board
Maryanne Markham, Ilwaco Library Board
Rita Niesen, Ilwaco Library Board
George Robinson, Ilwaco Library Board

Mrs. Voege called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM
NO.

- 1 Approval of Minutes of the September 15, 1982 Meeting
- 82-71 LARRY PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 1982 MEETING; PAUL POLILLO SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.
- 2 Approval of Vouchers

Mrs. Voege stated that payroll and payroll related vouchers for the month of September 1982 had amounted to \$244,203.71.
- 82-72 LARRY PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE VOUCHERS NO. 11356 THROUGH NO. 11523 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$129,033.40; DORIS FOURRE SECONDED THE MOTION.

- 2 Mr. Crose brought the Board's attention to voucher No. 11356 to National Film Board of Canada in the amount of \$1,435 and said that this is a replacement voucher for a warrant which was lost in the mail. Mrs. Voege questioned voucher No. 11374 to The Daily Chronicle for advertising in the amount of \$12.80 and Mr. Crose stated that this is for the ad for the sale of the property which the Board declared surplus. Mrs. Haakenson stated that voucher No. 11389 in the amount of \$40 made payable to herself for transportation seems too high. Mr. Crose said that he would check into this, but reminded her that there were two meetings in September.

MOTION CARRIED.

- 3 Reports

B. Timberland Attorney - Herbert H. Fuller

Mrs. Voege commended Mr. Fuller for the draft opinion regarding confidentiality of library records which Board members received last month. Mr. Fuller stated that he would appreciate any comments, suggestions or questions regarding this opinion. He said that he has a few minor changes to make and he will then submit the opinion in final form.

C. Library Director - Louise E. Morrison

Mrs. Morrison stated that she had nothing further to add to her weekly memos.

D. Assistant Director for Public Services - Mary Stough

Mrs. Stough referred Board members to her written report. She said she has alluded to several things in her report and asked Bonnie Sayce and Joan Mann to speak to this in relation to their own libraries.

Mrs. Sayce of the Ocean Park Library stated that Mrs. Stough had asked her to talk about aspects of community service. She said that she would say that the key to community service is flexibility. For the past 10 years, Mrs. Sayce said that the Ocean Park Library has been primarily concerned with adults, with the school building being used as a community center. She said that the library's only contact with children was with the kindergarten class, a cooperative preschool and in a family situation when parents brought their children with them. Mrs. Sayce stated that a year ago, the school district reopened the building and came in with three grades and the library adjusted to that. This year, she said that the school returned with five grades because the Ilwaco school was closed and students were split between Ilwaco and Ocean Park. Mrs. Sayce said that this was a rather sudden decision made the first part of May which created a crises for the library. She said that the Ocean Park Library has been in this building for 40 years and Timberland was guaranteed by the new superintendent that the library would continue to have space in this building for this school year. Mrs. Sayce said that with the additional students and teachers, Ocean Park Library's concept of community service was changed. She said some people think the library should have left the building because the school needs the space and other people think the library should stay in the building. Mrs. Sayce stated that the library's goal is still to serve each patron,

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each child, satisfy their interests, and find information for them. She said that the school staff is excellent and the school staff and library staff have good relations as they work their way through various routines. She stated that all 155 children come to the library three days a week and are there for two hours and it is a constant challenge. Mrs. Sayce said that she hopes that a year from now the Ocean Park Library will have met the challenge and survived in a positive manner.

Mrs. Mann of the Ilwaco Library said that the Ilwaco Library's community service also has changed considerably because of the students being transferred to Ocean Park. She said that the Ilwaco Library still serves the high school in great depth and library staff has good cooperation with the teachers. Mrs. Mann stated that the big interest right now in Ilwaco is the Cranberry Festival and the library is going all out to support the Town of Ilwaco since the library is a part of the community. She said that the library has been invited to have a booth at the festival and because this comes at a time when Ilwaco is having an library annexation election, information will be available on annexation at the booth. Also, Mrs. Mann said that there will be historical slides of the cranberry harvest shown at the library and at the festival. She said that the library is still a real part of the community and she hopes that the Cranberry Festival will give the library a push as well as the Town of Ilwaco.

Mr. Polillo asked if Timberland has any kind of a contract with the Ocean Beach School District regarding the Ocean Park building. Mrs. Morrison stated that there is only a verbal contract with Dr. Starr, the new superintendent, until the end of the school year and it is expected that the school district will know in February what further arrangements need to be made. Mrs. Sayce stated that the school district is making a facility study of all buildings in the school district and usually special school levies come up in February. Mr. Polillo said that he personally feels that Timberland should be looking ahead on this problem. He said that the population is very heavy on the Ocean Park end of the Peninsula and Timberland should be looking ahead on some type of building. Mr. Polillo said that in his opinion, the Ocean Beach School is going to keep getting larger. Mrs. Sayce commented that it was crowded last year with three grades in the building but this year with five grades, it is very crowded. She stated that it is an advantage to the school by saving them staff time and materials for the library to be in the same building, but on a long-term basis, it would be a very expensive arrangement for Timberland. Mrs. Voege asked if there are any quick workable alternatives and Mrs. Morrison stated that possibly a building for lease would be one alternative. Mrs. Morrison said that she agrees with Mr. Polillo that Timberland should be looking ahead to larger space. Mr. Polillo stated that as school boards and school personnel change from year to year, this situation could change. Mrs. Sayce said that there are no buildings currently available in Ocean Park but the prediction is that as soon as the economy improves, the Ocean Park area is going to move forward.

E. Assistant Director for Central Services - Sally Loken

Ms. Loken gave a brief update report on automation. As of 3:30 this

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afternoon, she said that there were 189,324 items entered in the system. She stated that conversion has been completed at the Tumwater, Lacey, Aberdeen, South Mason, Raymond and Hoquiam libraries, and Montesano and Amanda Park are converting right now. Ms. Loken said there are two problems which staff is watching closely. One has to do with the operating system and the other had to do with the update tapes. Ms. Loken said that the operating system is supposed to be here this week and once it has arrived, the Olympia and Centralia libraries will be rescheduled for conversion. She said that the situation with the update tapes has created an enormous backlog of work at the Service Center and the problem is with WLN rather than the circulation vendor in the way the tapes were produced and handled. Ms. Loken said that Mrs. Morrison has had a few conversations with WLN staff and it looks as if this problem will be straightened out soon. She said once this process is underway, there will be bi-weekly updates to the circulation system so that it will be current. Ms. Loken further reported that the Tumwater library began circulating with the system last Thursday and the circulation is working good. She said one other interesting development is that most patrons did not pre-register and it is a chore getting everyone registered. She said that eleven buildings have terminals and they are registering patrons on the spot and this will continue for some time. As of now, Ms. Loken said that Timberland has almost 30,000 patrons registered and it is predicted that this is about 1/3 of the total that will need to be registered.

A. Business Manager - Michael Crose

Mr. Crose stated that the Board has received several documents from him the past month, including monthly reports for August and September. He said that Timberland is three-quarters through the budget year and he sees no problems and does not anticipate any. Mr. Crose stated that the Board has received the proposed 1983 preliminary budget for consideration this evening and he referred Board members to their folders where they have a line-item documentation for the 1983 preliminary budget. He said this also contains a comparison with 1980, 1981 and 1982 budgets. Mr. Crose stated that the Board is unable at this time to set the levy rate for 1983 since figures are not available from all five counties and he does not anticipate having this information until possibly mid-November. Mr. Crose said that a surplus sale was held on October 9 and Timberland netted \$252. Mr. Parsons asked what the correction means on Mr. Crose's monthly report and Mr. Crose said that generally this is a canceled warrant.

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Correspondence

- A. 9/17/82 letter from Gary E. Zandell, Lewis County Auditor & County Supervisor of Elections, re Voter Registration at Timberland Libraries in Lewis County

Mrs. Voegel read the letter as follows:

"I am requesting permission from your Timberland Regional Library Board to establish voter registration capability in the four Timberland Libraries in Lewis County. These libraries have variable evening and weekend hours of operation and would

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serve the needs of our citizens who are unable to register to vote during the course of the regular business week.

"Favorable consideration of this request by the Library Board would be in the best interest of our community and a great public service by the Timberland Library system."

- B. 9/28/82 letter from J. B. Haggard, Chehalis City Manager, terminating contract with Timberland effective December 31, 1982

Mrs. Voegel stated that this is notification that Chehalis is terminating its contract with Timberland at the end of 1982. She said that everyone should keep in mind that Chehalis is having an annexation election in November.

- C. 9/28/82 letter from Daniel O. Glenn, Elma City Attorney, terminating contract with Timberland effective December 31, 1982

Mrs. Voegel stated that Mr. Glenn is informing Timberland of Elma's intent to terminate its contract with Timberland effective December 31, 1982. She said that Elma also is thinking about the possibility of annexation.

- D. 9/29/82 letter from Marjorie A. Thompson, McCleary Clerk/Treasurer, terminating contract with Timberland effective December 31, 1982

Mrs. Voegel stated that this is notification of McCleary's intent to cancel its contract with Timberland. She said that McCleary is having an annexation election in November.

- E. 9/30/82 letter from Bill Moeller, Centralia Mayor, re meeting with Centralia City Commission

Mrs. Voegel said that Mayor Moeller is once again requesting a meeting with the Board or representatives of the Board to discuss housing facilities and activities used to serve the unincorporated areas of Lewis County from the Centralia Library. Mr. Moeller has suggested that a group of at least Mrs. Morrison, Mr. Crose, Mr. Parsons and Mrs. Haakenson meet with the Commissioners in Centralia. Mrs. Voegel stated that Mr. Parsons and Mrs. Haakenson are Timberland Trustees from Lewis County.

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Unfinished Business

- A. Procedure for Evaluation of Library Director

Mrs. Voegel stated that this is a project which Mrs. Harris and Mr. Parsons have worked on for several months. Mr. Parsons said that Board members have received copies of the committee's final draft. He stated that Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Voegel, Mrs. Morrison and he have all spent a lot of time on this document. He stressed that an evaluation should be a positive process and that an evaluation needs input from both the person being evaluated and from the people doing the evaluation. Mr. Parsons said that he strongly recommends that the Board adopt the document they have before them which is the committee's fourth draft. He said that the Board must realize that this document is not for an evaluation of just Mrs. Morrison but of whoever is

5A director of Timberland. He stated that he would like the Board to put this document to work for one year beginning in 1983.

Mrs. Morrison commented that she found this a good experience in working with the Board members in the process of coming up with a document they all felt comfortable with and that would meet the needs of the district now and in the future. She said that she is extremely pleased with the sort of exchange they had in the process.

Mrs. Voegel stated that she thinks it is very important that the Board adopt this so that it can be implemented at the beginning of 1983. She said that the Board can look at this document critically over the next year and Board members may find that they will want to amend it.

82-73

PAUL POLILLO MOVED TO ADOPT THE FOURTH DRAFT OF THE PROCEDURE FOR EVALUATION OF LIBRARY DIRECTOR DATED 9/16/82; JEAN HAAKENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mr. Law commented that he would like to see a compilation of all policies adopted by the Board put into a permanent booklet for Board members to refer to rather than having them scattered throughout all their papers.

MOTION CARRIED.

B. Transfer \$20,000 to Building and Site Acquisition Fund for Repair of Roof - W. H. Abel Memorial Library

Mrs. Voegel stated that the Board took action on this last month because they were hoping to repair this roof before bad weather set in. However, this was not possible and it will have to wait until better weather. She said that the Board has approved the expenditure. Mrs. Morrison said that there are two resolutions that she would like the Board to consider and she asked Mr. Crose to speak to this.

Mr. Crose said that he would like the Board to adopt a resolution expanding the intent of the Building and Site Acquisition Fund. He said he would like a special account to keep track from year to year of repairs that need to be made to Timberland-owned buildings. Also, he said the Board can allocate revenue from unanticipated amounts into this account for emergency repairs or for long-range planning. He said that expanding the intent of the Building and Site Acquisition Fund would make it much easier working with the fund. Mrs. Morrison said that she had recommended earlier that the Board transfer \$20,000 into the Building and Site Acquisition Fund for repair of the Montesano roof but when she was reviewing the resolution setting up the fund, she found that present language in the resolution is limiting. She explained that the two resolutions in the Board's folders are unnumbered and undated in the event the Board wishes to move on this later.

82-74

DORIS FOURRE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 82-7 RENAMING THE BUILDING AND SITE ACQUISITION FUND AND EXPANDING ITS PURPOSE; DON LAW SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Law stated that he would like to clarify one point from the last

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meeting regarding repair of the Montesano roof. He explained that he was unable to attend because of family schedules and since the agenda included only housekeeping items, he decided not to attend and did not make arrangements for a babysitter. About three hours before the meeting, he said he discovered that something was added to the agenda that was the type of thing that would have caused him to attend. Mr. Law said this bothered him considerably at the time because at prior meetings the Board had discussed having sufficient notice for agenda items. He said he still feels this way and he feels there must be an utmost effort made that the Board have notice of items that have to be acted upon. He said he realizes that reference was made to the Montesano roof in an August 6 memo to the Board but because so much data is given to the Board there is no way that the Board members can anticipate what questions will be asked except when they know what is coming up on the agenda ahead of time. He said one question he would have asked had he been at the last meeting is why the professional services of an architect were used. He said he inquired of Mr. Crose this morning as to whether these services have been paid for and how much has been spent for an architect for this roof. Mr. Crose said he does not have this figure available but it is in last month's vouchers. Mr. Law said one of the sensitivities he has is that any time when Timberland has gone outside of Timberland's staff to retain experts this is always something which is acted on by the Board in terms of who is selected and he doesn't see that as having gone on in this instance. He said he thinks the Board must be very careful in this regard and if Timberland is going to hire and pay someone from outside the staff, it should be acted on by the Board. Mr. Law said he notices that in the preliminary budget for 1983, that \$50,000 has been budgeted for the Montesano roof and he asked why this amount. Mr. Crose said this is the amount that he had initially budgeted for the Montesano roof before he had any knowledge of what it would actually cost. He said that the \$50,000 figure does not presuppose that the Board will act and transfer the funds into the special fund for next year. Mr. Law said that he thinks that \$20,000 is a lot of money for a roof and it is the kind of thing that he does not think the Board should haphazardly pass through. He requested that the Board not get themselves immediately locked into some specific plan or format for that roof since they are talking about a significant outlay for a roof of a fairly small building. He said he thinks the Board should be evaluating every alternative on this and it appears that the Board has time to do this now. Mrs. Voegel stated that Mr. Law might have thought himself disenfranchised from last month's meeting, but she said it would not have changed the vote. Mr. Law said he appreciates that, but he said he will never sacrifice the vote he has simply because he is in the minority. He said that in a hypothetical sense, a Board member who is faced with that might have been a Board member who convinced the rest of the Board to do otherwise. He said that clearly he would not have last month, but he is talking about general policies. Mrs. Fourre asked Mr. Law about the fact that it might have been an emergency situation. Mr. Law said that if he had gotten a phone call saying that there is a crisis at Montesano and the Board needed an emergency conference call, he would be there supporting it. Mr. Polillo asked what the square footage of the Montesano roof is. Mrs. Morrison said it is about 6,000 square feet. Mr. Polillo asked what type of roof is on the building and Mr. Crose stated it is a flat tar roof.

5B Mr. Crose explained that one reason it will be expensive to replace the roof is because all of the existing materials have to be removed, stainless steel flashing has to be installed around the entire perimeter, stainless steel guttering and stainless steel drains have to be installed, there has to be a buildup of foam to develop a drainage slope and this all has to be sealed with tar and then resealed with reflective material. Mr. Crose stated that \$20,000 is not a lot of money for this type of project. He added that an architect was not retained to develop specifications for the roof but rather to "nose around" and see about how much this would cost. Mr. Crose said that he felt if he approached the Board without having some idea of the dollar amount involved, the Board would not be able to take any action. Mr. Law asked how it is known that all of these technical things have to be done to the roof. Mr. Crose stated that he traced the history of the roof and found this project was initiated in May 1979 and at that time apparently the Board accepted this type of roof design as being best for that area. Mrs. Voegel pointed out that the architect retained is very reputable and she named some of the projects this architect has been involved in.

82-75

DORIS FOURRE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 82-8 AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE BUILDING AND SITE ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT FUND; LARRY PARSONS SECONDED THE MOTION. DORIS FOURRE, LARRY PARSONS, PAUL POLILLO AND JEAN HAAKENSON VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; DON LAW VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Amendment to Section VIII of Timberland Regional Library Policy Statement re Gifts and Bequests

82-76

DON LAW MOVED TO AMEND SECTION VIII OF TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY POLICY STATEMENT RE GIFTS AND BEQUESTS AS SUGGESTED IN THE 9/29/82 DRAFT; PAUL POLILLO SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the amendment to Section VIII as approved by the Board is attached to these minutes.

6 New Business

A. Consider 1983 Preliminary Operating Budget

Mrs. Voegel commended Mr. Crose on all the materials he has sent to the Board. She stated that a study and review of these papers would keep any Board member well aware of where Timberland is.

Mr. Crose stated that the Board is required to adopt some sort of budget by the Wednesday next following the first Monday in October and this date has passed. He referred Board members to the preliminary budget he sent to them last month which had a breakdown by object and to the budget included in the Board's folders which is broken down by line items. Mr. Crose said that the preliminary operating budget reflects the optimal revenue situation in Timberland. He explained that basically what he does is go through the ledger cards for the year to date and add an inflationary factor to individual line items to come up with what he thinks is adequate. He said there

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are no significant changes in any individual area. Mr. Crose stated that in the 1983 preliminary budget column, each item is done individually with the exception of the personal services budget. He explained that the amount in 572.10.46 which is insurance for the buildings, equipment and materials will not be as high as he has estimated. He stated that basically there is nothing out of the ordinary in the 1983 preliminary budget but it is in keeping with past budgets which have been adopted by the Board as he understands it. Mr. Crose stated that the 1983 preliminary budget is actually a lower dollar figure than last year's preliminary budget if the automated circulation system and materials figures are excluded. Mr. Law asked why the materials figures would be excluded and Mr. Crose explained that he has come in with an estimate of \$900,000 in 1983 and he knows this will not be attainable so he has removed this from both budgets to come up with a more realistic comparison. Mr. Law asked what the percentage comparison is between the 1982 current operating budget and the 1983 preliminary operating budget and Mr. Crose replied that the 1983 preliminary budget is about 20% higher than 1982.

Mr. Law asked to clarify one point. As he understands it, the legal requirement is that the Board set a levy rate if possible but which the Board cannot do at this point. He said he understands that there is no legal requirement to adopt a budget. Mr. Crose stated that the RCW states that the Board will either adopt a budget or set a levy rate by the Wednesday after the first Monday in October. Mrs. Voege stated that the Board will need to adopt this budget to fulfill this legal requirement but this will not be the budget which Timberland will be operating under. Mr. Crose stated that he thinks he will have firm revenue estimates by the second week in November.

82-77

LARRY PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE 1983 PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,462,146; DORIS FOURRE SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mr. Law stated that he is very sensitive about people doing things ostensibly because it is legally required. Since Timberland has not received information needed, Mr. Law said he thinks that this legal requirement should be clarified by Timberland's attorney. He said that if the Board does this because it is legally required to, he thinks it is going a bit farther than the law requires since the underlying factor is that the Board does not have the information needed. Mrs. Fourre pointed out that this is a preliminary budget and Mr. Law said he understands that but the issue is that the Board is adopting a preliminary budget because it is required to do so by law. Mrs. Voege asked Mr. Crose what the requirements are. Mr. Crose stated that he goes by the letter of the law since he is only an employee of the library district and if the Board decides it is the Board's policy not to adopt the preliminary budget, that is the Board's prerogative.

Mr. Parsons said that if the Business Manager says the Board must either adopt a budget or set the levy rate at this time, first of all the Board is already late, and secondly, if that is what the law says, that is what he will vote to do. Mr. Fuller stated that he cannot comment on this at this time but would have to look into this further. Mr. Parsons said that he has a lot of questions on

6A

the budget, but all his dealings with Mr. Crose have been right on key and he thinks the current budget and where Timberland is right now says much about Mr. Crose's integrity and the good job he has done and is continuing to do. Mr. Parsons stated that Mr. Crose is doing this by the letter of the law and he is sure that Mrs. Morrison has told Mr. Crose that he is to have this budget done and it is part of his job to do this. He said he can see nothing that would stop him from adopting this budget at this time since it is a preliminary budget.

Mr. Law stated that a number of comments have referred to the letter of the law and the Board has received no legal opinion from Timberland's attorney and the Board has not asked for a legal opinion. He said that he, for one, considers the issue open in terms of what the law requires. Clearly, at least according to Mr. Crose's recollection of the statutes, Mr. Law said that the Board is already in violation. Nevertheless, Mr. Law said that there have been a number of lay opinions as to what the law requires but the Board has not had an opinion from the lawyer. Mr. Law stated that whether the Board adopts a preliminary budget or not is a separate question from whether the Board adopts a budget in the amount recommended, that being a separate subject. Mr. Law said that he, for one, at this point will not vote for a 20% increase in the budget. For that reason alone, Mr. Law said he will vote no. As he understands it, Mr. Law said that Timberland is going to be paying off \$58,980 in 1983 of Timberland's debt service. He asked how much Timberland will owe at the end of 1982, and Mr. Crose replied that it will be over \$200,000. Mr. Law asked which debt the \$58,980 will go toward paying and Mr. Crose stated that this amount will go toward paying the required installments on both sets of coupon warrants. Mr. Law asked what the interest rates on the two sets of coupon warrants are, and Mr. Crose replied that one set is at 13.75% and the earlier set is at 6%. Mr. Law asked if Timberland could pay off more of the coupon warrants which have the higher interest rate and Mr. Crose replied that Timberland could give one month notice prior to the date that the warrants mature, and could buy the warrants back.

Mr. Law stated that the materials item is a significant jump. He said that he had a discussion with Mr. Crose regarding the breakdown of the materials budget between the various components and he had asked Mr. Crose why this was not a line item in the materials budget. Basically, Mr. Law said the answer he received is that there will be a committee deciding how the materials budget will be broken down. Mr. Law said that he has to express some dissatisfaction with the idea that as a Trustee he has to vote for item 572.21.48.05 to Pitney Bowes in the amount of \$850 for the year and there is a \$900,000 item, the use of which as a Trustee in the budgetary process he has absolutely no control over whatsoever. He said that he would rather see that item broken down in components and that those actually be line items in the budget.

Mrs. Voegel requested a vote on the motion.

LARRY PARSONS, DORIS FOURRE, PAUL POLILLO AND JEAN HAAKENSEN
VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; DON LAW VOTED AGAINST THE
MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

6A Mr. Crose stated that if the Board is able to adopt a levy rate at the next Board meeting, the final operating budget need not be adopted until December. He said that the Board would have ample time to review the budget and he will be available for any questions. Mrs. Morrison stated that if the figures are received by the end of the first week in November, the Board is at liberty to have a conference call simply because it would save the Board from coming to another meeting to set the levy rate. She said that this is holding up five counties, but there is nothing that Timberland can do about this. Because of the 106% limitation, Mrs. Morrison said she would hope the Board would not accept less than it can levy. She said that the levy rate could be ratified at the November meeting and then transferred to the counties. Mrs. Morrison said it is not the counties' fault that the Department of Revenue did not forward utility values to them until last week. There was discussion on whether this conference call should be set at this time and Mrs. Morrison said it would be easier to set up after the figures come in. Mr. Law said that as a matter of public relations, if the Board can avoid doing this by conference call, he would recommend it.

B. Consider Request for Voter Registration in Lewis County Timberland Libraries

82-78

JEAN HAAKENSEN MOVED THAT TIMBERLAND APPROVE THE REQUEST OF THE LEWIS COUNTY AUDITOR TO ESTABLISH VOTER REGISTRATION STATIONS IN THE FOUR TIMBERLAND LIBRARIES IN LEWIS COUNTY; LARRY PARSONS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mr. Polillo asked if there are any legal problems in this regard. Mr. Fuller stated that there are none to his knowledge. Mrs. Morrison commented that many libraries in the state do voter registration and it is just a matter of deputizing people in the libraries to handle this.

MOTION CARRIED.

7 Other Agenda Items

A. Announcements

Mrs. Voege announced that there are school censorship workshops coming up in Tacoma on October 30, Renton on November 13, and Mt. Vernon on December 4. Mr. Parsons said that he has met the person who is presenting the workshops and he hopes to go to one of them. He said that he thinks it would be well worth the trip for any Board members. Mr. Parsons said that as a school librarian, he speaks in a different spectrum. He said that in the last 18 months, he has had three challenges to books, two of which have been removed from the school library. Mr. Parsons said this is a very important subject to him. Mrs. Voege said she hopes to attend the one in Tacoma on October 30.

Mrs. Voege directed the Board's attention to the PNLA Quarterly, Summer 1982 issue, in which there is an article entitled "Censorship and Idaho Public Libraries." She said this gives a different view and presents the librarian as censor. Mrs. Voege recommended that Board members read Bill Garrison's report on the PNLA Conference in Vancouver. She said that Mr. Garrison is a staunch library

7A supporter and long-time board member in Aberdeen.

Mrs. Voege noted that the Moral Majority is now called "Active."

Mrs. Voege reminded Board members that the next PNLA Conference will be held in Sun Valley, Idaho, and she hopes that the Timberland Board will be well represented. She said that it is very interesting to talk with other trustees and librarians and it was a real treat to perceive with what respect TRL is looked upon by other librarians and trustees throughout the northwest.

Mr. Law referred to the memo in the Board's folders from the State Library regarding the State Library's 1983-85 budget. He said that the state budget predictions for next year are very grim and he thinks politics suggest that there will be some substantial reductions in the state budget. He said that the figures and some of the general comments about the kind of situation the State Library and a lot of other state agencies are going to be in is something to be thinking about. Mrs. Fourre stated that the new court ruling which requires that all state agencies will have to be cut equally will indirectly hurt every library district in the state. Mr. Parsons commented that in addition, because of the economy, people are using the libraries more.

Mrs. Fourre asked if there have been any complaints about the library closures for conversion and Mrs. Morrison said that there have been some upset people. Mrs. Morrison said that staff has been very carefully referring people to other libraries in the area and Sally Loken has worked out the schedule very carefully so that no two major libraries which are near each other will be closed at the same time.

B. Board Term - Mason County

Mrs. Voege stated that Alice Harris' term on the Board will expire December 1982 and she is eligible for a second term. She said that Mrs. Harris has done a fine and faithful job and she wonders if the Board might want to consider letting the Mason County Commissioners know that as a Board, they are pleased with Mrs. Harris' representation and faithfulness and recommend that she be reappointed. Mrs. Haakenson asked if Mrs. Harris has expressed a desire to be reappointed, and Mrs. Voege stated that she has. Mr. Law stated that before Jean Haakenson was appointed last year, he raised the question of how the at-large trustees should be distributed amongst the various counties, and he said he tried to get some resolution of that before the appointment was made from Lewis County because he wanted to avoid any situation in personality regarding whoever was coming down the line. Mr. Law said he has to assume that the Board is delighted with Mrs. Haakenson's appointment. He said that the only thing that would cause him some reservation on this is that it is the business of each county to make the appointment that it does and whoever appears on the Board in January, whether it is Alice Harris or someone else, would feel perfectly welcome on the Board. He said that person may feel awkward if the Board takes an official position like that. Mrs. Voege said she does not think the Board would be taking an official position between two people. She said the County Commissioners would not know unless the Board tells them that Mrs. Harris is held in high esteem. Mr. Law said that he thinks the way

7B to do this is individually. Mrs. Fourre asked if the Board has to notify the Mason County Commissioners that the position is open. Mrs. Voege said that she thinks that Mrs. Morrison does this routinely. Mrs. Morrison said she does not do anything like this routinely anymore, but does it only after very careful consideration.

Mr. Law said that he would be in favor of the Director notifying the County of the vacancy. Mr. Polillo said he does not follow Mr. Law's line of thinking on this and asked him what the difference is between the Board writing as a whole, or individually. Mr. Law said he is looking at an official Board position vs. an individual position. Mrs. Fourre said she does not see that a letter from the Board would put any pressure on anyone.

Mr. Parsons said he has been at North Mason several times and he said he cannot see anyone speaking for the unincorporated community better than Alice Harris.

Mrs. Morrison stated that in general it has been her experience over a 15-year period that Commissioners are not highly perturbed one way or another about whether library board appointments get made. If they are made, Commissioners may or may not know what the term is and Commissioners do not know generally that a Trustee is eligible to serve two terms, and this is the reason that the Board has always advised the Commissioners of a Trustee's eligibility to serve another term and that a Trustee has been a faithful Board member. Mrs. Morrison stated that this saves the Commissioners a lot of trouble.

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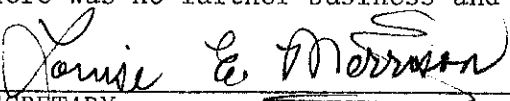
PAUL POLILLO MOVED THAT THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR BE INSTRUCTED TO WRITE A LETTER ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD, FOR DOROTHY VOEGE'S SIGNATURE, TO THE MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING ALICE HARRIS' REAPPOINTMENT; JEAN HAAKENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. PAUL POLILLO, JEAN HAAKENSEN, DORIS FOURRE AND LARRY PARSONS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; DON LAW VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

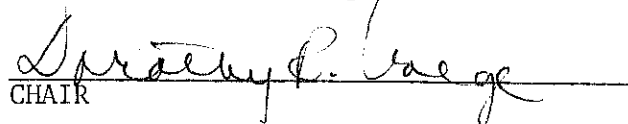
C. Meeting with Centralia City Commissioners

Mrs. Voege stated that the Board has received from the Director a chronology of contacts and trips to Centralia. She said the Board may wish to respond to Mayor Moeller's letter of 9/30/82 (see Agenda Item No. 4E) by inviting the Commissioners to the Board's November meeting. This was agreeable to all Board members and Mrs. Morrison was directed to write Mayor Moeller a letter.

Mr. Doupe' expressed the Ilwaco Library Board's appreciation that the TRL Board could meet at the Ilwaco Library and the Board's willingness to travel the distance. He invited the Board to look at the cranberry display in the library and to partake of refreshments provided.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.


SECRETARY


CHAIR