

AUG 12 1987 *df*

ABERDEEN TIMBERLAND LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY MEETING
11 AUGUST 1987
AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Approval of Bills
5. Unfinished Business
A. Waterproofing
6. New Business
7. Staff Reports: Windisch
8. Board Orientation: Prorating Update/September Ballot Issue: Diane Johnson
Mike Crose
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Tuesday, Aug. 11: AB LIB BOARD MTG, AB LIB., 4:00 p.m.
2. August 12-15: Pacific NW Library Association Conference, Tacoma Sheraton
3. Wed., Aug. 26: TRL Board MTG, MO Library, 7:30 p.m.
4. Tuesday, Sept. 8: AB LIB BOARD MTG, AB LIB, 4:00 p.m.
5. Thursday, Sept. 17: Public lecture on U.S. Constitution: Dr. Lyman Pedersen
AB Lib., 7:30 p.m.
6. SEPTEMBER 15, 1987: Special Election

ABERDEEN TIMBERLAND LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONTHLY MEETING

11 AUGUST 1987

- CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 4:05 by Board Chair Dorothy Vekich.
- MEMBERS PRESENT Other members of the Board present were James Brown and Lee Rhoden. Members excused were Tom Brennan and Weedy McCauley.
- STAFF PRESENT Christine Peck, Jay Windisch.
- GUESTS PRESENT Mayor Rich Patton; Karen Herrell & Jean Davies, TRL Board Members; Mike Crose & MaryAnn Shaffer, TRL Administrative staff; Rhonda Richardson & Pat Warren, Aberdeen Friends of the Library.
- MINUTES Lee Rhoden moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as mailed. James Brown seconded the motion, motion passed.
- BILLS The bills were approved by the Board as presented and signed for payment.
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- WATERPROOFING Jay reported that NW Waterproofing would be doing the work on the East corner of the library as specified in Priority 1A of the bid proposal. The sprinkler system for the borders outside the building is still under discussion.
- SPRINKLERS
- 1988 BUDGET-CITY Christine noted that the Board would discuss the 1988 Budget for the library at the next meeting of the Board, and asked that members think about what considerations are necessary. The City of Aberdeen will be having a Budget Meeting in two weeks, and Mayor Patton noted that no cuts are foreseen at this point in time. Mike Crose was suggesting that the City budget the
- 1988 CONTRACT FEE 50¢/1,000 figure for the 1988 Contract Fee. Christine noted that this would set the Contract Fee at about \$186,000, as opposed to this year's fee of about \$170,000.00. Mike Crose reported that guesses for "worst case" if the September 15 ballot issue failed would be about 26¢/1,000. Mayor Patton said that the City will need to look at this in September.
- PARKING The Board briefly discussed the note about the lack of parking that had been returned with a book in the mail. The TRL Planning Task Force is aware of the parking problems at the Aberdeen Library.
- CHILDREN'S LIBN. The Board was informed that there have been seven applications received for the position, and MaryAnn Shaffer said that there had been another inquiry about the position today. The position had been announced in Library Schools and on the PNLA Jobline. The applications look very promising, and the applicants will receive a supplemental application to fill out to help determine which applicants will be interviewed for the position.
- BOARD ORIENTATION
- PRORATIONING & SEPT BALLOT Mike Crose gave the Board and guests a presentation explaining prorating, the Washington State economy, and the September ballot issues. His talk was augmented by visual illustrations on an overhead projector which likened the situation to the floor plan of a house--the total allowable levy rates have exceeded the available "square footage", thus prorating formulas kick in to fit everything back into what is available, \$9.15 in this case. Mike also explained the enabling legislation of the past two years, the "band-aid" legislation which has allowed TRL to enter a complicated maze of contracts to avoid losing even more of their operating budget. Mike also reminded the group of the effects of inflation, levy rates, property valuations, the 106% limitation, the 1% Constitutional limit and the uniform levy rate mandated by the State Constitution, and how this all played a part in the current situation. Namely, TRL could lose over 2.5 million dollars of the operating budget, which is over half of this year's budget. Mike said that the two tools given by the last legislature were 1) deannexation and 2) contract authorization to avoid prorating to deal with the situation.

BOARD ORIENTATION, cont'd.SEPT. BALLOT

This year the Legislature has allowed "lifting the lid" of \$9.15 up to \$9.50, based on going to the voters with a ballot issue. TRL will call a special election on Tuesday, September 15, 1987, for the purpose of raising this \$9.15 lid. If all things fall into place as hoped with the deannexations of Ilwaco, McCleary and Elma, TRL would need 7.14¢/1,000 for "restoration", or levy maintenance to keep this year's budget. A successful vote for TRL would save the district about \$650,000.00.

UNINCORP. VOTE

Mike Crose also explained to the group why the residents of the City of Aberdeen (and Hoquiam, Raymond, South Bend, etc.) would not be voting. This is a rural library district, based on the vote of the unincorporated areas of the five TRL counties. Incorporated areas not annexed to the district for the purposes of taxation contract for service with the district, but are not a voting part of the district itself.

Mayor Patton asked if a worst case scenario budget had been prepared. Mike responded that TRL had begun work on zero-based budgeting with different "packages", but that all efforts lately have been on solutions to the problems rather than setting up a worst case situation budget. Mike did remind the group that TRL had suffered a \$635,000.00 loss two years ago, and that was difficult to absorb with the level of service that TRL provides. The vote on September 15, of the residents of the unincorporated areas of the five TRL counties and the cities that have annexed to the library district is very important to the future of TRL. When Mayor Patton asked about the vote requirements, Mike responded that a district-wide simple majority was required for passage of the ballot issue. Mike noted that we were still waiting for official word from the Attorney General's Office about voter eligibility for the residents of cities that might deannex.

PRORATIONING
CONTRACTS

Mike told the group that TRL had engaged in 26 contracts last year, as allowed by the Legislature, to avoid prorationing. The total amount that was expended on these contracts was \$220,000.00, which saved TRL 2.5 million dollars. It was noted that there is a problem with the wording of the ballot issue as set by the legislature, as that the ballot issue must state "up to 35¢" in authorization. It will be difficult to explain such a very complicated issue to the voters. In reality, TRL will levy only an added 7.14¢ if deannexation occurs in the three cities, but would need 24¢/1,000 for a maintenance levy if the three cities do not deannex from the district. It is also difficult to explain why there will not be an increase in library services with an authorized levy increase. TRL will ask for only what is necessary to maintain the current budget so that no further cuts will be needed. In other words, TRL is asking the voters to authorize a "hold harmless" situation for the library district from the effects of prorationing.

MAINTENANCE LEVYJUNIOR TAXING
DISTRICTS ON
SEPT. BALLOT

When Christine asked if other junior taxing districts were going to go to the voters for relief, Mike noted that some hospital districts and maybe a couple of fire districts would be on the ballot also. The situation about fire district user fees was briefly discussed and explained. Mike felt that there was really not enough time for the fire districts to be able to explain the prorationing situation and how to engage and institute user fees in time for the fall election.

FIRE DISTRICT
USER FEES

Karen Herrell, TRL Board member representing Grays Harbor County, emphasized the fact that the funds TRL is trying to obtain with this special election are necessary to maintain what the library now has in the way of an operating budget. TRL is not asking for these funds to provide additional library services.

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VOTER ATTITUDE

When James Brown asked about feedback from the voting areas, Mike Crose noted that there was really no "sense" of the public in general at this point in time. Mike informed the group that there would be a meeting in Olympia this evening of a Committee to Save our Library.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
REQ.

Mike noted that this committee was vital, as TRL and employees on library time cannot campaign or lobby for the ballot issue. All TRL can do is to provide the public with information on the prorating situation and its effects on junior taxing district levies and budgets. If the ballot issue fails on September 15, perhaps it will be run again on the November ballot, but it is expensive to pay for elections. If the ballot issue passes, the taxing authority would be extended for 5 years, and then the authority ends. Hopefully there will be a legislative solution to the funding base problems by then.

FAIL/PASS SIT.

STATE SCHOOL
LEVY

Mike also noted the situation in Pacific County, where Road Fund transfers could conceivably throw the State School Levy into a prorating situation, possibly costing 20¢/1,000, or 32 million dollars annually. This is a possible scenario that would take this issue, which is not a particularly "hot" issue, except for the junior taxing districts, into extensive media coverage. Mike noted that Diane Johnson, TRL Public Relations Officer, is keeping the media informed. MaryAnn Shaffer noted that TRL wants to inform the editorial departments of the issues, as points of information, as the ballot wording for each junior taxing district is identical in terms of the taxing authority. What the wording has to say and what TRL needs are not clear.

MEDIA COVERAGE,
INFORMATION

FUND RAISING

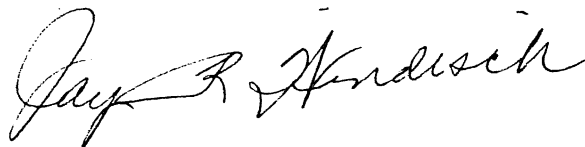
The group was informed that Judy Green Metcalf is the Treasurer for the Save Our Library committee, and that contributions must go directly to her, as the libraries cannot accept any monies. The Committee has received about \$1,500.00 out of their goal of \$10,000.00 so far. Individuals and Friends of the Library groups can donate money to the Committee to cover campaign and advertisement costs.

NEXT AB BOARD
MTG--BUDGET

Christine reminded the Aberdeen Board that the next meeting would have the 1988 preliminary budget as the topic for Board Orientation.

ADJOURNMENT

Dorothy Vekich thanked Mike Crose and MaryAnn Shaffer for their presentation on this important issue. After noting the announcements, Lee Rhoden moved that the meeting be adjourned. James Brown seconded the motion, motion carried. There being no further business of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.



LIBRARIAN'S REPORT
(Acting Librarian)

AUGUST 1987

I somehow missed the August "lull". Enough said.

Waterproofing

Northwest Waterproofing has completed the work on the East corner of the library as specified in the proposal. We have had comments on the difference in color, and have been notified by the company that they will mix a paint overlay and send someone to apply it to the discolored area. It was suggested that we wait just a bit before authorizing payment to see if this process will be satisfactory.

Water Stains

We have received a bid of \$290.00 plus sales tax to correct the water stains on the burlap board in the Children's Room. McCullough submitted the bid, suggesting that the stains be fixed with a sealant application and then two coats of paint.

Building Hours

The library will be closed on Monday, September 7, 1987, in observance of Labor Day. Winter library hours begin on Saturday, September 12, 1987, with the library returning to 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. service hours.

Personnel

MaryAnn Shaffer has commented that a few of the supplemental applications have been received from candidates for the Children's Librarian, and that a couple of them look very promising. Interviews should be scheduled with Christine, MaryAnn and Barbara Winfree, the new Youth Services Coordinator for TRL, in the near future.

Linda Hinkle, circulation staff member and banjo player extraordinaire, is praised for her ability in the review on the back of her group's (Hume St. Preservation Jazz Band no. 405) new record! Linda has a supply of these record albums for those interested in purchasing a copy. You'll have to ask Linda about "no. 405"! We have a recording artist on the staff!

Board Orientation: 1988 Preliminary Budget for the Library

Please be thinking about any budgetary concerns in preparation for the initial budget discussion on Sept. 8. Building maintenance is a concern in particular, with the heat pump repairs & maintenance, the waterproofing and taking care of the water stains in the Children's Room from past leaks.

Advisory Council

The TRL Advisory Council will meet on September 21, with the main business being training for the October 5-11 Output Measures survey.

ALIS

We will be participating in the "full-blown" time test for ALIS response time on Sept. 25. We will need 6 staff members performing specific functions and 3 staff to time the response. All the details of the test are laid out in the contract with DataPhase. No one can see how the system can possibly pass the test, but we must do it for contractual reasons.

Jay K. Krosch