

TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
415 Airdustrial Way S.W., Olympia, WA 98501

February 22, 1989

I N D E X

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u> <u>NO.</u>		<u>Page No.</u>
1	Approval of Minutes	1
2	Vouchers	2
3	Reports	
	A. Library Director - Lon Dickerson	4
	B. Library Board	5
4	Correspondence and Public Comments	
	A. Garth Getty and Laurel Nelson of Shelton	2
	B. City of McCleary (Partnership program for library facilities)	6
	C. Hoquiam library board (temporary library facility and hours of opening)	6
	D. Yelm library board (Faith Hagenhofer's schedule)	6
	E. Certificates of Appreciation	6
5	Unfinished Business	
	A. Fire Protection Fee	6
6	New Business	
	A. June 21 meeting site	7

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M I N U T E S

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Karen Herrell, Chair - Grays Harbor County
Jean Davies - Pacific County
Doris Fourre - Thurston County
Jean Haakenson - Member-at-Large
William H. Lawrence - Lewis County
Helen Timm - Mason County

BOARD MEMBER EXCUSED:

Carolyn Dobbs - Member-at-Large

STAFF PRESENT:

Lon Dickerson, Director
Michael Crose, Assistant Director, Management Services
Mary Ann Shaffer, Assistant Director, Public Services
Sally Loken, Assistant Director, Central Services
Diane Johnson, Community Information Coordinator
Barbara Durney, Circulation Supervisor, Olympia
Dianne Loomis, Central Services Specialist
Kitty Schiltz, Community Librarian, South Mason
Betty Sholund, Reference Librarian, Centralia
Eddie Waller, Community Library Supervisor, Salkum/Library Assistant, Chehalis
Jay Windisch, Reference Librarian, Aberdeen

Liane Bascou, Board Recording Secretary

GUESTS PRESENT:

Garth Getty, Shelton
Helen Hepp, Montesano Library Board
Laurel Nelson, Shelton
Jim Tostevin, Shelton
Pat Tostevin, Shelton
Ann Yearsley, Montesano

Chair Karen Herrell called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM

NO.

1 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Herrell requested a correction on page 4, Agenda Item 4B, to read "North Thurston Library Association" instead of the "Lacey Friends" pledged \$50,000 to the City of Lacey's campaign to raise funds for the new Lacey library.

89-10

DORIS FOURRE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRL BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 1989, AS CORRECTED; JEAN HAAKENS ON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2 Vouchers

89-11 JEAN HAAKENSON MOVED TO APPROVE VOUCHERS NO. 27503 THROUGH NO. 27657 FOR FEBRUARY 1989 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$119,812.13; JEAN DAVIES SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mr. Crose reviewed the following vouchers:

Vouchers No. 27503 through 27505 totaling \$2,516 are for the kiosk in Rainier.

No. 27506 in the amount of \$483 is for the trustees' dues to the American Library Association.

No. 27543 to Xerox Corporation in the amount of \$11,868.41 is an unusually high amount which includes a six month maintenance agreement on the Service Center photocopier.

No. 27546 to Banc One Leasing Corp. in the amount of \$1,130.36 is a payment on the CALS central processing unit.

No. 27551 to Gaylord in the amount of \$11,302.53 is for library display units.

No. 27555 in the amount of \$5,777 is for institutional and trustees' dues to the Washington Library Association.

No. 27605 to Commercial Factors in the amount of \$468.67 is for repairs and maintenance of TRL's telecommunications system.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Herrell suspended the order of business and moved to Agenda Item 4A.

4 Correspondence and Public Comments

A. Garth Getty and Laurel Nelson of Shelton

Mr. Getty said that those in attendance at this meeting from Shelton have no complaints about TRL's service. He has come to give the Board some historical background concerning the situation which exists in Shelton now. Mr. Getty said there has been a lot of controversy over Shelton joining TRL. He said of all the people who have expressed their thoughts publicly through petitions, letters, and in meetings, over 90% of them have been opposed to Shelton signing a contract with TRL for library service at this time.

Mr. Getty said he believes the contract is illegal. He referred to an Attorney General's opinion of March 1983 which states the mayor has final authority over the library. In November 1983 there was a workshop between the present Shelton mayor, former Shelton librarian Randy Stilson, and several Shelton library board members where this Attorney General's opinion was discussed. In March 1984, the Shelton mayor established Ordinance 1129 in which the mayor, aware of the March 1983 Attorney General opinion, vested control of the Shelton library in the board of trustees. Mr. Getty said Mayor Jaros acknowledged city Ordinance 1129 at the City Commissioner's meeting on

4A March 23, 1987. Mr. Getty said Ordinance 1129 states the board has the power to contract with TRL. He said the statutory warranty deed indicates the building is deeded to the library board of trustees.

Mr. Getty cited several controversial issues happening in the City of Shelton in addition to the library issue. Mr. Getty said TRL has signed a contract with a city administration which is not functioning very well in the community. He said if TRL had paid attention to all this controversy, a contract would not have been signed. He asked what TRL's motives are. Ms. Fourre said that TRL responded to a request from the City of Shelton. Mr. Getty pointed out that this idea of Shelton contracting with TRL is not a new one. Mr. Lawrence said he is one of the original TRL trustees and he acknowledged that there has been dialog about Shelton joining TRL over the years. When TRL was formed 20 years ago, he said Shelton was contacted. Shelton did participate in the demonstration, but chose not to join the district. Mr. Lawrence said the TRL Board understand's Mr. Getty's personal position in opposing this contract.

Mr. Lawrence asked Mr. Getty to explain why TRL is not good for Shelton if he feels TRL offers good service. Mr. Getty said he does not want to see Shelton lose its local flavor and he thinks joining TRL will set Shelton back several years as far as community involvement is concerned. He said he believes the Shelton mayor has usurped the authority of the Shelton library board. Mr. Getty said Shelton is getting a brand new library which the city administration had very little to do with. He said that by signing this contract, TRL is denying the residents of Shelton the opportunity to see what they can do with a library and cultural center. Ms. Fourre said TRL is legally bound. Mr. Getty asked if the contract is rescindable. Ms. Fourre said this would be something a lawyer would have to answer. Mr. Getty said he does not believe the attorneys for TRL and for Shelton have researched the past history of the relationship between TRL and Shelton. He said he is concerned with the community of Shelton and would assume that is TRL's concern also. Mr. Lawrence stated TRL's concern is to provide good library service to the City of Shelton. Mr. Getty asked why TRL signed a contract without investigating the circumstances. Mr. Lawrence asked what TRL would investigate. Mr. Getty said TRL should have investigated if TRL would be welcome in the Shelton community. Mr. Lawrence said the Board cannot judge that. He said the TRL Board can only judge what city officials say about their desires and act on that. He said Shelton city officials approached TRL and it is proper for TRL to deal with the Shelton city officials. Mr. Lawrence said he thinks Mr. Getty's argument is with the Shelton city officials.

Laurel Nelson said he is a county resident. He said TRL has completely negated any input which the residents of the county have in TRL. That is one of the reasons why he asked to meet with Helen Timm and they have had discussions along those lines. Ms. Fourre pointed out that county residents have always been welcome to attend TRL Board meetings. She said there are also library Friends groups in Mason County. Mr. Lawrence asked Mr. Nelson if he is for or against Shelton joining TRL. Since Mr. Nelson did not answer, Mr. Lawrence asked Ms. Timm if she knows if Mr. Nelson is for or against Shelton joining TRL. Ms. Timm said she is not really sure. She said she thinks Mr. Nelson just wants more information.

3 Reports

A. Library Director - Lon Dickerson

January 1989 circulation

Mr. Dickerson said January 1989 circulation is 7.6% higher than January 1988 circulation. He referred to revised comparative statistics for TRL libraries, including service populations, registered users, circulation per capita, book collection, hours open, staff hours, and square feet of each library.

January 1989 revenues and expenditures

Mr. Crose reported he was unable to prepare a January 1989 revenues and expenditures report. Thurston County has changed to a new automated system and has changed its schedule of producing reports. The information Mr. Crose requires to prepare revenue and expenditures reports will not be available until after most of the Board's meetings.

Legislation update

Mr. Dickerson referred to Initiative 524 which is on file with the Secretary of State's office. The purpose of the Initiative is to protect children from exposure to harmful materials. Much of the focus is on library materials. Since pornography legislation has been defeated in the legislature the past several years, Initiative 524 is being circulated for signature and the intent is to place it on the November ballot. If this passes, libraries would not be protected and librarians could be prosecuted for putting into children's hands materials considered harmful. Mr. Dickerson said this is a standard censorship problem and very much against intellectual freedom and the first amendment. Mr. Dickerson will send copies of the Initiative to the Board this week.

Mr. Dickerson said the House Revenue Committee gave a "do pass" to SHB 1097 which deals with homes for the aging and their exemption from property taxes. This bill has acceptance by homes for the aging.

The House Revenue Committee also heard continued testimony this afternoon on HB 2124 regarding county/city property tax legislation. Mr. Dickerson sent the outline of how this legislation would work to the Board last week. This legislation is contingent upon voter approval in November for constitutional amendments which would place the library levy outside of the 1% constitutional limit and authorize 6-year excess levies for all local government taxing districts. Mr. Dickerson said there appears to be enthusiastic support for this legislation by the cities and counties and it would solve the libraries' problems. The plan includes consolidating fire districts (a county with 1 million population would have no more than 15 fire districts; a county with 100,000 to 1 million population would have no more than 10 fire districts; a county with less than 100,000 population would be restricted to 5 fire districts).

3A Project updates

Mr. Dickerson reported CALS has a signed contract with Dynix for a new automated system which will be operational by April 30, 1989.

Ms. Shaffer pointed out the new A-V display unit which had been set up in the meeting room. The units are very versatile since they can hold paperbacks, compact discs, audio cassettes, videos, and magazines. These units will be in most TRL libraries but with different components, depending on the size of the library. Ms. Shaffer pointed out the new puppet stage on display. TRL has purchased three of these stages for children's programming which will be housed at the Aberdeen, Centralia, and Olympia libraries. The stage is very lightweight and easy to transport.

Ms. Johnson said last year's PR budget included signage for five libraries. One of the signs was on display. She said when the signs begin to weather, they can be restrained easily. They are made of cedar and should last a long time. Ms. Johnson said eventually all libraries will have new signs.

Mr. Crose said a kiosk is being built in Rainier. The structure is 10' X 10', with 8 sides and has a book drop inside. It includes panels describing TRL's services and an area for posting community notices. It cost approximately \$5,000. The kiosk is located outside city hall so the city will look after it but TRL will maintain it. TRL will be watching how effective the kiosk is since it anticipates placing one in Bucoda and possibly other places in the district.

At last month's meeting, the Board authorized Mr. Crose to negotiate for the purchase of property in Naselle for a new library. The bulk of the paperwork has been completed. TRL has retained the services of a surveyor to make sure the elevations are sufficient to prevent problems with flooding. The health department is going to do an evaluation of the site to make sure it is suitable for library purposes. The property will cost TRL \$15,000. There has been interest expressed already by several architects who are familiar with library designs. Mr. Crose and Ms. Shaffer will develop a program for the building and will advertise for architectural services. Mr. Crose said it is possible to have a building ready by September.

Mr. Crose said he was concerned with the delivery schedule for new shelving for the Shelton library since the manufacturer had indicated it would not arrive until the middle of May. The manufacturer recently had a large order canceled and TRL's shelving has been shipped and should be delivered to Shelton by the middle of next week. The rest of the construction project is moving along nicely.

B. Library Board

Planning ad hoc committee

Ms. Davies reported the planning ad hoc committee met recently in Montesano. Members of the committee are Jean Davies, Carolyn Dobbs, Bill Lawrence, and Lon Dickerson. The committee has begun its task of working on the long-range plan. Its next meeting is scheduled on March 10. Mr. Lawrence said Mr. Dickerson requested the committee members review the mission statement included in the Library Assessment and

3B Development Plan. The committee will then collectively interpret that mission statement. The committee has also been requested to think about the role of the library and has received data to analyze. Mr. Dickerson said the intent is to identify one or two primary roles and one or two secondary roles. Ms. Davies said the committee wants to define TRL's role so that services can be planned accordingly. Mr. Lawrence said he expects the long-range plan will be discussed at the Board's retreat on March 1. Ms. Herrell requested Board members bring all planning materials with them to the retreat.

4 Correspondence and Public Comments

B. City of McCleary (Partnership program for library facilities)

TRL received a letter and resolution from the City of McCleary responding to TRL's partnership program for library facilities. The city has indicated its interest in the program and hopes to apply for funds in the future. Mr. Dickerson said this correspondence is indicative of the support TRL has received for this program.

C. Hoquiam library board (temporary library facility and hours of opening)

The Hoquiam library board expressed disappointment that Hoquiam is not eligible for the partnership program for library facilities. Concerns about the timing of communications were also expressed and Mr. Dickerson has responded to those concerns. The Hoquiam library board has requested TRL look into the possibility of providing financial support for renting a temporary facility while the library is under construction and paying for moving expenses. Mr. Dickerson said the partnership program does not provide for that type of grant and the contract with the City of Hoquiam would prohibit it. However, he said he thinks it is something TRL might want to consider. He said with a library so close in Aberdeen, it may not be necessary. This matter will be discussed further by the TRL Board.

D. Yelm library board (Faith Hagenhofer's schedule)

The Yelm library board expressed concern with the change in librarian Faith Hagenhofer's schedule. Mr. Dickerson responded to the letter explaining that Ms. Hagenhofer will continue spending 32 hours at the Yelm library and will spend 8 hours at the Tenino library.

E. Certificates of Appreciation

Virginia Bassett, Raymond, and Daphne Mickens, Elma, have completed terms on their respective boards. Certificates of Appreciation have been prepared for them.

5 Unfinished Business

A. Fire Protection Fee

Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10 in Packwood has requested that TRL pay a \$900 fire protection fee for 1989 for the library in Packwood in lieu of taxes. At its January meeting the Board agreed the fire district has a right to collect a fee and requested further review of the matter. Mr. Crose sent a letter to FPD #10 advising it

5A that administration will recommend to the TRL Board that TRL pay a service fee under the provisions of RCW 52.30.020. The property is assessed at \$112,800 and the fire district's levy rate of .5497/\$1,000 would result in a fee of \$62.01. FPD #10 was requested to show that other public entities in its jurisdiction are also willing to pay a fee for fire protection service.

Mr. Crose said he has not received any response to his letter. He is not sure of the fire district's meeting schedule.

89-12 HELEN TIMM MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF FIRE PROTECTION FEES, INCLUDING LEVIES FOR BONDED INDEBTEDNESS, BASED ON LOCAL FIRE DISTRICT LEVY RATES APPLIED TO TIMBERLAND PROPERTY VALUES; BILL LAWRENCE SECONDED THE MOTION.

Ms. Haakenson asked if this motion means that the Board is authorizing payment on receipt of a bill. Mr. Dickerson said the motion sets policy which says fire protection fees are legitimate expenses. If TRL receives a bill which looks legitimate, TRL will pay it. Mr. Crose said units of local government do not pay property taxes. There is a provision in the law for service fees if they are mutually agreed upon by both parties. Mr. Crose said the levy rate applied to the value of the property seems to be the most logical way of figuring out what the fee should be. The liability for the whole district would be less than \$1,000, which is based on \$1.50/\$1,000. However, few fire districts are levying the full amount.

DORIS FOURRE MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR PAYMENT OF FIRE PROTECTION FEES, INCLUDING LEVIES FOR BONDED INDEBTEDNESS, BASED ON LOCAL FIRE DISTRICT LEVY RATES APPLIED TO TIMBERLAND PROPERTY VALUES; BILL LAWRENCE SECONDED THE AMENDMENT. THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

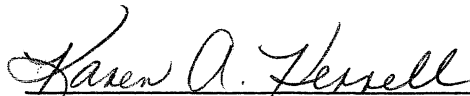
6 New Business

A. June 21 meeting site

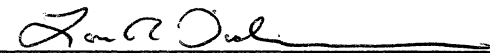
The Tenino library board has invited the TRL Board to hold its June 21 meeting in Tenino.

89-13 JEAN HAAKENSON MOVED TO HOLD THE JUNE 21 MEETING OF THE TRL BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN TENINO; BILL LAWRENCE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next regular Board meeting is on March 22, 7:30 p.m., at the Naselle-Grays River Valley High School in Naselle.



CHAIR



SECRETARY