TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION
Olympic Room, Panorama City, Lacey, WA

October 5, 2002

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Art Blauvelt, President; Ken Bragg; Peggy Meyer; Pat Shults; Gene Weaver; Janelle Williams

BOARD MEMBER EXCUSED: Edna Fund

STAFF PRESENT: Thelma Kruse

GUEST PRESENT: Karen Goettling

President Blauvelt called the work session to order at 10:20 a.m.

Karen Goettling of the Washington State Library met with the Board regarding expectations and suggestions for the next Workshop in Library Leadership (WILL) Conference.

There was discussion of the Open Public Meetings Act. Items provided for discussion included a June 23, 1997 letter from TRL’s attorney, Craig Hanson; a document entitled “Open Public Meetings Act” dated July 18, 2002, prepared by Art Blauvelt; two emails from Craig Hanson dated August 8, 2002 regarding the cases of Wood vs. Battle Ground School District, et al, and Eugster vs. City of Spokane, et al; and Communication Guidelines adopted by the TRL Board August 18, 1982 and revised in March 1992.

There was discussion of a TRL Board Ethics Policy. The Policy Review Committee will be reviewing Ethics Policies in the near future. Items provided for discussion included excerpts from the “Public Library Trustee Reference Manual” of sample Codes of Ethics, including ALA’s policy which the TRL Board adopted in July 1998; Code of Ethics – Use of Timberland Regional Library Resources Policy and Procedure adopted by the TRL Board July 22, 1998; Code of Ethics – Financial Conflicts of Interest Policy and Procedure adopted by the TRL Board July 22, 1998; and RCW 42.52 regarding Ethics in Public Service. Mr. Bragg provided a copy of the TRL Board minutes of December 29, 1981 and April 21, 1982 wherein the Board repealed the Code of Ethics adopted August 21, 1975. The key argument supporting the repeal is stated on page 6 of the April 21, 1982 minutes where Trustee Don Law states that the code “not only restricts the Trustee, but it also restricts the appointing authorities because ... the County Commissioners, who are Timberland’s only tie with the populace, have every right to appoint people who have whatever persuasion they have and ... it is inappropriate to impose substantive views upon those appointees.” Mr. Bragg suggested instead of a code, that a Trustee should take an oath to uphold the constitution and laws of the State and Nation.

There was discussion of staff awards.

There was no further discussion and the work session ended at 2:10 p.m.
President Blauvelt called the special meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. He called for an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(g). The Executive Session ended at 7:35 p.m.

President Blauvelt called the budget work session to order at 7:35 p.m. The agenda included estimated revenues, appropriations and expenditures for all funds (General Fund, Building Fund, Automated Circulation Fund, Unemployment Compensation Fund, and Gift Fund). The preliminary 2003 Budget as of October 16, 2002 was presented for discussion and is attached to the original of these minutes.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.