

**MINUTES
STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
March 18, 2021**

The State Library Board met via GoToMeeting virtual meeting on March 18, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Julia Ward, Executive Secretary to the State Librarian's Office, called the roll. State Library Board members present were: Ms. Laurie Gemmill Arp, President; Mr. Alan Hall; Ms. Janet Carleton; Ms. Theresa Fredericka; and Ms. Wendy Knapp, Secretary. Dr. Tracy Najera, Vice-President, was absent.

Visitors present were: Andrew Rowan, Ohio Attorney General's Office; Erika Carleski, Ohio State University intern; and Michelle Francis, Ohio Library Council.

State Library staff members present were: Julia Ward, Jay Miley, Ann Watson, John Stewart, Erin Kelsey, Nicole Merriman, Kirstin Krumsee, Eric Maynard, Evan Struble, Elissa Lawrence, Anne Kennedy, Cindy Boyden, Phil Willke, Josh Jones, Tracy Grimm, Jennifer Johnson, Michael Postlethwait, Penelope Shumaker, Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Shannon Kupfer-Trausch, Stephanie Michaels, Anne Libby, Mandy Simon, and Jamie Pardee.

Mr. Hall read the following statement to be entered into the minutes:

This is a meeting of the Board of the State Library of Ohio.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 12(A) of Substitute House Bill 404 as now in effect, and considering the surge in COVID-19 infections in the State of Ohio presently occurring, the State Library Board has determined that its meeting of March 18, 2021, shall be conducted by videoconference.

Not less than twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled time of convening the meeting (10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 18, 2021), the Board has provided notification of the meeting to the public and to any media that have requested notification of a meeting, the methods by which any person could determine the time, location, and manner by which the meeting will be conducted. Notice was given by posting on the State Library's public website, library.ohio.gov, that the regular meeting of the Board would be held March 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Public could "Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone [at the following link]: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/891328789>."

This meeting is not convened to deal with an emergency matter and no part of this meeting will constitute a "hearing" as defined in Ohio Revised Code § 119.01 or other hearing at which a person may present written or oral testimony on a matter before the public body.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Fredericka moved (M-6-21) that the minutes of the January 21, 2021 Board meeting be approved.

Ms. Carleton seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

LSTA REPORT

There was no LSTA Report.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Budget Update

Ms. Knapp shared with the Board that she testified in front of the House Subcommittee on Higher Education on behalf of the State Library in regards to its biennial budget. She said she will likely testify in front of the Senate in April. She explained that the State Library is asking for the original appropriation from last biennium to be restored in the next biennium.

Ms. Knapp gave the Board a more in-depth look at the traditional budget reports that are included in the Board's packet. She said that there is also an extra, simplified report and a pie chart to help with understanding the budget. Ms. Knapp explained that the General Revenue Fund (GRF) is the state portion of the State Library's budget. She said that spending for the current biennium, which ends on June 30, 2021, is right on track. This year, in addition to federal LSTA funds, the State Library received federal funds through the CARES Act. Ms. Knapp explained that funds for several different purposes are passed through the agency, such as Public Library Fund (PLF) funds for the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (OLBPD) and Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN) and membership fees for the SEO Consortium and statewide delivery. The PLF is 1.7% of the GRF through the current biennium. Ms. Fredericka asked if the State Library is worried about the status of any of the federal accounts. Ms. Knapp said that everything is on track and the spending down of CARES Funds may make it look like there is a low balance for the rest of the biennium. Ms. Arp asked if state revenues are up, if there is a chance to receive the funds back that were put in the holding account last year. Jamie Pardee, Chief Fiscal Officer, said that the State Library has been given no indication that the funds will be restored.

Evan Struble, Associate State Librarian for Library Development, gave the Board an update about some new federal funds coming to the State Library. Mr. Struble explained that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was just signed into law and will provide \$200 million to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). IMLS is allocating \$178 million of that to State Library Administrative Agencies (SLAA) through the LSTA Program. Mr. Struble said that the State Library will receive a little more than \$4.5 million of that and will use the current LSTA Five-Year Plan as guidance for decision making about how funds will be distributed. State Library staff hopes to receive more guidance and direction at the upcoming IMLS Grants to States Convening.

Assistant Attorney General Introduction

Ms. Knapp explained that Maggie O'Shea, the previous Assistant Attorney General assigned to the State Library, moved to a different division in the Attorney General's Office. She introduced Andrew Rowan, the State Library's new Assistant Attorney General. Mr. Rowan said that he is happy to answer any questions that the State Library or Board may have for him in his new role.

Ms. Knapp shared with the Board that Hurt/Battelle Memorial Library is joining the SEO Consortium. She said that the benefit of libraries joining consortia, especially during the pandemic, is great. Ms. Carleton asked where that was located, and Mr. Struble answered that it is in West Jefferson. Ms. Fredericka thanked State Library staff for pulling together all the reports that were shared with the Board. She is stunned by the increase in ebook usage in the last year and hopes that it will help with securing funding in the next biennial budget. Ms. Arp asked if the statewide delivery

system was back at full capacity yet. Ms. Knapp explained that it's not quite running at 90%. She said that the review process for the next delivery contract is underway.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

National Library Week and National Library Workers Day Proclamation

Ms. Carleton moved (M-7-21) for adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, libraries have historically served as our nation's great equalizers of knowledge by providing free access to all and libraries are part of the American dream, places for education, opportunity and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, Ohio libraries provide a forum for diverse ideas and points of view that help us better understand each other and ourselves; and

WHEREAS, librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and backgrounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn and work in a challenging economy; and

WHEREAS, librarians design and offer programs to meet their community's economic needs, providing residents with resume writing classes, interviewing workshops and job seeking resources; and

WHEREAS, librarians and library support staff bring Ohioans a world of knowledge in person and online, as well as personal service and expert assistance in finding what is needed when it is needed; and

WHEREAS, Ohio's school, academic, public and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of Ohioans and provide excellent and invaluable service to library users regardless of age, ethnicity, or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, Ohioans and Ohio libraries benefit from the resources, services, and support provided by the State Library of Ohio and the library's dedicated staff; and

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, library workers and supporters across America are celebrating National Library Week and National Library Workers Day; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this day, March 18, 2021, the State Library Board proclaims National Library Week, April 4 – 10, 2021, and National Library Workers Day, April 6, 2021, and encourages all Ohio residents to visit their libraries or library websites this week to take advantage of the variety of library resources available and thank their librarians and library workers for their exceptional contributions to American life.

Ms. Fredericka seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion, Mr. Hall moved (M-8-21) that the Board stand adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Ms. Fredericka seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

President

Secretary

WJK/jmw