

**MINUTES**  
**STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**  
**May 16, 2019**

The State Library Board met May 16, 2019 in the Boardroom of the State Library, 274 East First Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The business meeting was called to order at 10:03 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. Michael Merz, Vice-President; Dr. Tracy Najera; Mr. Alan Hall; and Ms. Beverly Cain, Secretary.

Visitors present were: Dale Vitale, Ohio Attorney General's Office; Don Yarman, OPLIN; Lindsay Cardwell, KSU iSchool Practicum Student; and Derek Zoladz, OhioNET.

State Library staff members present were: Bill Morris, Julia Ward, Nicole Merriman, Dianna Clark, Jay Miley, Cathy Bond, Jen Johnson, John Stewart, Penelope Shumaker, Stephanie Herriott, Anne Libby, Kirstin Krumsee, Evan Struble, Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Janet Ingraham Dwyer, Anne Kennedy, Jamie Pardee, Elissa Lawrence, and Ann Watson.

Mr. Merz moved (M-15-19) that agenda item VIII. Unfinished Business be moved to agenda item V.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Merz suggested that the Oath of Office section of the minutes be amended to read, "Mr. Hall was appointed to the unexpired term of Krista Taracuk, who resigned. He was appointed by the State Board of Education at its February meeting. His term ends December 31, 2022."

Mr. Merz moved (M-16-19) that the minutes of the March 21, 2019 Board meeting be amended.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

Mr. Merz moved (M-17-19) that the minutes of the March 21, 2019 Board meeting be approved.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Boundaries**

Dale Vitale, Assistant Attorney General, gave the Board an update on the status of the administrative hearing requested by Evergreen Community Library regarding the proposed boundary redefinition of Toledo-Lucas County Public Library. Mr. Vitale explained that the two libraries are in active discussions and have asked for a continuation of the scheduled hearing. The hearing officer continued the hearing, which now scheduled for June 24. He said that pre-

trial motions need to be filed by June 17. The parties are hopeful that an agreement can be reached before that. Mr. Merz asked if their proposed resolution would come to the Board or the hearing examiner. Mr. Vitale said that he thinks the hearing examiner would review it and provide a sentence or two confirming that there are no objections. The resolution would then come before the Board for consideration.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

## **LSTA REPORT**

### **Libraries Connect Ohio Statewide Core Electronic Databases**

Don Yarman, Executive Director of OPLIN, presented the funding request for the Libraries Connect Ohio (LCO) databases. Mr. Yarman explained that the contracts for the LCO databases are negotiated every five years, and LSTA funding is requested to support the project annually. This is the second year of the five-year contract. Ms. Arp asked about support for the databases. Mr. Yarman replied that OPLIN provides the ohioeblibrary.org website, which is the public portal for these resources. He explained that individual libraries list databases in ways that work best for their patrons, and OPLIN created a database display module as part of their webkit service. Mr. Yarman said that OPLIN supports the statewide authentication system for the public to be able to access the databases, and that INFOhio and OhioLINK provide similar authentication for their populations. OPLIN also provided training for library workers and librarians across the state to become experts in the databases to train other libraries on the databases. Mr. Yarman said that OPLIN worked with OhioNET on training as well. Mr. Hall said that he has heard from people who came from other states who are very impressed with the databases in Ohio. He asked if Ohio was the only state who provides this service. Ms. Cain explained that Ohio is not the only state that provides the databases, but due to the collaborative effort, it is a better service.

Mr. Merz moved (M-18-19) that a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant in the amount of \$1,500,000 be awarded to The Ohio State University for the Libraries Connect Ohio (OhioLINK, OPLIN, INFOhio) Statewide Core Electronic Databases. For the period of July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019, \$1,000,000 will be awarded from FFY2018 funds. \$500,000 of the grant amount will be funded from FFY19 funds for the period of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, contingent upon the release of SFY2020 appropriations from ALI 350-601.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

### **Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled**

Evan Struble, Associate State Librarian for Library Development, presented the funding proposal for the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (OLBPD) to the Board. He explained that funds are used for operational support for the program. OLBPD provides service for registered readers in all 88 counties. LSTA funds are used for salary and benefits, equipment, and supplies.

Dr. Najera moved (M-19-19) that federal fiscal year 2018 LSTA funds in the amount of \$150,000 and federal fiscal year 2019 funds in the amount of \$84,000 be granted to the Cleveland Public Library to supplement the 5GBO Funds (ALI 350-605) for the operation of the

Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. This is contingent upon the release of state fiscal year 2020 federal appropriations within ALI 350-601.

Mr. Merz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

### **Public Library Automation Grants**

Cindy Boyden, LSTA Coordinator, presented the Board with a proposal from Logan-Hocking County District Library for a Public Library Automation Grant. The library seeks to join the Ohio Valley Library Consortium. These grants are used to allow stand-alone libraries to join a consortium.

Mr. Merz moved (M-20-19) that a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant in the amount of \$26,377 from FFY19 funds be awarded to Logan-Hocking County District Library for a Public Library Automation Grant for the period of June 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

Ms. Boyden presented the Board with a proposal from Wilmington Public Library for a Public Library Automation Grant. The library seeks to join the COOL Consortium. Ms. Arp asked if these will be the last two Automation Grants. Ms. Boyden replied that she thinks so because she hasn't heard of any other interest. She said that ten grants over two years is a good response, and the State Library is ready to allocate funds in a different direction.

Mr. Hall moved (M-21-19) that a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant in the amount of \$20,552 from FFY19 funds be awarded to Wilmington Public Library of Clinton County for a Library Automation Grant for the period of August 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

### **LSTA Advisory Council Appointment**

Ms. Boyden explained that the LSTA Advisory Council seat held by John Myles is up for re-appointment. Mr. Myles is interested in serving a second term.

Mr. Merz moved (M-22-19) that the following individual be reappointed to the LSTA Advisory Council for the term of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022:

John Myles, Citizen Representative

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

### **STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**

#### **Budget Update**

Ms. Cain gave an update on the State Library's budget to the Board. The State Library was flat funded in the House and the budget bill moved on to the Senate. She gave testimony on April 30

before the Senate Higher Education Committee. Because the House version of the budget had not been released, Ms. Cain gave a similar testimony to the one she gave to the House. She expects to hear the Senate recommendations in early June. Mr. Merz commented that a budget must be in place by July 1. Dr. Najera commented that the state has had continuing budgets before. Ms. Cain shared that the president zeroed out IMLS in his budget. However, the House added \$25 million in IMLS funding to their budget, including \$17 million for the Grants to States program. The bill will move on to the Senate.

### **Practicum Student Introduction**

Ms. Cain introduced a Kent State University iSchool practicum student to the Board. Lindsay Cardwell is doing her practicum in Research and Catalog Services with Nicole Merriman. Ms. Cardwell has a Bachelor of Arts in English from Ohio University and is a Youth Services Programming Specialist at Worthington Libraries.

### **New Employee Introductions**

Ms. Cain introduced a new State Library employee to the Board. Jay Miley is the new Library Customer Services Manager at SEO Library Center. He will be responsible for the library management software that supports SEO member libraries and oversees library services that SEO provides. Mr. Miley is the SEO liaison to the Ohio Digital Library and coordinates the Technology Services Committee. He has 19 years of library experience, most recently at Orville Public Library where he was an Emerging Technology Specialist. He has a Bachelor of Science in Applied Management from Ohio University and is completing coursework to earn a Master of Library and Information Science from Kent State University iSchool.

Ms. Cain shared with the Board that she received a letter of resignation from Board member Missy Deters. Ms. Deters' new job conflicts with State Library Board meetings. Bill Morris, Governmental Affairs Coordinator, reached out to the State Library's Board of Education liaison, and the State Library was asked to do a new call for nominations. Mr. Morris will reach out to people who submitted nominations for the last open seat to see if they are still interested. It is Ms. Cain's hope that the Board of Education will appoint a new Board member in July to start at the meeting in October. She explained that with the Board's approval, Mr. Morris will release a call for nominations to fill the vacant Board seat.

Mr. Merz moved (M-23-19) that the State Library be instructed to release a call for nominations to fill the vacancy on the Board brought about by Ms. Deters' resignation.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **State Subsidies**

Mr. Struble presented the Board with the funding request for state subsidies for the Regional Library Systems (RLS). The State Library requested a 10% increase for the RLS, and since it is unknown whether or not they will receive that, the request before the Board is for up to the increased amount. Mr. Struble explained that funding will be used for contractual services, staff, and materials. He is pleased with the amount of collaboration among the RLS, including last year's successful "Opioids in Communities: Libraries in Response" series. Mr. Struble said that

several RLS have reciprocal agreements. He shared that 1,700 library staff received training from the RLS in the last quarter.

Dr. Najera moved (M-24-19) that state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds in an amount up to \$137,500 be granted to the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System (NEO-RLS) for operations from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, contingent upon release of state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds within ALI 350-502.

Mr. Merz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

Dr. Najera moved (M-25-19) that state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds in an amount up to \$137,500 be granted to the Northwest Library District (NORWELD) for operations from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, contingent upon release of state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds within ALI 350-502.

Mr. Merz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

Mr. Hall moved (M-26-19) that state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds in an amount up to \$137,500 be granted to the Southeast Ohio Regional Library System (SERLS) for operations from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, contingent upon release of state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds within ALI 350-502.

Mr. Merz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

Dr. Najera moved (M-27-19) that state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds in an amount up to \$137,500 be granted to the Southwest and Neighboring Libraries (SWON Libraries) for operations from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, contingent upon release of state fiscal year 2020 General Revenue Funds within ALI 350-502.

Mr. Merz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

Ann Watson, Associate State Librarian for Library Services, presented the Board with the funding request for state subsidies for the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (OLBPD). She explained that OLBPD pays rent to Cleveland Public Library who acts as their fiscal agent. OLBPD'S funding primarily comes from LSTA funding and the state subsidy. Tracy Grimm, Head, Circulation and Special Services, works closely with Will Reed, the Manager of OLBPD to help make the service available to patrons around the state. Ms. Watson explained that OLBPD hosts an annual Family Fun and Learning Day at the Lakeshore Branch of Cleveland Public Library. This year's event is on July 9. OLBPD brings in vendors and usually has a local celebrity speak at the event. Ms. Grimm represents the State Library at the event. Ms. Watson shared that the Ohio State School for the Blind has an art display of masks at the State Library. Ms. Cain clarified that these funds are set aside by the Legislature from the Public Library Fund and are passed through the State Library of Ohio. Ms. Arp asked if usage is growing or declining. Ms. Grimm replied that there are usually about 13,000-14,000 registered

users of the service. She explained that there has been a nationwide ad campaign put out by the National Library Service which has caused usership to rise. Mr. Hall asked if the funds have changed over the last decade. Ms. Cain replied that funding has declined over the years, but that over the last nine years it has remained relatively flat. She said that OLBPD has been able to maintain services with that funding. Mr. Merz asked if the amount that OLBPD receives is adjusted based on revenue. Ms. Cain explained that funding is a set amount that comes off the top of the Public Library Fund.

Dr. Najera moved (M-28-19) that state fiscal year 2020 5GBO Funds in the amount of \$1,274,294 be granted to the Cleveland Public Library for the operation of the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, contingent upon release of state fiscal year 2020 5GBO Funds within ALI 350-605.

Mr. Merz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

### **OPLIN Board Appointments**

Mr. Yarman presented recommendations for four appointments to the OPLIN Board. He explained that the nominees were chosen to maintain a balance of library size, geographical distribution, and trustees vs. administrators vs. technical knowledge.

Mr. Merz moved (M-29-19) that Holly Varley and Jeff Garringer be re-appointed to the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN) Board of Trustees for a second term from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022, and Hilary Prisbylla and Travis Bautz be appointed to the OPLIN Board of Trustees for an initial term from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye."

### **Election of Officers**

Ms. Cain explained to the Board that even though Laurie ascended to the Presidency and a new Vice-President was elected at the last meeting, the Board is required to elect new officers at the end of the biennium. Both Ms. Arp and Mr. Merz are interested in serving for a full term.

Dr. Najera moved (M-30-30) that Michael Merz be nominated for the office of Vice-President of the State Library Board for the biennial term beginning July 1, 2019.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion.

Dr. Najera moved (M-31-19) that the nominations be closed, a unanimous ballot be cast for Mr. Merz, and that he be declared elected to that office for the biennial term beginning July 1, 2019.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye." Mr. Merz abstained.

Dr. Najera moved (M-32-19) that Laurie Arp be nominated for the office of President of the State Library Board for the biennial term beginning July 1, 2019.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion.

Dr. Najera moved (M-33-19) that the nominations be closed, a unanimous ballot be cast for Ms. Arp, and that she be declared elected to that office for the biennial term beginning July 1, 2019.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Merz, Dr. Najera, and Mr. Hall voting "aye." Ms. Arp abstained.

### **Retirement Resolutions**

Ms. Cain presented retirement resolutions to the Board for State Library employee Cathy Bond and Ohio Library Council Executive Director Doug Evans.

Mr. Merz moved (M-34-19) for adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Bond has provided the State Library of Ohio with over 33 years of service as a Library Assistant; and

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Bond began her career at the SEO Library Center before the SEO Library Consortium was formed; and

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Bond successfully adapted to new services and technologies with the growth of the SEO Consortium over her career; and

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Bond provided great customer service to the staff and customers of the 93 library systems that are the SEO Consortium; and

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Bond contributed behind the scenes to the success of numerous services offered by the State Library and the SEO Library Center and Consortium with her willingness to expand her knowledge and participate on any project or service; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that on this day, May 16, 2019, the State Library Board on behalf of the State Library of Ohio and its customers, hereby thanks Cathy Bond for her efforts, appreciates her contributions to the services and programs of the State Library of Ohio, congratulates her on her retirement, and wishes her the best in the future.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Mr. Hall, and Dr. Najera voting "aye."

Mr. Merz moved (M-35-19) for adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Doug Evans has served with distinction and dedication as a leader for Ohio's public libraries for 17 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Doug has served as the Executive Director of the Ohio Library Council since 2002, leading the organization and public libraries through a tremendous period of change, growth, and innovation; and

**WHEREAS**, Doug has encouraged collaboration among Ohio's public libraries and recently, across multiple types of libraries with the upcoming Re-IMAGEing Ohio's Libraries: A Collaborative Event for the Staffs of Academic, Public and School Libraries conference; and

**WHEREAS**, Doug has demonstrated a commitment to encouraging and assisting librarians to reach their full potential through his work in supporting a robust program of continuing education for Ohio's public library staff; and

**WHEREAS**, Doug has been a valuable partner to the State Library of Ohio in a number of initiatives and programs including Library Leadership Ohio, the Embracing eBooks conference, and the Your Library, Your Community conference; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the members of the Board of the State Library of Ohio, meeting in regular session this 16th day of May 2019 at Columbus, Ohio, express their individual and collective gratitude and appreciation for Doug Evans.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Mr. Hall, and Dr. Najera voting "aye."

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Merz moved (M-36-19) that the Board move into executive session to discuss Ms. Cain's upcoming retirement.

Dr. Najera seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Arp, Mr. Merz, Mr. Hall, and Dr. Najera voting "aye."

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:58. No business was transacted in the Executive Session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion, the Board adjourned by common consent at 12:00 p.m.

---

President

---

Secretary

BC/jmw