

**Wasco County Library Service District
Board Meeting
January 21, 2025
The Dalles Public Library and via Zoom**

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Board members present: Rita Rathkey, Mary Beechler, Dave Mason

Staff members present: Jeff Wavrunek, Valerie, Stephenson, Sarah Tierney, Rita Squires

Called to order: Dave Mason called the meeting to order at 4:32

Minutes: Rita Rathkey moved to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Mary Beechler. The vote was unanimous, and the minutes were approved.

Visitors or interested parties: none. Rita Rathkey commented that she had visited a library in San Francisco at Christmas time. One of the things she noticed on promotional material for programs was the acknowledgement of the business or organization sponsoring the event.

Director Reports: per a request from Mary Beechler, director reports were submitted via email, and attached to the packet. Board members liked this; saying it will save time. Jeff said that the reports need to be submitted at least a week prior to the meetings, so that they can be attached to the LB packet, and meet deadlines.

Old Business: The Challenge Policy was sent to the County Commissioners for final approval. The commissioners were surprised about the necessity of the policy, but Dave was able to explain the reason. Mary commented that the Commissioners might forget that the Library Board is advisory and the Commissioners are supposed to approve policies. Mary reminded Jeff that a copy will need to go into the policy notebooks that she had dropped off in December. The new policy will also need to be put on the website.

Due to need, the policies actually reviewed might not be what is on the calendar.

Update on MOU's – Mary has talked to the Maupin City Manager and he said to pick a date to discuss this. Jeff says that should be late February or early March, after he has finished with the city budget. Mary will send some date choices and they'll proceed from there. Prior to that, look at examples from other libraries for a starting point.

Any progress on Dufur? It's probably best to do one MOU at a time. In addition, Sarah is still trying to hire a new assistant. She says that the school needs to be included in the MOU. There has been confusion regarding where the money is coming from/going to. There will be a new superintendent at the school; and there is a new mayor. Sarah suggests waiting until these people get settled.

Second reading of the Bookmobile Policy – Rita Rathkey helped rewrite the second paragraph about collection development, making it more readable. Mary Beechler made the motion to approve the policy as presented, seconded by Rita Rathkey. The vote was unanimous, and the policy was approved.

New Business: Budget recommendations – Jeff is currently working on the budget. Rita Rathkey questioned expenditures and if it is too early to think about library expansion, as every area is crowded. Jeff said it is not too early. Money needs to be set aside for a new elevator. Jeff explained about the planned shared storage building for the Maintenance Department., the Friends, and the library, that will go in the upper parking lot, replacing the two storage sheds up there now. Library expansion would need a professional grant writer. They talked about where to expand the library. Before any planning can be done, they will need to conduct a feasibility study. Strategic planning needs to be done; Valerie Stephenson suggested Darcy Hanning, through the State Library. Dave Mason suggests revisiting this next month when Corliss Marsh and Tina Coleman are here. Jeff will put something in the budget to cover hiring a grant writer.

Board goals – we're halfway through the year, how are we doing? After a brief discussion, it was agreed that we're doing great on policy reviews, and making progress on MOU's and IGA.

Board terms – Rita Rathkey, Dave Mason, and Corliss Marsh expire this year and are eligible for full term reappointments. They need to decide if they want to continue.

Bookmobile Report – Jeff will send that in an email. A water leak had been discovered and fixed under warranty. There are still issues with a lock, and also the heated seat. There is a possibility that it will have to be taken to Wilsonville. There are some concerns regarding safety when the Word Wagon is out and about. There was discussion regarding the iPhone 16, which switches to satellite when WiFi is not available.

Ethics Statement – a copy of ALA's ethics statement was included with the packet. Dave suggested that this be something that is signed every year at the annual meeting.

Social Media Policy – this is a new policy. Recently a member of the Happiness Book Club indicated an interest in starting a new book club for LGBTQ family members. Potentially there could be controversy over this, especially on social media (Facebook, for example). During the discussion of the policy, there was concern about the wording in the section under "Promotional Use." It was suggested that the line about "child's likeness" be deleted. Mary Beechler moved to approve the policy, with the changes suggested, seconded by Rita Rathkey. The vote was unanimous.

Technology – The County budget provides funding for technology and WiFi. Should each library be responsible for their own? It was decided that for 2025-26 it should stay as is. Valerie shared that Maupin is not happy with Blue Mountain as a provider; it goes down often (Dave Mason commented that this is the sort of thing that should be included in the MOU). They are looking at going with

another provider. Jeff mentioned that The Dalles is as well. The City of Maupin is going to go with LSO; will the Library District be able to help pay for Southern Wasco County Library's portion?

Financial Review: Buildings and Grounds, not much spent yet, what are the plans? Jeff said that there are plans for landscaping in various areas.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on February 18th, at 4:30 p.m., in The Dalles. A reminder that the April meeting will be in Maupin.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**Wasco County Library Service
District, Board of Directors**

Dave Mason, Chairman

Rita Rathkey, Vice Chairman

Corliss Marsh, Board Member

Mary Beechler, Board Member

Tina Coleman, Board Member