

**Minutes
Oklahoma Department of Libraries
ODL Board of Directors
February 3, 2012
10:00 a.m.
South Conference Room**

Chairman Hannibal Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for roll call. Board members present: Jon Douthitt, Judy Haught, Hannibal Johnson, Anne Morgan, Tom Terry, Harlene Wills and Susan McVey, ex officio; absent: LaWalta "Wally" Turner.

Guests and staff members present: Ching-Yu Chi, Jan Davis, Susan Gilley, Karl Kramer, Vicki Mohr, Cindy Mooney, Michael O'Hasson, Kitty Pittman, Vicki Sullivan, Judy Tirey, Danny Travis and Bill Young.

In conformity with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, advance notice of the 2012 regularly scheduled meetings was transmitted to the Oklahoma Secretary of State on January 4, 2012 and public notice of this meeting, together with the agenda, was posted in prominent public view on the glass exterior walls of the Allen Wright Memorial Library Building, 200 NE 18th Street, Oklahoma City, January 20, 2012, 3:09 p.m. The announcement of the Board meeting and agenda were posted on the ODL website at 4:30 p.m. on January 20, 2012.

Chairman Johnson identified an error in the December 2, 2011 meeting minutes. On page five of the minutes, the motion to approve the Director's salary was not included. He asked for an amendment to be made to the minutes.

Johnson asked for consideration of the minutes of the December 2, 2011 board meeting. Morgan moved to approve the minutes with the amendment. Douthitt seconded the motion. Votes were as follows: Douthitt, yes; Haught, yes; Johnson, yes; Morgan, yes; Terry, yes; Turner, absent; Wills, yes. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Anne Morgan suggested working with the Homeless Alliance to coordinate bus transportation to the Read Across Oklahoma event at the Zoo on April 10, 2012. Morgan thinks the alliance's director, Dan Straughan, would be very excited to help.

Director's Report and Division Activity Reports

Susan McVey provided a summary of 86 legislative bills to the ODL board members. McVey included all bills related to changes in the state income tax in this report so that board members will have a perspective on the possibility of some changes in this revenue source. Future versions of the bill list will be shorter both due to legislative deadlines and to the removal of the income tax bills from the monitoring list.

McVey stated there are a couple of good bills that have been introduced: SB1150 and its companion legislation, Senate Joint Resolution 74. Success of this legislation would provide communities new funding opportunities to support their municipal libraries by allowing voters to impose property taxes within city limits, rather than the county option.

Morgan asked if the movement is extensive. McVey said she has seen some national action. Oregon has experienced some funding problems and communities there are gradually going to their voters and legislators. There are a number of problems in other states, such as in California, where state funding has been eliminated altogether. Morgan asked where the movement was happening in Oklahoma. McVey said Mustang is the leading community and there is a potential that Tuttle could also benefit. Tuttle has tried a couple of times to establish a library. Douthitt mentioned that Desiree Webber, director of the Mustang Public Library, is very optimistic about the bill.

McVey said she would electronically provide the board with a weekly status on the bills that are being tracked.

McVey said the hearing at the Oklahoma State Senate Education Appropriations Budget subcommittee was very cordial. It allowed the agency to talk about the number of programs supported by federal funds, and how the loss of state funds impact federal funding to ODL. McVey explained that federal appropriations to the states are based on a rolling three-year average. This year the percentage reduction of federal dollars was small, but it will increase to 11 percent next year.

She said for the past three years it's been a priority of ODL to protect the agency's Maintenance of Effort (MOE). Since FY2010, almost \$1.4 million in state dollars has been cut from the ODL budget. Of that amount, only 38% was counted towards MOE. ODL has had some success in protecting the MOE, but it has disproportionately impacted some areas and services of the agency, due to a legislative mandate to protect federal funds. Morgan asked what MOE really means. McVey explained that various items paid with state dollars count toward the agency's MOE, such as state aid, pass through grants, literacy grants, materials, postage, and staff salaries. Hannibal stated the agency is essentially leaving money on the table by leveraging with fewer state dollars. McVey agreed.

Library Service Technology Act, presented by Vicki Mohr

McVey introduced Vicki Mohr to talk about the Library Service Technology Act (LSTA) evaluation. Mohr said every five years the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) requires an evaluation of the projects funded.

Mohr worked directly with consultant Dick Waters of Godfrey's Associates. Ten projects funded as continuous projects with LSTA dollars are being evaluated. Many statistics and much information were sent to the consultants prior to their initial visit. The consultants will conduct a site visit at ten libraries. The visit is customized specifically for the library's LSTA project.

Mohr said LSTA no longer wants to pay for services not used by the libraries and the customers. The questions for the surveys were reviewed by Susan McVey, Vicki Mohr and Judy Tirey, who worked directly with the consultants and ODL staff to finalize the survey.

Online surveys will be sent to public libraries, academic libraries, special libraries and literacy directors. ODL staff also received draft questions of the survey.

Service Awards

Chairman Hannibal presented employee Danny Travis a pin and certificate for five years of service with the State of Oklahoma. Hannibal congratulated employee Ching Yu Chi on a job well done during her 30 years of service with the State. He presented her with a 30 year pin and certificate.

There was no public comment.

Morgan suggested that copies of the Spanish booklets "I Like to Read" be donated to the Celebration School. The school deals with three- to four-year-old children and the booklets are designed for that audience. A colleague of Morgan has donated the booklets to ODL for distribution.

Morgan said the Newcomers to a New Land series has been out of print for years. This series of books came out of a grant that represented the largest grant award ever given by the National Endowment for the Humanities to a public library project. Every library received two sets of the series, but over the years they have disappeared. Now the Oklahoma Historical Society and the University of Oklahoma press are selling these books. Morgan would like to get them back in circulation again in the libraries.

Chairman Johnson moved that the meeting adjourn, seconded by Morgan. Votes were as follows: Douthitt, yes; Haught, yes; Johnson, yes; Morgan, yes; Turner, absent; Wills, yes. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

The next ODL Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 30, 2012, 10:00 a.m., during the Oklahoma Library Association's Annual Conference at the Embassy Suites, 2501 Conference Drive, Norman, Oklahoma.

Susan C. McVey, Ex Officio