

**Whitman County Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Whitman County Library, Colfax  
October 16, 2017

**Present:** Steve Balzarini, Heather Lustig, Bob Bates, Kristie Kirkpatrick, Suzanne Schmick, Shirley Cornelius, and guest R.J. Hart.

Chairman Bob Bates called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Bob asked if there were any additions or modifications to the agenda. Kristie mentioned she had miscellaneous information to report at the conclusion of the new business. With Suzanne running late, she also requested to move the regular monthly business to the start of the meeting.

### **Monthly Business**

Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and approved by a vote of the board.

September financial reports including the monthly payroll and accounts payable vouchers of \$127,581.35 and the MasterCard transactions were presented. There was no additional discussion and Resolution #2017-20 was approved by a vote of the board.

Kristie shared a very brief report on circulation for September, noting strong usage in the Lacrosse Branch and slight increases in Palouse, Farmington and Oakesdale. Kristie was especially pleased with the last two as attendance at these branches has been of concern.

### **New Business:**

A budget revision for 2017 was presented to the board by Shirley Cornelius. Factors in the revision include the transferring of funds to the capital reserve account. The board approved by a majority vote, Resolution 2017-18, 2017 Budget Revision.

A change to the 2018 Budget was presented to the board by Shirley Cornelius. With the addition of a levy, levy costs were added to the budget along with funds being transferred from capital reserve. After some discussion, the board approved by a majority vote, Resolution 2017-19, 2018 Budget.

Recent county wide property valuations have decreased the amount the library receives from its levy, dropping it from \$.50 per thousand of assessed property value to \$.4574 per thousand. For 2017, that is approximately a \$90,000 loss to the library's annual budget. To functionally operate, the library needs to restore the levy back to \$.50 with a vote of the people. This kind of levy commonly is known as a levy lid lift. Kristie presented documents related to why the levy is needed and a timeline of steps to be taken before the February 13, 2018 election. After a brief discussion, Resolution 2017-21, Levy Election, was approved by a majority vote of the board.

The contract between the City of Colfax and Whitman County Rural Library for services provided to the City of Colfax by the Library is up for renewal. The city is concerned over their costs for library maintenance and the lack of input they have regarding these costs. The

city has until October 31 to pull out of the current contract. If that occurs, a new one would be needed.

Kristie recently attended the Lamont City Council meeting to discuss a possible addition of a branch in Lamont. Among hurdles, Lamont's current facility needs finishing and the library's levy lid lift would need to pass. Kristie also reported hitting a deer in the library's van on her way home from the meeting. It has gone to the shop for repairs.

**Continuing Business:**

Kristie shared information on upcoming library events including programming around the documentary The Vietnam War on 10/26, Halloween Trivia at the Hyde Out on 10/21, the Everybody Reads events Nov 6-7, Wine, Yoga, and Chocolate on 11/7 and followed on the same night by the Ice Age Floods Program at 7 p.m.. Last week there was an all branch meeting focusing on STEM Learning. Finally, the Library is taking submission for the 2018 Barn Calendar which was a big fund raiser for the Friends last year.

**Upcoming Board Meetings:**

The next board meeting will be on Monday, November 20 at 4:00 PM in Colfax.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13.

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Shirley Cornelius, Secretary

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Bob Bates, Board Chair