

**Wisconsin Public Library Consortium**  
**Board Meeting Notes**  
**August 13, 2018 1:30-3:30**  
via GoToMeeting

ATTENDEES: Kirsten Anderson (WRLS), Evan Bend (OWLS), Kelly Rohde proxy for Amy Birtell (MLS), Anne Hamland (WVLS), David Kranz (SWLS), Mellanie Mercier (BLS), Steve Ohs (LLS), Tovah Anderson, proxy for S. Platteter (ALS), Jennifer Schmidt (MCFLS), Lin Swartz-Truesdell (KLS), Jean Anderson proxy for Martha Van Pelt (SCLS), Tracy Vreeke (NFLS), Maureen Welch (IFLS), Sherry Machones (NWLS)

ABSENT: Mark Arend (WLS), Rebecca Peterson (MCLS)

GUESTS: Martha Berninger (DPI), John DeBacher (DPI), Steve Hesel (MCFLS), Jody Hoesly (SCLS)

PROJECT MANAGERS: Melody Clark (WiLS), Stef Morrill (WiLS)

**1. Call to order/Welcome & Introductions**

D. Kranz presided over the meeting in the current chair, M. Arend's, absence.  
The meeting was called to order at 1:31 PM.

**2. Consent agenda**

- a. Review agenda
- b. Approval of minutes from [June 18 meeting](#)

Motion to approve consent agenda was made by K. Anderson and seconded by M. Welch with a change of order to current agenda, moving item 4 h to 4 a. Motion passed.

**3. Updates from previous meetings/projects**

**a. Historical and Local Digital Collections Committee**

A meeting is being scheduled for September. Some topics for discussion include an evaluation of the newspaper platform and discussion of the WPLC contribution to Recollection Wisconsin.

**b. BiblioBoard update**

We received over 110 submissions to the author contest! These will be first vetted by Library Journal and then reviewed by a WLA committee. We're still on track to be able to honor the winner at the WLA Conference in October. Statistics from other states on the author contest and on the services were requested. The project managers will work on that.

**c. YTD budget review**

Project managers are working with Indianhead Federated Library System as they are the grant receivers for the BiblioBoard funding.

Document: [Year to Date Budget.xls](#)

**4. New business**

**a. Presentation: How SCLS is using patron barcode information from OverDrive – Moved from item 4h.**

At the June meeting, the Board discussed and approved including the barcode information on custom requested reports from OverDrive. J. Hoesly from SCLS, who made the initial request, presented what she's done with the information and what she plans to do.

SCLS is looking at their authentication systems and online resource statistics in general. SCLS wanted to be able to ramp up the information received from OD so that all information could be accessible from Tableau Public. The data set that J. Hoesly requested has data back to January 2015 and includes over 3,000,000 records for SCLS. The fields she is using include audience, branch, checkout date, checkout ID, format, language, and user ID (barcode). J. Hoesly is working on compiling and processing the data using both Tableau and Tableau Prep.

There was a question about expanding this service to the rest of the state. It was clarified that J. Hoesly works for South Central Library System and only has access to their patron data through their local ILS. However, she is working to document the workflows she is using and make those available to others that are interested in doing something similar with their system/library data.

There was also a concern about patron privacy with using birthdays. When using Tableau Public, it was noted that you can restrict the data set from being downloaded and J. Hoesly currently is using the birth date range similar to the census, not specific birth dates.

Slides from the presentation [can be found here](#).

**b. Discussion and action: Form Board Nominations Committee**

It is time to form the Nominations Committee that will solicit candidates to be the Board Chair, Vice-Chair, and Liaison to the Steering Committee. The positions will serve the 2019 calendar year. There were no volunteers for the Committee. S. Morrill will send out an email to recruit volunteers.

**c. Discussion and action: Steering Committee seat apportionment**

Each year, the Board should be validating the Steering Committee seat apportionment by agreeing upon the percentage of Buying Pool contribution that represents a seat, and determining if the seats are allocated by the percentage. WiLS is proposing the following percentages, which would allow the allocations to remain the same for 2019: 1% - 5%: 1 seat, 6% - 10%: 2 seats, >11%: 3 seats.

K. Anderson moved to approve the proposed percentages for Steering Committee seat apportionment. L. Swartz-Truesdell seconded. Motion passed.

**d. Discussion and action: Steering Committee job description**

Each year, the Board affirms the Steering Committee job description for the following year. The group was asked if there were any concerns or requested changes to the current Steering Committee job description. There were none.

S. Ohs moved to approve the current Steering Committee job description. M. Welch seconded. Motion passed.

**e. Discussion and request for volunteers to review brochure**

At the request of the Board, WiLS has developed a draft brochure for the consortium. The brochure's intended audience is the WPLC members and the purpose is to provide a better understanding of what the WPLC does and help to create ideas for future WPLC projects. Before bringing it to the whole Board for approval, project managers are looking for 2-3 partners who would be willing to review the brochure and offer feedback.

M. Welch, J. Anderson, A. Hamland, S. Heser, and M. Mercier volunteered to review and provide feedback.

**f. Discussion: Project manager role in responding to national issues/advocating**

As WiLS prepares their project management agreement for 2019, one of the roles that is not currently listed in the agreement, but that could be beneficial and is already, to some extent, taking place, is responding to national issues and advocating on behalf of WPLC. For example, while individual libraries were encouraged to respond to the recent decision by Tor to embargo titles, it may be more valuable for WPLC to respond. WiLS has, in the past, developed letters with the help of the Board chair and/or Steering chair and/or other members of the bodies, and would like to continue in that role, but wanted to discuss with the Board prior to including it in the agreement. There was a question about additional time required for the project managers to include this. Project managers do not anticipate much time involved for responding to these types of issues. Board members were open to adding this to the contract. Any additional comments or thoughts from Board members on this can be sent to project managers.

**g. Discussion and possible action: Forming a formula review workgroup**

Over the past year, there have been two changes to the Advantage program that could impact circulation data used in the formula for dividing the costs of the buying pool, Advantage Plus and the hold reduction amounts in Advantage accounts for all systems. WiLS would like to have a workgroup review these changes and discuss the impact on the formula.

M. Van Pelt (tentative), M. Mercier, J. Schmidt, M. Welch volunteered for the workgroup.

**h. Discussion: Content areas not included in BadgerLink**

Two content areas, language learning and LitFinder, will not be included in BadgerLink. One of them was included in the past; the other was anticipated to be included but will not be funded. The group was asked if they would like WPLC to pursue a statewide purchase for either of these areas.

The cost is \$52,000 for LitFinder and \$69,000 for Transparent Languages. This price is for two years and includes access for all Wisconsin residents.

A. Hamland noted that it would be a hard sell for WVLS to fund these and the other potential projects. The group discussed usage of these products. LitFinder's total usage for 2015 was 8,068, for 2016 it was 4,731, and for 2017 it was 4,399. There are no statistics for the language product, as that was to be a new addition. IFLS and WRLS are interested in the Languages database. OWLS is not interested in LitFinder, but agrees that it is a great price for Transparent Languages. MCFLS also may be interested in the language learning database. NFLS may be interested in the language database as well.

M. Welch wanted to know what formula would be used for billing. The consortium cannot create a formula based on usage because it does not exist, but could do it based on population. Project managers will send out additional information about potential cost and to gain a better understanding of interest.

**i. Discussion: Potential 2019 R&D projects**

This is a standing item that the Board considers each year around this time. It was asked if anyone has ideas or know of potential projects that might be good R&D projects for WPLC?

J. Schmidt asked if there were any other online databases or resources for the group to explore that other states are doing? WiLS will ask other state consortia about this. The group would also like thoughts

from the Steering Committee about potential projects. Project managers will ask the Steering Committee about potential 2019 R&D projects at their next meeting in September.

**j. Discussion: 2019 meeting schedule**

It is time to set the 2019 meeting schedule. The group agreed to maintain a similar schedule to the current year. The Board currently meets five times per year: February, May (in person with WAPL), June, August, and October (in person with WLA). Project managers will send out meeting dates for February, June and August.

**5. Old business**

**a. Discussion: Idea for new project for local music**

As WiLS has shared information about WPLC's new BiblioBoard projects and products for writers these last two months, a common question came up about similar services for Wisconsin musicians. In particular, multiple libraries have expressed that they are interested in a statewide project to collect or aggregate and provide access to music from local artists, curated by local librarians. Examples of similar projects like these on a smaller scale include the Madison-area [Yahara Music Library](#) and [least one Milwaukee radio station](#) that has done similar work making music from local bands available. [Here is an example](#) of a member of the library community, Steev Baker of Sun Prairie Public Library, hatching a project plan on Facebook. Considerations for this project could include but are not limited to platform and functionality, collection scope, money or support for artists, money or support for digitization, as well as partnerships with independent studios, arts organizations, and radio stations.

The Board began discussion at the June meeting, but felt that they wanted to get feedback from their members prior to having a more extensive discussion of the topic.

K. Anderson reported that a WRLS member was very interested in this. MCFLS is talking about this in their September directors' meeting. BLS, NWLS and WVLS do not have interest. E. Bend reported that Appleton has signed a contract with MUSICat. However, they think that it may not scale down well to smaller libraries. If there was a way to piggy back on larger libraries doing this, it would be worth looking at, but bigger libraries might be able to do this project on their own. A. Hamland and T. Vreeke agreed with E. Bend.

The consensus is that right now the larger libraries could collaborate together and WPLC could learn from them and talk again in a year. Project managers can reach out to those that have signed with MUSICat and reach out to MUSICat as well to see if there is any potential for involvement with smaller libraries and then circle back on this topic in a year.

**b. Discussion: Potential Models for Buying Pool Increase**

The WPLC Collection Development Workgroup for 2018 recommended that the Steering Committee and Board consider developing a mechanism for a regular annual increase toward the buying pool (currently \$1,000,000) or the holds reduction amount (currently \$150,000). The Workgroup proposed that the Steering Committee and Board discuss options for a regular annual increase and prepare a recommendation for the 2019 Collection Development Workgroup to consider as part of their work. The Steering Committee discussed a document with some potential options at their May meeting, and the Board discussed the same document at their June meeting.

WiLS shared the feedback from the Board and Steering Committee with the Collection Development workgroup, and found that opinions about an increase and the type of increase vary widely. As a result,

WiLS would like to propose that the Board take a portion of its in-person meeting at WLA to have a more in-depth discussion of some proposals, and invite Steering Committee members and Collection Development Workgroup members to participate in the discussion.

The group agreed to having an open conversation at the October meeting, held in person at WLA. Sample budgets will be prepared for the meetings. Data and information will be sent out in September ahead of the meeting for partners to review and share with members in advance of the meeting.

**6. Information sharing from partners**

J. DeBacher checked with TechSoup and Tableau is available to non-profits for \$58 per year.

**7. Meeting evaluation**

How did the meeting go? Was everyone participating? How might we improve for our next meeting?

There was a lot of good chat participation.

**8. Adjourn**

Next meeting: October 23, 2018 in person at WLA in La Crosse

Motion to adjourn made by J. Schmidt and seconded by S. Ohs. Motion Passed.

Meeting ended at 2:48 PM.