



JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT (JCLD)  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**  
Medford Branch Library  
Large Meeting Room  
205 S Central Ave, Medford, OR  
July 20, 2022, 4:00 p.m.

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## MINUTES

### ATTENDEES

Present at the meeting were: Board Members Eric Dziura (President), Jill Turner (Vice President), Susan Kiefer, Viki Brown and Kim Young.

Additional attendees: Kari May (Library Director), Kelda Vath (Assistant Director, Support Services), Brynn Fogerty (HR Manager), Ginny Auer (Foundation Executive Director), Brittany Brite (Finance Manager), Jacquelyn Bunick (Legal Counsel), Lewis Mauer (Branch Manager, Eagle Point), Olivia Peasley (Administrative Assistant), and Val Nowak (Executive Assistant)

Guests: additional JCLS staff members and local community members

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President Dziura called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Roll call was taken, and the land acknowledgement read.

### ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

**MOTION:** Director Turner moved to nominate Eric Dziura for the role of Board President for the duration of Fiscal Year 2023. Dziura accepted the nomination, and was voted into the position unanimously.

**MOTION:** Director Kiefer moved to nominate Viki Brown for the role of Vice President for the duration of Fiscal Year 2023. Brown accepted the nomination, and was voted into the position unanimously.

### CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** Director Kiefer moved to approve the agenda. Director Young seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**MOTION:** Director Turner requested to remove the June 15, 2022, Board Meeting minutes from the consent agenda. Director Kiefer then moved to approve the remaining consent agenda item. Director Brown seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

### ORAL REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE

A significant community audience was present, and President Dziura allotted 45 minutes for the public communication period. Fourteen attendees shared comments, both virtually and in-person, which focused primarily on issues regarding Library neutrality, and the effect the Library has on community polarization. Some residents raised concerns regarding the Land Acknowledgement Policy on the agenda, stating that they felt it misrepresented local Tribes, and that it promoted a progressive ideology. Others spoke regarding concerns with mandatory staff training, use of pronouns, and issues with mask enforcement last Fall. Several individuals spoke regarding issues with safety and policing in the Library and Downtown area.

A few people spoke in appreciation of the library for providing access to all perspectives, recognizing the work and thought that went into the formation of a land acknowledgement statement, and that libraries should be equitable and welcome to everyone. Many of commenters requested that the Library strive to provide

balanced perspectives, and to follow their mission of serving all residents of Jackson County.

## **REPORTS**

### **Library Director's Report**

Director May shared highlights from the Director's Report including a report from the ALA Annual Conference, where she had served on a panel regarding Health Literacy Programs in libraries. She provided an update regarding the Summer Reading Program and noted that the DART van celebrated its one-year anniversary in June. May also shared that JCLS staff recently met with Medford Police and representatives from the City of Medford, the Medford Urban Renewal Agency (MURA), and local Police regarding policing issues in the Medford Library and parking lot. In response to concerns regarding illegal activities on library property, May clarified that the lot is owned by MURA, and she stressed that illegal activity on library property and in the lot is being reported to authorities, and that emergency services are responding when appropriate.

In response to the report, Director Brown commented that she appreciates updates regarding the Summer Reading Program, and that she particularly enjoyed reading about the collaborative firefighter storytime in Jacksonville.

### **Jackson County Library Foundation Report**

Director Auer announced the Foundation officers for FY2023 and thanked her Board for their hard work and leadership. She commented on the progress made in FY2022, and that it laid the foundation for positivity and optimism for the year to come.

### **Quarterly Statistics Report**

Assistant Director of Support Services Kelda Vath shared the year-end statistical report regarding. Overall, trends have increased slightly, though some metrics are still below pre-pandemic levels.

After the presentation, Director Dziura extended appreciation for library staff and thanked Vath for the reports, particularly because it illustrates the results of staff efforts and highlights the variety of services the library provides.

May added that the State Library will be opening their annual statistical report soon, and that the data included will provide opportunities to compare JCLS to the State statistics. She estimated that the draft report will be presented to the Board later this Fall, and that the analysis of reported data is generally released in January of the following year.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Land Acknowledgement Policy**

**MOTION:** On behalf of the Policy Committee, Dziura shared a summary of the Land Acknowledgement Policy, and moved that, in light of recent communication, the agenda item of policy approval be tabled in order to provide the Board time to review and reconsider the matter. Director Brown seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

### **District Organizational Items for FY22/23**

May provided a summary of annual organizational items, and recommended approval of items 1-7.

**MOTION:** Director Turner moved for approval of Organizational Items 1-7. Director Kiefer seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

### **Hours Study Proposal**

May summarized the process of the Hours Study and presented the final proposal, which outlines a three-phased approach to expand Library hours across the District.

Director Turner expressed concern about the length of the phases and asked if there was a possibility of

accelerating the timeline. May responded that the phases had to accommodate long-term event and program planning as well as staff recruitment and training in an unstable job market. She acknowledged that hours expansion may be accomplished early, but the consensus was that it was better to have a realistic goal that would avoid any potential delays.

Board Members then discussed concerns that proposed hours in outlying branches may not be accommodating to working families. Upper Rogue Area Manager Lewis Mauer cited the staffing challenges that affect the Butte Falls and Prospect branches, and he and May included that the FY2023 budget includes funds to pursue technology solutions that will increase rural access.

**MOTION:** Director Turner moved to adopt the additional hours as presented. Director Kiefer seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Director Turner concluded with an appreciation for the dedication and work of committees, staff, and the Board, and celebrated the culmination of a nine-year effort to expand Library hours and access.

### **Strategic Plan Dashboard**

May summarized the Strategic Plan Dashboard tool and stated that she will include a monthly update regarding the strategic plan goals in the Director's Report. She proposed that a more fulsome progress report be presented regularly as well, on a schedule that the Board should discuss and determine. An implementation plan for the upcoming year is in the finalization process and will be shared with the Board soon.

### **Talent Urban Renewal Agency**

Director May shared an update regarding the TURA plan that was recently released, and the financial impact that the proposed plan would have on the District. She then shared a letter to TURA that the Finance Committee had drafted and is presenting to the Board for consideration. Finance Manager Brittany Brite summarized the letter and shared that the District is not opposed to the TURA plan, but that the District has concerns regarding the impact on funding for Library Services, clarification on included urban renewal boundaries, and the potential benefits of the Talent Library being within the proposed boundary.

Director Young commented that the District is supportive of Alameda Fire recovery efforts, and that by including a letter from the Board during the TURA public comment period, it would ensure that questions and concerns be addressed and answered by the Agency.

**MOTION:** Director Young moved to authorize the signing and execution of the drafted letter. Director Dziura seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Resolution 2023-01: To Authorize Checking Account, Designated Personnel and Signers**

Brite shared a summary of the resolution and outlined the changes to the designated personnel and signers authorized on the JCLD checking account.

**MOTION:** Director Dziura moved to approve Resolution 2023-01 to Authorize Checking Account, Designated Personnel, and Signers. Director Turner seconded, and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

#### **Resolution 2023-02: To Authorize LGIP Account, Designated Personnel and Signers**

Brite shared a summary of the resolution and outlined the changes to the designated personnel and signers authorized on the JCLD LGIP account.

**MOTION:** Director Turner moved to approve Resolution 2023-02 to Authorize LGIP Account, Designated Personnel, and Signers. Director Dziura seconded, and the resolution was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

## **COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

### **Finance Committee**

Director Turner shared details regarding the work that the Finance Committee did in reviewing the quarterly statistics report and reported that the Committee decided to delay analyzing the end-of-year data until staff had time to compile a report. Young also reported on the ongoing work for the FY 2020 audit.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660 (2)(3)**

The Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(3), and rejoined the public meeting already in session at 6:06 p.m. No decisions were made, and no action was taken as a result of the session.

The Board briefly discussed planning details for the August Retreat, and President Dziura mentioned that the August Board Meeting will likely to be changed to alternate date and/or location to accommodate for the SDAO training session on August 17.

### **ADJOURN**

President Dziura adjourned the meeting at 6:11p.m.

/s/ Val Nowak  
Recording Secretary