

OHIO LIBRARY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Via Zoom
May 19, 2023
10:00 A.M.

- PRESENT Kathy Bach, Cincinnati
Julianne Bedel, Medina (virtual)
Sarah Clevidence, Findlay
Tom Dillie, Minerva
Aimee Fifarek, Youngstown
Carol Herrick, Centerville
Mary Ellen Icaza, Canton (virtual)
Robbie Jenkins, Gallipolis (virtual)
Cheryl Kuonen, Mentor (virtual)
Melissa Marolt, New Lexington
Rick Rubin, Cuyahoga Falls
Jennifer Slone, Chillicothe
Laura Lee Wilson, Huron County, Willard
- GUESTS Michael Goldberg, Perks, Pusateri & Company
Wendy Knapp, State Library of Ohio
Nick Tepe, ALA Councilor (virtual)
Don Yarman, OPLIN
- STAFF Michelle Francis, Executive Director
Jeanine D'Andrea, Director, Membership Services
Angie Jacobsen, Director, Communications
Denise Kise, Accounting/Data Services
Laurie Miller, Director, Professional Development
Jay Smith, Director of Government and Legal Services
- CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 10:03 a.m. Wilson welcomed members and guests, and acknowledged members who were attending virtually. She noted that Michael Goldberg from Perks, Pusateri & Company would be joining us to discuss the 2022 OLC Audit.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA FIFAREK MOVED AND RUBIN SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES HERRICK MOVED AND CLEVIDENCE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 10, 2023, MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- FINANCIAL REPORT
MONTH-END MARCH Francis presented the financial report for Month-End March 2023.
- Revenue. Dues income was over budget by \$55,700. Institutional dues are over budget by \$53,445 due to timing of payments and Individual membership is over budget by \$1,930. Continuing Education is over budget by \$54,420. Legislative Day was over budget due to attendance and timing of payments. Convention and Expo is over budget due to early sponsorships and workshops are over budget due to strong attendance and response to hybrid approach. Other Income is over

budget \$21,847. Interest and Dividends are over budget \$4,348 due to returns. Workers' Compensation is under budget due to timing of payments and BWC rebates. JobLine is over budget due to out-of-state postings and Management/Consulting Revenue is slightly over budget due to increases in library hiring.

Expenses. Salaries and benefits are over budget \$12,208 due to accrued vacation and timing of payments of payroll taxes. The Board made adjustments in March in Executive Session. Health insurance is under budget due to selection of plan. Consultants and contractors is under budget \$5,463. Speaker honoraria is over budget due to timing of payments. Legal Services is under budget due to timing of payments. Supplies and resources are under budget due to subscription/resource materials due to timing of payments. Communications are under budget \$176 due to the timing of payments for Internet and telephone charges. Printing and Design is under budget. Maintenance and Equipment is under budget due to equipment rental. Equipment maintenance is slightly over budget due to the timing of payments. Space rental is over budget due to timing of payment and CAM. Workshops are slightly over budget due to timing of events. Travel is under budget due to timing of reimbursements and payments. Management Expenses are under budget. Investment fees are over budget due to reporting based on auditor recommendation. Depreciation is slightly over budget. Organization memberships are under budget due to timing of renewals. Staff Development and Memberships are under budget due to timing of renewals and Catering and Other Meals is under budget due to timing of payments.

The Net Change in Assets is \$140,989.

HERRICK MOVED AND RUBIN SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MONTH-END MARCH 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2022 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Francis introduced Michael Goldberg, Perks Pusateri & Company. She noted this is the fourth year they have prepared the OLC Audit. Francis thanked Denise Kise for her good work on the audit preparation.

Goldberg gave an overview of the audit and reported the accounting process has proper oversight and approvals. He noted that OLC received a clean opinion, meaning that the financial statements referred to in the report are presented fairly, in all material respects.

Goldberg noted he will update the pension expenses with the new percentage before the final audit is delivered. Goldberg expressed his gratitude for a very solid, very organized audit. Wilson expressed her thanks to Denise Kise for her work on the audit.

Francis reminded the Board that Brian Moore from Morgan Stanley will be attending the July Board meeting to update the Board on OLC's investments.

Francis mentioned that the Board can take action on the draft audit report or have the Finance Committee meet and provide further review. HERRICK MOVED AND FIFAREK SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE DRAFT AUDIT, AS IT IS A CLEAN OPINION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The OLC Nominating Committee conducted a virtual meeting on May 2 to discuss the potential candidates for the 2023 OLC Board of Directors elections. Participants included Laura Lee Wilson, Ex-Officio; Tom Dillie, Chair;

Kathy Bach; Debbie Saunders; Nieca Nowels, Michael Penrod and OLC staff members Michelle Francis and Jeanine D'Andrea.

Dillie added that we had to do some work toward geographic representation. Francis had some additional suggestions from members across the state. We do have the option of not slating candidates in certain slots. Dillie feels the slate is reasonable with geographic representation and size of library. It is all consistent with what is within the Code of Regulations.

The Committee recommends the following slate of candidates for election to three-year terms beginning in January 2024.

MLIS Director [one to be elected]

Travis Bautz, Executive Director, MidPointe Library System
Betsy Eggers, Director, Napoleon Public Library

Library Trustee Director [one to be elected]

Sandra Hedlund Tunnell, Trustee, Ashland Public Library
Lynn Mercer, Trustee, Kate Love Simpson Morgan County Library

At-Large Director [one to be elected]

Mary Ellen Icaza, CEO and Executive Director, Stark County Library, *Incumbent*

At-Large Director [one to be elected]

Stacey Russell, Executive Director, Muskingum County Library System

SLONE MOVED AND CLEVIDENCE SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Yarman noted that Bautz is currently on the OPLIN Board and would need to resign if elected.

2023 OLC CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

The OLC Board of Directors is responsible for identifying nominees and selecting the winner of the OLC Citizen of the Year Award. Nominations for the Citizen of the Year will be solicited from the membership through announcements in *Access Weekly* and *This Week*, and on the OLC website. Staff will make recommendations to the OLC Board at the meeting on July 14.

STATE BUDGET UPDATE

Smith reported on the State Budget. The OLC testified before the Ohio Senate Finance Committee this week and urged lawmakers to maintain funding for public libraries at a minimum of 1.7% of the state's General Revenue Fund. OLC's Executive Director Michelle Francis explained how libraries are essential to the communities they serve. She provided specific examples of what libraries did during the pandemic and what they continue to do today, such as expanding digital collections and providing internet access, homework help, and job search assistance. Jay Smith, OLC's Director of Government and Legal Services, told lawmakers that the demand for library services is continuing to increase, and that keeping up with that growing demand is only possible with adequate state funding. He asked that the committee increase the PLF should the Senate make any reductions to the state's General Revenue Fund. A transcript is available at libraryfunding.olic.org.

Rubin asked why we are asking to restore the replacement levy language in the budget legislation. Replacement levies can benefit local governments and libraries in areas that have seen substantial growth since the original levy was passed. This is an option that both libraries and local governments won't want to see eliminated.

OLC CHAIR'S REPORT

Wilson reported it was her pleasure to attend all the Trustee Dinners. She had a good report on CPIM. OLC Legislative Day was a huge success and thanked all OLC staff for their hard work.

ALA COUNCILOR'S REPORT

In addition to his written report, Tepe reported on the following:

ALA Elections. The revised bylaws did pass with 93.8%. Cindy Hohl will be your 2024-2025 ALA President.

Book Challenges Update. ALA announced new data documenting 1,269 demands to censor library books and resources in 2022. ALA developed a group of volunteers working across the country to assist with the efforts against book banning.

Tepe will be attending the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

STATE LIBRARY REPORT

In addition to her written report, Knapp reported on the following:

Mission Statement. The SLO is working on a refresh of the mission and vision statement.

State Library Budget – The 5% increase was not kept in the House version of the budget.

New Position. Staff are working on the Job Description for the Manager of Research position.

Ohio Digital Library. ODL reports over 3 million items have been checked out. The use of e-books is growing so fast.

Statewide Delivery. Staff are working to not raise the cost next year. SLO will be managing delivery with Priority. We are still seeing higher fuel charges.

LSTA. The IMLS reauthorization is coming up.

OhioLINK. OhioLINK announces the consortium has received funding through the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) for its 117 members to replace its shared Integrated Library System (ILS). OhioLINK will be able to leverage cooperative purchasing power and shared technical expertise using capital funds to cover the cost of the software and the migration process for its member institutions. The RFP has gone out.

OPLIN REPORT

In addition to his written report, Yarman reported on the following:

OPLIN Board. The SLO Board appointed Meredith Wickham, Grove City to the OPLIN Board as well as Jennifer Reynard, Cuyahoga Falls; and CJ Stephens, Chillicothe.

Statewide Databases. The SLO Board approved \$1,534,922 in LSTA funds to support the new package of statewide database subscriptions proposed by OPLIN, INFOhio and OhioLINK. The package retains EBSCO, World Book, Oxford Reference collection and Chilton Library. Transparent Language was dropped. EBSCO launched interface changes. These changes will be phased in over the summer. The recording of a May 18 webinar demonstrating the new interfaces will be available from OPLIN's YouTube channel.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Genealogy Database Renewal. Renewal negotiations are on-going. Ancestry will be renewed.

Library Websites. Staff are working to let library websites know when they expire.

In addition to her written report, Francis reported on the following:

E-book. Francis thanked Knapp and Kirstin Krumsee Ziegler at State Library of Ohio. They report that e-book usage and Wi-Fi usage is increasing by 57%.

Institutional Membership Dues. 247 public library systems are institutional members as of May 12. The four libraries who have not paid for many years still have not paid. We continue to do outreach.

Library Levy Issues. Voters approved six of the seven public library levies on local ballots around Ohio. Napoleon Public Library's levy did not pass. OLC offered our support.

OLC Staff Anniversaries. Francis acknowledged staff anniversaries.

Angie Jacobsen – 7 years

Laurie Miller – 2 years

Ro Swanson – 23 years

Francis thanked the entire OLC staff for their hard work. She noted March and April were extremely busy and that the staff have been amazing.

Trustee Dinners. Francis thanked Wilson and Knapp for coming to the SW Trustee dinner and thanked all Board members who were able to attend the Trustee Dinners.

CPIM Conference. The CPIM Conference had good evaluations. Information will evolve and be updated due to new questions they received from Fiscal Officers.

State Auditor's Office. The State Auditor's Office will issue a Levy FAQ soon.

Division Merger. Discussion regarding the merger of the Reference and Information Services and Adult Services Divisions will be held next Monday.

Survey to Divisions. A survey was sent to 120 division leaders for feedback with 30 responses. We will send responses to the Board.

GOVERNMENT AND
LEGAL SERVICES
REPORT

In addition to his written report, Smith reported on the following:

PLF Update. The ODT posted the May 2023 distribution of \$47,854,786 which is \$8.68 million (or -15.36%) below ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2022; and \$1.5 million (or -3.05%) below ODT's updated estimate issued in December 2022.

OLC Legislative Day. Smith thanked all those that participated. It made an impact with legislators based on the feedback received. Smith also thanked the libraries that participated in the showcase: Cincinnati, Stark, Toledo, Shelby, Greene Co, Upper Arlington, Bossard Memorial, and Cuyahoga County. Smith also acknowledged Columbus Metro Library for Curious George.

Fifarek thanked OLC for a great Legislative Day.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

In addition to her written report, Miller reported on the following:

2023 Convention and Expo. Staff and volunteers are working behind the scenes. 150 speaker agreements have been mailed out. The exhibitor prospectus and Save the Date postcard will be mailed out in May. The Duke Energy Convention Center renegotiated our space to Exhibit Hall B from C at no additional cost.

2025 Convention. Shonna Nitzel, Maritz Global Events sent out an RFP to Cleveland, Sandusky and Columbus for the 2025 OLC Convention and Expo.

2024 PLA Convention. OLC had conversations with Drew Wichterman and Joel Mantey on topics for possible selection which were due by May 1. OLC submitted several ideas. OLC staff are waiting for PLA's response.

Professional Development. The Library Facilities Conference is in July and the Outreach Retreat in August are being finalized and registration will open soon. The Professional Development Committee is gathering information from a survey to public libraries whether they promote OLC's certification program.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

In addition to her written report, Jacobsen reported on the following:

Legislative Day. Jacobsen thanked Board members for embracing photo opportunities on Legislative Day. There were 22,000+ twitter impressions, including re-tweets from Legislators. Coverage of OLC's Legislative Day made the Governor's weekly media report.

Library Levies. A press release was sent about Ohio voters approving six out of seven public library levies.

OLC Library Funding Website. New resources were added including a white paper for use with the Ohio Senate, talking points, social media and contact information for the Ohio General Assembly, and customizable materials.

Social Media. The OLC's Twitter page celebrated a milestone by surpassing 3,000 followers.

Website. The most popular pages on the OLC website over the past two months are: JobLine; Legislative Day, What's Happening in Ohio's Public Libraries; and Access LinkedIn Learning Courses with your Library Card.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT

In addition to her written report, D'Andrea reported on the following:

2023 Membership. There are 2235 Individual Members of OLC as of May 8. The Membership Committee met via Zoom on March 23 and discussed the new member update, quick poll of those libraries who pay OLC staff dues; Lifetime Membership; and New member update.

2023 Nominations. Slates of candidates for Division Action Councils were due by April 1. D'Andrea continues to work with each division coordinator to fill openings on ballots. Ballots will be mailed by June 30.

Awards and Honors. The Awards and Honors Committee met March 22. The deadline for submissions was extended from April 30 to May 7. The Committee will meet on June 8 to review the submissions and will prepare recommendations for the Board's consideration at their July Board meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wilson acknowledged Tom Dillie on behalf of the OLC Board as outgoing Chair of the Board and for his retirement. Dillie will remain on the board through the end of 2023. A clock was presented to Dillie.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be July 14 in-person at the OLC Office. The Sept 15 meeting will be via Zoom; November 17 in-person.

Francis noted that June is pride month and some people have put out misinformation regarding LGBTQ+ and drag queen story times. If you or your staff have concerns, please call OLC so we will be aware.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.