

**Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Whitman County Library
May 15, Endicott Branch Library**

Present: Steve Balzarini, Andrea Miller, Suzanne Schmick, Heather Lustig, Bob Bates, Kristie Kirkpatrick, Catalina Flores, Tia Langston and guest, Bruce Porubek

Chairman Bob Bates called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Bob asked if there were any additions or modifications to the agenda and there were none.

New Business:

Kristie introduced WCL Branch Coordinator Catalina Flores and Endicott Branch Manager Tia Langston. She praised their top quality work and the fact they've been with the library for 10 years and 4.5 years respectively.

Kristie shared information about the Endicott Branch which has contracted with WCL since 1946 while Tia shared her experiences and love of her position in Endicott.

April Library supporter of the Month was 4th grade Tekoa teacher Kim Schultz while Etol Lillard and her therapy dog Chesso of Endicott will be honored for May.

Monthly Business

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

Financial reports including the monthly payroll and accounts payable vouchers of \$83,882.17 and the MasterCard transactions were presented. There was no additional discussion and Resolution #2017-11 was approved by a vote of the board.

The Library usage report by Kristie included great news regarding library checkouts. Digital book checkouts are finally reaching the 1000+ mark so when you combine that with traditional checkouts, the overall materials checkouts are no longer dropping!

For March 2017 traditional checkouts dropped by 9% but Oakesdale posted an impressive 90% increase in checkouts. Program attendance remained strong with Teen and adult programs seeing large increases. All of the additional measures at the bottom of the page are strong as well. Tech Tuesdays are really focusing on Overdrive eBook and audio book support and trying to raise the circulation of that collection. Oakesdale saw a 90% increase in checkouts.

The trends continued in April with traditional circulation dropping by 5% but if one includes digital book usage, WCL would actually see a 5% increase in checkouts. Garfield, Oakesdale and Tekoa posted strong usage in April. Program attendance remained very high and use of the Free Little Libraries doubled from last month. Most impressive were huge increases in the use of Heritage Quest and the Rural Heritage Collection.

Continuing Business:

Kristie reported that The Center was awarded a \$100,000 grant from .09 funds, a \$5000 donation from the Colfax Thrifty Grandmothers and \$1000 donation from INB honoring Jon Kehne. Only \$1000 remains to meet the matching requirement for the .09 grant.

With IMLS funding in question beyond 2017, Board members were encouraged to show their support of this valuable federal funding that supports local technology equipment and training, Rural Heritage and eBooks. Kristie shared updated information from Washington State Library detailing IMLS funds they administer to the 9th legislative district.

Board members commented that they are pleased to be receiving more library related information as was suggested during the April Board retreat at Asotin County Library.

Kristie reminded the Board of a small claims court date with Steve Bravard on Friday, May 19 at 11 a.m. Steve is suing The Friends of WCL related to his work on The Center. He previously lost a suit to the Friends that required him to reimburse the group for repairs that had to be made to his work.

Kristie share information on upcoming library events.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

After some discussion, the Board decided to hold their next meeting on Monday, June 12. Kristie is exploring branch locations and will contact the board in the coming weeks with exact times and locations.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15.

Kristie Kirkpatrick, Library Director

Bob Bates, Board Chair