

MINUTES
Mississippi Library Commission
Virtual Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

May 25, 2021

Board of Commissioners (BOC) Present via Zoom: Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh (*at MLC*) and Becky Wright

Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) Staff Present via Zoom: Hulen Bivins, Lynn Burris, Tracy Carr, Ethel Dunn, Kristina Kelly, and Jennifer Peacock

Guests via Zoom: Jay Woods, Special Assistant Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cunetto called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

AGENDA

Recommendation: *Adopt agenda as presented.*
Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Jolee Hussey
Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

MINUTES

Recommendation: *Approve minutes of the regular meeting on March 23, 2021.*
Motion: Jolee Hussey; *Second:* Ann Marsh
Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Hussey announced that effective July 1, 2021, Lori Barnes will be the new director of the First Regional Library System. Commissioner Barnes stated that she is very excited to have this opportunity and looks forward to working with the First Regional Library community, trustees, and staff. Commissioner Marsh suggested the board think about resuming in-person meetings in September. After some discussion the board unanimously decided to meet in person at the Mississippi Library Commission building for the September meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

National Legislation/Grant Funding – Executive Director Hulen Bivins gave an overview of the grant opportunities available to Mississippi public libraries from three federal sources/programs. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will provide more than \$2 million to each state to support library services on a one-time basis beyond the LSTA program. Libraries will also be eligible for additional federal funding under the new Emergency Connectivity Fund provided through the FCC's E-rate program, and the "Grants to States" program will be funded for the upcoming year as well. Waiting for approval by Congress for the "Build America's Libraries Act" that would allow for library facility improvements and does not mandate that funding projects have to have a match. A funding level of \$5 billion nationally is proposed. MLC staff will be managing these programs concurrently.

Budget – MLC received positive results from the FY22 legislative session, including: restoration of general funding to the FY21 levels; funding to cover the loss in federal funding caused by the MOE provisions; authorization for an additional PIN, funding to cover the increased cost of health insurance premiums for public library employees.

MLC Financials – The grant program payments were all made on time during the reporting period. The remaining balances for the year include: State General funds, Federal funds and Special Federal COVID relief funds.

Reporting/Audit – The LSTA quarterly grant report and the state’s MAGIC Quarterly Security Report were completed and submitted during the reporting period.

Employee Update:

New Hires – Betty Moore (*Library Services*)

Separations – Abigail Macoy and Daniel Warren (*Library Services*)

MLC Newsletter – The Spring issue of the *On the Same Page* newsletter was distributed.

Podcasts – Four new podcasts were released during the reporting period with 206 listening session downloads.

Continuing Education – CE staff have conducted five virtual trainings, 13 webinars offered, and 108 virtual trainings provided to patent users.

Talking Book Statistics – 51 new users registered for the service, total patron number is now 5,139, 24,042 items were circulated with 9,112 BARD downloads, and 618 requests were handled through Large Print Direct.

MLC Library Use Statistics – During March-April, MLC’s Library Development department provided 778 consulting hours of service working with libraries, 70 library systems in the state received direct contact in some manner from the Library Development staff; 8 site visits were completed by Tech Services; there were received 1,789 Beehive Resource Sharing requests, 1,288 requests filled, and 14,301 titles cataloged; 84 Tech Services Helpdesk tickets for staff and 126 Helpdesk tickets responding to the public libraries were handled successfully. **MAGNOLIA databases** use totaled 9,663,626 searches. Other stats: 1,446 LearningExpress sessions; 6,579 Hoopla checkouts; and on social media (3,406 Facebook; 1,549 Instagram; 2,445 Twitter; and 3,243 YouTube views for 408 hours).

Technology – Tech Department staff completed 157 E-rate applications/reimbursements and continued to assist libraries with AT&T billing issues. The full switch to CSpire is scheduled for August 1.

Other News – As this fiscal year ends, one member of the Board of Commissioners term will expire. We will be reaching out to the Governor’s appointment director.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was provided by Jennifer Peacock, Administrative Services Bureau Director. This report included expenditures as of April 30, 2021, currently on target with all expenditures.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU REPORT

Jennifer Peacock, Administrative Services Bureau Director, reported that the Technology Department has been very busy working on the CSpire rollout. To date, two public libraries are officially online with CSpire and the anticipated switch date for all libraries is August 1. The agency newsletter *On the Same Page* now includes interactive videos and podcasts.

LIBRARY SERVICES BUREAU REPORT

Tracy Carr, Library Services Bureau Director, gave an update on the RBDigital service. She reported that 13 webinars have been conducted in the past two months and three new short podcasts are available. Currently, MLC is open by appointment only, will be evaluating how the soft opening went before moving to next steps. In addition to the Collection Management Director, two more employees are now trained in assisting patrons with patent and trademark research.

ACTION ITEMS

Recommendation: *Approve the FY22 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022) slate of officers for the board of commissioners:*

Chair – Becky Wright

Vice Chair – Lori Barnes

Secretary – Jolee Hussey

Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Lori Barnes

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Adopt the FY22 budget for the Mississippi Library Commission based on the appropriation passed by the Mississippi Legislature and sent to the Governor, with modifications throughout the year as allowed by law and regulations as follows:*

FY22 Budget (lump sum appropriation)

\$ 2,538,597 Salaries

\$ 62,000 Travel

\$ 1,915,252 Contractual

\$ 284,000 Commodities

\$ 50,000 Capital Equipment

\$ 7,652,044 Subsidies, Loans & Grants

\$12,501,893 Total FY22 Budget

Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Becky Wright

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Approve a maintenance of effort waiver for the Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library.*

Motion: Jolee Hussey; *Second:* Ann Marsh

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Approve a maintenance of effort waiver for the Warren County-Vicksburg Public Library.*

Motion: Lori Barnes; *Second:* Ann Marsh

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Approve a maintenance of effort waiver for the Meridian-Lauderdale County Library.*

Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Jolee Hussey

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Approve a waiver for Dorothy Switzer for a period of one year from this date for the Humphreys County Library System to conduct an active search for a qualified director.*

Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Lori Barnes

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Approve a provisional director waiver for Sidney Cobb, Washington County Library System Director.*

Motion: Lori Barnes; *Second:* Ann Marsh

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

Recommendation: *Approve a one-year waiver for Angela Christoffer so that the Hancock County Library System can conduct an active search for a qualified director.*

Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Lori Barnes

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

ADJOURN

Recommendation: *Adjourn meeting at 12:10 p.m.*

Motion: Ann Marsh; *Second:* Jolee Hussey

Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey, Ann Marsh and Becky Wright*)

The next regular meeting of the Mississippi Library Commission Board of Commissioners is scheduled for July 27, 2021, 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Jolee Hussey

Jolee Hussey, Board Secretary

Aug 9, 2021

Date

Signature: 
Jolee Hussey (Aug 9, 2021 21:02 CDT)

Email: joleehussey@att.net







Minutes May 25 2021

Final Audit Report

2021-08-10

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