

MINUTES
Mississippi Library Commission
Virtual Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

November 16, 2021

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Recommendation: *Approve minutes of the regular meeting on September 28, 2021.*
Motion: Stephen Cunetto; *Second:* Ann Marsh
Action: Approved by unanimous roll call (*Stephen Cunetto, Ann Marsh, Lori Barnes, and Becky Wright*)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Commissioner Ann Marsh thanked Jennifer Peacock for her work on Board documents.
Commissioner Lori Barnes discussed public libraries transitioning to more in person activities and how staff are excited about this coming change.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Appointments – Commissioners Ann Marsh and Lori Barnes have been officially reappointed to the board by the Governor.

Correspondence from Attorney General Lynn Fitch – A letter was received advising Special Assistant Attorney General Royce Cole will be working with state boards and commissions, including MLC, on matters relating to Employee Appeals Board (EAB) appeals and EEOC proceedings.

Information Technology Services –A letter was received regarding issues with compliance in transfer of services for the Contract 5000 to state agencies. MLC was fully compliant.

COSLA Fall Meeting – Directors’ discussion was centered around funding opportunities for the states. Many opportunities for public libraries with the current funding levels available. This is a great opportunity for libraries.

MS IMLS Reports – As previously noted, the preparation for these reports is ongoing and will be delivered on time.

National Legislation / Grant Funding – Nothing new to report since last Board meeting. It is possible that the current administration will provide additional funding for broadband and other services for libraries.

MLC Financials- Payments are on schedule for this reporting period relating to state dollars for Health & Life insurance and PIGP.

Business Services Reporting - The LSTA grant report and the MAGIC security reports were completed on time.

Employee update – There are no new hires at MLC. Separations and/or Retirements:

Stanley Perry – Administrative Services
Mac Buntin - Library Services
Kristen Hillman – Library Services
Miranda Vaughn – Library Services
Sebastian Murdoch – Library Services

Tracy Carr is now the state data coordinator, position that was previously filled by Mac Buntin.

Library Use Statistics – The Library Development department provided 420 consulting hours reaching 90 libraries across the state. Beehive Resource Sharing received 1846 requests, and 81% of all requests were filled through Mississippi’s public libraries. MAGNOLIA reported 9,805,701 searches for the two month reporting period. LearningExpress had 2,827 sessions and there were 7,281 hoopla checkouts.

Technology – MLC helpdesk processed a total 262 service requests. Kudos to the Technology team for completion of the Contract 5000 conversion.

Legislative Session – The Mississippi legislative session begins January 4, 2022. Governor released budget with a 1% decrease in our appropriation.

*The next MLC Board meeting shall be on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 and will meet in person.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Delivered by Jennifer Peacock, Administrative Services Director. MLC has spent approximately five million of our 15 million appropriations which is on track for the FY22.

AGENCY REPORTS

Administrative Services – Grant Programs expended \$1,423,973.80 in funding. The building repairs are complete, but the project cannot be officially closed until the final inspection occurs. Technology Services has continued with their assessments for public libraries and usage of E-rate funds. Category 2 budgets have a stronger need with the increased internet speeds at libraries. Many thanks to Jennifer Todd, Director of Technology Services and her team for a job well done.

Library Services -The departure of long-term employees is always difficult; however, we are working through the transition. The staff shortage is most apparent in Library Development where we are down to two consultants for the 53 library systems.

ACTION ITEMS

NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Recommendation: *Chair Wright asks to meet in Executive Session*

Motion: Lori Barnes; *Second:* Stephen Cunetto

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

The Commission voted to enter into executive session in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7(4)(k) to discuss a personnel matter related to the employment of persons in specific positions at the Mississippi Library Commission.

Recommendation: *Chair Wright asks to return to regular session*

Motion: Lori Barnes; *Second:* Ann Marsh

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

During the executive session the Board voted unanimously to increase the salary of the Executive Director in the amount of 3% beginning January 2, 2022.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

NONE

Meeting closed at 11:56 am.

Jolee Hussey

Jolee Hussey (Jan 25, 2022 19:55 CST)

Jolee Hussey, Board Secretary

Jan 25, 2022

Date






Minutes from November Meeting for approval in January

Final Audit Report

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