



CLB Meeting Minutes for September 23rd, 2024

Attending:

Board Members:

Barbara Caffey, Chair, Small Cities/Dora; Laurie Nordahl, North Bend Outside City Limits; Carol Ventgan, North Bend Inside City Limits; Curt Benward, Coos Bay Inside City Limits; Cathy Larcom-Johnston, Small Cities/Dora;

Library Directors:

Cheryl Young, Lakeside Director; Jennifer Brownfield, Deputy Director Coos Bay; Sami Pierson, Coos Bay Library Director; Christine Kingsbury, Bandon Director; Teresa Lucas, Coquille Director; Haley Lagesse, North Bend Director; Joanie Bedwell, Powers Director; Amy Bruno, Myrtle Point Director; Stacey Nix, ESO Administrator. Lety De Los Santos, Dora Director.

Agenda Changes:

Add public comment after approval of the minutes

Minutes Approval:

Laurie moves to approve the minutes from the August 12th, 2024, meeting. Cathy seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Old Business:

Review of the distribution formula consultant's report

Laurie – First reaction is that after he went through the factors he came to the same conclusion and validated all the committee's work.

Barbara – Does not think reference questions should be used due to the many ways they are collected.

Laurie – Agreed.

Curt – Why did the consultant suggest reference questions?

Stacey – Libraries that he as worked with in the past have wanted to include all aspects of services.

Curt – Agrees with Laurie and Barbara that reference questions should not be used. Will not be voting today because it is new to the board and does not have all the background information. It feels that all the consultant did was redo the work that had already been done and made mistakes with the calculations that needed to be fixed by Stacey.

Cathy – All we asked him to do was give us a second opinion and that is what he gave us.

Teresa – Agrees with Curt. Was not happy with the work that was asked of the consultant. Does not feel that what the Commissioners asked us to do was completed. He should have come up with different formula options. Wanted to receive the information from the consultant as soon as it was received but received it 2 weeks later.

Stacey – Agrees that she should have sent sooner but it got lost in the shuffle as well as all the corrections that had to be made to the formulas took time to correct.

Barbara – Agrees that the consultants report should have been forwarded to the directors and the board sooner.

Stacey – Reiterates that what was in his scope of work was everything that was requested from the board.

Laurie – He did the work based on the proposal he gave us, and we asked of him.

Cathy – Working on additional formula options would have been phase 2 of the consultant and would have cost us much more money.

Sami – Regardless of what the consultant did, and any other formulas we have come up with, including Stacey's recreation of Ruth's formula idea. There are no major changes to the libraries fundings.

Stacey – After researching all the formulas from other library's I could find online and looking at other consultant's work, they formula that our committee came up with benefits our smaller libraries the best. Most formulas use strictly population and that would be detrimental to our small libraries.

Haley – the minutes from the commissioners meeting show that it was not a formal motion because it was a work session and not a meeting.

Curt – From the information in the consultants report he did look at other factors that could have been used but made the recommendation to keep the same or add reference questions. He didn't explain that well enough in his report though.

Haley – Had the same take away. With his experience if he had seen some major error or overlook, he would have pointed that out and noted it in his report. My interpretation of what the commissioners were asking was to look for a solution that benefits all the libraries. That is what the consultant did.

Stacey – points out all the different removals and additions of the report and none of them benefited the libraries that are set to lose money.

Sami – What we wanted to do from the beginning was to find verifiable data and I think that we have done that with this formula.

Barbara – Agrees and adds that though there are libraries that do not agree, no one has come up with any other formulas that would work better.

Cathy makes a motion that after looking at Consultant Joseph Matthes report in great detail, the CLB decides to go forward with the original formula that is already in place. Laurie seconds, Curt abstains due to lack of knowledge on the issue. All others are in favor. Motion passes.

ESO Report:

Stacey – The packet includes all the ESO stat sheet. ESO budget numbers are there as well. Some of the numbers are high because they are paid annually.

Director's Reports:

Lakeside:

Short handed with staff. No programs going on. The library has been slow.

Coos Bay:

The new library bond will be on the ballot in November.

Bandon:

Summer was super busy, starting to slow down now.

Coquille:

We started moving into the new library last week.

North Bend:

Interior construction will start one week from today with the demo of public restrooms. The library will close on October 21st and take roughly 5 months to complete.

Dora:

Planning a haunted house in children's sections.

Myrtle Point:

Had patron come in with list of books she thinks should not be in the library but has not turned in official paperwork. The North Bend Prospectors came to show kids how to pan for gold.

Powers:

Students from the grade school come in for story time weekly. A local restaurant has challenged kids to check out 2 library books and do a book report he will give them a free scoop of ice cream.

Next meeting:

To be determined.