LA CROSSE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

April 2, 2014
Onalaska Public Library
741 Oak Avenue South
Onalaska, WI 54650
4:45 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Bach-Filla, Loren Caulum, Dan Ferries, Fred Marini, Barbara Manthei, Glenn Seager

MEMBERS EXCUSED: George Varnum

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF AND GUESTS: Kristen Anderson, Director of Winding Rivers Library System, Christine McArdle Rojo, La Crosse County Library Director

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER:
President Loren Caulum called the meeting to order at 4:48 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA:
MOTION by Seager/Manthei to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
MOTION by Manthei/Bach-Filla to approve the March 5, 2014 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2014 EXPENDITURES:
McArdle Rojo presented the transaction report for the April 2014 invoices that have been prepared for payment. MOTION by Manthei/Marini to approve the April 2014 expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

ACT 157:
McArdle Rojo announced that last week, the Governor signed into law Wisconsin Act 157 that now allows neighboring municipalities to bill Counties with consolidated libraries. Previously La Crosse County had been exempt from cross county payments under Act 420 because the County maintained a consolidated library system. If La Crosse County Library continues to pursue Act 420 payments from neighboring Counties, municipal libraries in those counties will likely bill La Crosse County under the changes in Act 157. The La Crosse County Library Board has never formally acted to bill under Act 420 but the information provided by Winding Rivers to neighboring Counties each year has been considered a formal request for reimbursement and payments by Jackson, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon County have been made to La Crosse County since 2006. Based on 2012 statistics, the impact of this new law on La Crosse County will be about $12,000 in payments to public libraries in neighboring counties. Although these changes are arguably double taxation to La Crosse County residents who reside in municipalities where the County does not provide a library branch, local legislators did not prevent the change. Board members concluded that everyone should pay to help support libraries and continuing Act 420 reimbursement will still create about $14,000 in net revenue for La Crosse County. MOTION by Manthei/Seager to approve continuing to allow Winding Rivers to make formal requests for reimbursement under Act 420. Motion carried unanimously.

L3 BREMER UPDATE:
McArdle Rojo shared that the formal training in the Bremer Foundation's L3 program will end with a final training day in Eau Claire on May 5th. Work on La Crosse County Library’s capacity building plan continues and a survey has been launched as part of the plan. The project has provided for a Nook eReader to be available to give-away in a random drawing of those who complete the survey. Work on a video annual report and logo re-design also continue.
**WRLS WEB MIGRATION UPDATE:**
McArdle Rojo reported that issues still remain as a result of the recent migration in March. On order acquisition systems are still not up and running and issues remain with database clean-up and timing software on public computers. It is hopeful that testing can begin soon with Unique Management to resume collection efforts, now stalled since the previous system migration in August 2011.

**WRLS Board Report:**
President Caulum reported that WRLS has received full funding for the LSTA Digital grant project and will be looking to hire a Digital Assistant as part of the grant project. Although auditors were unable to attend the meeting, the annual report has been approved. WRLS Director, Kristen Anderson attended Library Legislative Day in Madison on February 11th. New appointed WRLS Board Member, Sam Scinta of Onalaska discussed a plan to bring a Wisconsin Book Festival to Western Wisconsin. McArdle Rojo indicated that these ideas stemmed from some work the Friends of the Onalaska Public Library were pursuing to look for a signature fundraising project they could do each year. Mr. Scinta has ideas of expanding the project throughout the entire WRLS Region and will present a business plan for the event at the next WRLS Meeting.

**FACILITY & COMMUNITY UPDATES:**
McArdle Rojo shared that Laura Black-Law will assume the position of Onalaska Branch Manager on April 14th and recruitment is underway to fill the Campbell position she vacates along with 2 vacant Substitute positions. She also reported that through a collaboration made possible by the Bremer L3 project, Hope Academy will present a Babies and Books story time at each of our locations in May. The Friends of the Onalaska Public Library continue their programming and along with the popular feature film movies, in July they will be hosting author and sportscaster, Jessie Garcia who has recently published *My Life with the Green & Gold.*

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**
System Migration Update
Wisconsin Book Festival

**ADJOURNMENT:**
There being no further business, President Caulum declared the meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Approved June 4, 2014, Chris McArdle Rojo, Recorder