

**MINUTES OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF LAW LIBRARY TRUSTEES
September 7, 2018**

PRESENT

Hon. Michele Levine
Robert Dunn
Joe Peter Myers, Esq.
Hon. Irma Asberry
Hon. L. Jackson Lucky IV
Victoria Williamson, Secretary

ABSENT

Hon. Gloria Task
John Boyd

Guests:
Brad Neufeld

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Riverside County Board of Law Library Trustees, was called to order by Judge Levine at 12:33 pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Deborah Ellis commented about the transient problem and the Internet access being taken away from library users.

Mr. Brown requested a copy of the proposed budget and that he wants to be updated on what books the library should buy. He also commented that when the Internet access went down, they need to be informed first before it is taken down, so they can explain why they need Internet access better than library staff members.

Mr. Shapiro commented that this is a great library, he has top notch resources, and that this library is a huge asset to the community. As an attorney, he appreciated having this resource and not have to pay a fortune to have his own law library.

Mr. Nava repeated what Mr. Brown said about wanting to have a copy of the library budget because he wants to know where the cuts are going to be done. He suggested the idea about having San Bernardino and Riverside work together to meet staffing and collection needs to keep the library open.

III. REGULAR SESSION

A. Acceptance of September 7, 2018 Meeting Agenda

It was moved by Judge Asberry, seconded by Joe Myers and was unanimously voted upon to accept the agenda for the September 7, 2018 meeting.

B. Acceptance of Minutes of August 3, 2018 Regular Meeting

Judge Lucky moved to accept the August 3, 2018 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Joe Myers, voted upon and motion carried. Robert Dunn abstained.

C. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

This item of business which usually is held in closed session pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §54954.5(e) was held in open session as requested by Mr Bret Christensen pursuant to Cal. Govt. Code §54957.

The Director reported on the results of her investigation of the incident concerning the alleged "inappropriate conversation" that Mr. Christensen had with a staff member which occurred on August 7, 2018. Based upon the facts gathered during the separate interviews with the three employees involved in the incident, the Director found that Mr. Christensen violated the library's policy against "Discourteous treatment of the public or other employees."

Mr. Christensen addressed the board regarding the charge that he engaged in the alleged "inappropriate conversation with a co-worker that took place on August 7. He distributed a copy of the blog piece he wrote on the topic of connivance which referenced the movie "Hall Pass" and a photo of his feet with multi-colored toe nail polish. He explained what his blog piece was about, what the "Hall Pass" movie was about, and what the conversation he had with his co-worker was about. He stated that the focus of the conversation was not about the movie "Hall Pass," but was simply an innocuous discussion between two employees that was taken out of context by a person not involved in the conversation. He handed Judge Levine a copy of the written statements he prepared.

D. Director's Report

August Programs

2 Family Law Workshop in Riverside with 35 attendees. The Family Law Facilitator's office held only two workshops in August and will not be holding any workshop in September due to shortage of staff. The Lawyers in the Library program in Indio had 6 attendees.

Theresa did a presentation about RCLL at the "Public Libraries Managers of the Desert Region Meeting" held on August 14 at the Cathedral City Public Library. Public librarians from Thousand Palms, La Quinta, Indio, Mecca, Palm Desert, Cabazon, Coachella, Cathedral City, and Riverside attended this meeting. Sue Duran, Desert Zone Manager arranged the meeting with Theresa. The public library managers appreciated learning about the law library's resources, programs and services.

Mahum is working with Jeremy Heng of IELLA to hold a legal aid clinic at the library on Tuesday nights (4-7pm) starting in October. The clinic will cover family law dissolutions, custody, visitation, support, paternity, restraining orders, unlawful detainers, wage garnishments, collections, etc. It will be held once or twice a month depending on the demand.

Bret has been working with staff on the "MCLE Crush at RCLL" slated for Oct. 2 & Oct. 4. A series of eight MCLE classes will be held live in Riverside and live streamed to Indio and Temecula. Topics include Ethical use of Social Media, Effective Use of Technology in the Courtroom, Building a Law Practice in the Digital Age, and Sexual Harassment Law and Litigation in the Light of the #Me Too Movement.

The library has 6 old computers to be donated to "Bright Futures," a non-profit special needs school. Judge Levine suggested that those computers be completely stripped out before donating.

The supplemental funding payments to county law libraries are being processed. RCLL is one of those libraries who were already in the system and just waiting for the funds to come through. The CCCLL will be discussing at its Fall Meeting on September 17 projects and strategies for obtaining ongoing funding and whether to assess county law libraries supplemental dues to fund a state-wide access to justice project. A Pre-Funding Spending Plan survey went out to CCCLL members soliciting ideas for the state-wide access to justice project and track how and where county law libraries will spend their portion of the supplemental fund.

E. Library Building's Mechanical & Electrical System Maintenance

The County provided an itemized list of the facilities maintenance bills sent to the library last month. It showed that the County charges the library 53.42% of the facility maintenance expenses incurred for the entire building.

Judge Levine hadn't had a chance to meet with County EDA to discuss the cost breakdown for the mechanical & electrical systems replacement work for the building.

F. Library Facilities Management Position

Judge Levine will meet with Marty of Tilden-Coil to discuss the possibility of hiring a Library Facilities Manager or an independent contractor to handle library facility maintenance responsibilities.

Judge Levine asked Victoria to prepare a list of suggestions for facility upgrades or cosmetic improvement of the library such as replacing the flooring and window coverings, refurbishing the furniture, creating a more open study and reading area for library users to address the issue with transients.

G. Acceptance of the July 2018 Financial Report

It was moved by Judge Asberry, seconded by Judge Lucky, voted upon and motion carried.

IV. CLOSED SESSION:

A. At 1:39 pm Judge Levine announced that the Board will go into closed session with respect to the item of business discussed pursuant to:

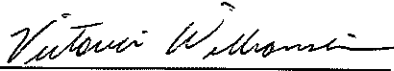
- Cal. Govt. Code §54954.5(f) – Conference with Labor Negotiator (Negotiator: Victoria Williamson; Parties: Law Library and SEIU Local 721).

B. At 2:11 pm Judge Levine reconvene to open session with nothing to report.

V. ADJOURNMENT / NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Law Library Trustees will be on Friday, October 5, 2018 at 12:00 pm. There being no further business to come before the Board, the general meeting was adjourned at 2:11 pm.

MINUTES:



Victoria Williamson, Secretary
Riverside County Board of
Law Library Trustees

APPROVED:



Robert Dunn, Vice President
Riverside County Board of
Law Library Trustees