

**SOUTHWEST LA PLATA LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
20 MAY 2024**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 PM. In attendance were Rebecca Benally, Cynthia Loegig, Janet Kuss, Peter Miesler, Sharon Orr, Amanda McKown, Lara Aase, Roy Horvath. Alana Ostrander attended via telephone.

2. Approve Agenda

A motion to approve the May Agenda was made by Amanda, second by Janet; no discussion; unanimous approval

3. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve Minutes from April 2024, May 8, 2024, and Director's Report made by Cynthia, second by Amanda; no discussion; unanimous approval

4. Public Comment

None

5. Update from Friends of the Library

Alana Ostrander-getting more members, donations, books. Some books will be donated to Little Library in Oregon. Discussion about book sorting help on Mondays; she will let Board know when help is needed. Board requested a financial update in order to see if money is available for Library needs.

6. Board Business

- a. SDA Regional Conference Registration
Scott, Rebecca, and Sharon will attend the June 21, 2024 meeting; Rebecca will register us.
- b. SDA 2024 Annual Conference (9/10-12/2024-Keystone)
Discussion about last year conference and the value of attending
- c. Finance Committee new appointee (needed)
 - Scott's appointment is up in 2025 so a Treasurer is needed sooner than later; Janet's appointment is up in 2025; Cynthia will commit to one more year; Need two one-year appointments.
 - File labels: use YYYY

7. Updated from District Director and Branch Managers/Library Business

- The students from FLM Elementary students sent Thank You notes and paintings for constructing the Storywalk, which by all evidence was greatly enjoyed.
- a. Staffing updates
 - One staff member left Sunnyside; position will be posted.

- Exit interview will be offered to employee and conducted by Management Committee.
- b. Grant opportunities/efforts
The SIPA grant may help fund the WIFI needs at both schools; and possibly electrical and WIFI at Kline property; Rebecca will work on the grant
- c. Legal Updates

Library Specific Legislation:

SB 24-216: Standards for Decisions Regarding Library Resources Passed; effective immediately upon signing

General Information

Requires board trustees of a public library to establish written policies for

- Acquisition of library resources
- Retention of library resources
- Display of library resources
- Use of library resources
- Use of library facilities
- Reconsideration of library resources

A public library may not exclude an item

- because of the ethnic origin, background or gender identity of those contributing to its creation
- because of the topic addressed by the resource.
- because of the opinions expressed in the resource.

Public use must be provided on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of those requesting the use.

The reconsideration of library materials policy must be available to the public.

If a request for reconsideration of a library material is made, the board must make its final determination available to the public. It must also include how the decision follows subsection (2) of SB-216

All requests for reconsideration are subject to open records request including the name of the requestor.

A public library is required to reconsider the same resource not more frequently than every two years.

Libraries must not remove materials based on demographic characteristics of the author of the material or based on partisan disapproval of the material in question.

A person who requests that a material be removed from circulation must reside in the service area of the library in question.

Library employees cannot be disciplined, demoted, terminated, or retaliated against for refusing to remove a library resource before its review.

Routine collection maintenance and deaccession is still permissible.

Southwest La Plata Library District needs to

- Review the existing policy for compliance
- Create/edit the facilities use policy for compliance
- Create a programming policy
- Create a materials display policy

Financial Impact:

SB24-233: Property Tax Passed; Effective 5/14/24

General Information

The residential real property tax rate has been reduced to 6.7% minus \$55,000.

Commercial property is assessed at 27.9% minus \$30,000. Reductions can't lower a property's value to less than \$1,000.

Agricultural and renewable energy property assessment is reduced from 29% to 26.4%.

In 2025

- The assessment rate for all residential property will be 6.7%.
- Commercial property assessment rate will be reduced to 27%
- Property tax revenue growth for local governments will be limited to 5.5%. Revenue collected in excess of the limit must be refunded.

In 2026

- The assessment rate for all residential property will be 6.95% minus 10% of the property's actual value (up to \$70,000).
- Reductions can't lower a property's value to less than \$1,000.
- Commercial property assessment rate will be reduced to 26%

In 2027 and beyond

- The \$70,000 reduction will adjust annually based on inflation.
- Commercial property assessment rate will be reduced to 25%.

With voter approval, the bill allows local governments to waive the limit for a single property tax year or all future property tax years. If local voters temporarily waive the limit, the base year for calculation of the 5.5% growth cap is reset to the last year the waiver was applied.

Homeowners may defer a portion of their property tax to be paid with interest to the state when the property is sold or transferred. Those eligible include

- Aged 65 and up
- Active military personnel
- Any homeowner whose taxes increase by more than 4% from the average of the prior two tax years (applies only to the increased amount).
- In 2025 any amount greater than the average of the prior two years can be deferred
- Deferred money is paid to the state upon the sale or transfer of the property. (Deferred property tax dollars are loaned to the local government until the property is sold and then the collected money is considered a repayment of the loan from the local government).

Bottom line: The bill limits each affected local government's property tax revenue to its level for property tax year 2023, plus state reimbursements for 2023, grown by 5.5 percent annually.

If ballot initiative #50 (Voter Approval to Retain Additional Property Tax Revenue) passes, it supersedes SB 24-216.

Because you want to know:

***SB24-065: Mobile Electronic Devices & Motor Vehicle Driving
Passed; Effective 90 days after adjournment of the General Assembly***

No one may use a mobile electronic device while driving, unless the device is hands-free. Exceptions exist.

Fines range from \$75-250 and 2-4 license suspension points.

8. Executive Session

An executive session meeting of the Southwest LaPlata Library District is being convened at 5:10 PM on May 20, 2024, for the sole purpose of discussing the proposed real estate purchase for facilities expansion of Fort Lewis Mesa Library as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a). Attending are Cynthia Loebig, Chairperson; Janet Kuss, Vice Chairperson; Sharon Orr, Secretary; Scott Davey, Treasurer; Peter Meisler, Director; Amanda McKown, Director; Lara Aase, Director. Motion to convene by Sharon, second by Cynthia

A motion was made at 5:27 to adjourn the Executive Session by Peter, second by Amanda; unanimous approval.

Discussion followed in regards to the contract drafted by Eggleston Kosnik, LLC: Acceptance: proposal signatures will need to be changed from May 21, 2024 to May 31, 2024. Closing date may change accordingly from June 17, 2024 to June 27, 2024.

9. Committee Updates- Management, Finance, Strategy/Development

A. Strategic Plan & Development Committee Update

1. 2024 Retreat Planning Update

- July 26, 2024, from noon to 5PM at Durango Recreation Center

2. Upcoming meetings

June 4, 2024, at Sunnyside to discuss retreat details

B. Finance Committee Update

1. Review financial reports

- Received less tax revenue than planned but overall, April numbers are on budget in spite of spikes and dips, and will reflect balance in May numbers
- Invoice was sent to 9R but payment for ASP has not been received
- It is time to start thinking about budget after June meeting; look at forms from 2024

2. Upcoming meetings

None

10. Management Committee

1. Evaluation process for Director

- Reviewed past Evaluation form and will make suggestions, if any, for future form to be used
- June Board meeting should be the meeting to conduct Rebecca's evaluation so any monetary considerations can be approved for annual pay.
- Due to SB 24-216, library policies will be reviewed for compliance
- Upcoming meeting
TBD

2. Other items

a. FLM Marquee

- i. Waiting for 9R to ask for donation

3. Adjourned at 5:54 PM

Next SWLPLD Board Meetings: 4PM June 17, 2024 and 4 PM July 17, 2024