

Minutes of the Solano County Law Library Board of Trustees (August 24, 2015)

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Law Library Board of Trustees was called into order by Brian Taylor, Court Executive Officer (Chairperson) at 4:18 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:

PRESENT: Court Executive Officer Brian Taylor (Chairperson); Judge Christine Carringer (Vice-Chairperson); Judge Cynda Unger; Hendrick Crowell, Esq.; Library Director Bonnie Katz; Law Librarian Jonathan Watson

ABSENT: Judge Daniel Healy; Supervisor Linda J. Seifert

CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved: Judge Carringer moved that the minutes from the meeting of July 27, 2015 be accepted.

Seconded: Mr. Crowell seconded the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously, and the minutes of the meeting were approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved: Judge Unger moved that the agenda be accepted.

Seconded: Judge Carringer seconded the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously, and the agenda was approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

See Item 7b—Review of Statute re: Law Library Board of Trustees Membership (**with attachments**).

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Law Library Budget Update: Ms. Katz presented two budget reports. During her presentation of the first report--“FY 2014/15 Actuals Through June 30, 2015”—Ms. Katz reiterated that neither contingency funds nor fund balance was used for any library expenses. The column entitled **FY 14/15 YTD ACTUALS** displayed the following figures:

- \$410,969.00 (actual revenue—less contingency and reserves)
- \$366,965.00 (actual expense—less fund balance)
- \$44,003.00 is left over

The second report “FY 2015/16 Actuals Through July 31, 2015” showed the following figures:

- Acct. #2180: *Books & Subscriptions*—**FY 14/15 ACTUALS** = \$88,289.00.
- Acct. # 9301: *Reserves*—**FY 15/16 BUDGET** = \$11,453.00.
- **TOTAL SERVICE AND SUPPLIES: FY 15/16 BUDGET** = \$403,947.00. Once an agreement has been reached with the SEIU, it is anticipated that the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) will increase for the new fiscal year. Future reports will provide more accurate figures, as it is currently uncertain what the actual increase in staffing and benefits costs will be (Acct. #2250: *Other Prof. Expenses*).

Ms. Katz stated that the Law Library might be fine for the next 2-3 years. It was theorized that there might be court fee increases if the economy improves—as the number of fee waivers might decline. As mentioned in July’s meeting, the funds recovered from the Administrative Office of the Courts in 2014 greatly improved the Law Library’s financial state.

b. Review of Statute re: Law Library Board of Trustees Membership (with attachments):

As a “Correspondence,” on July 30, 2015, Judge Carringer sent a letter on behalf of the Board to Julie Hilt, Executive Director for the Solano County Bar Association (SCBA). In her letter, Judge Carringer requested that the SCBA “designate a member of its Board of Directors to sit on the LLBOT...[and for the] request [to] be presented at the next board of directors meeting.” On August 20, 2015, Judge Carringer announced to the Board via email that two members of the SCBA Board of Directors “volunteered to be a member of the LLBOT pursuant to the request [that she had] sent”: Solano County Public Defender Lesli Caldwell (first volunteer) and Laura Petty, Esq. (second volunteer).

Judge Carringer invited Ms. Caldwell and Ms. Petty to August’s meeting, but they unfortunately could not attend due to prior obligations. With regard to the appointment process, Mr. Taylor stated that the easiest plan of action might be having the judges come up with a delegation of the Bar at the next bench meeting. In addition to drafting a letter, Mr. Taylor will consult with

Presiding Judge E. Bradley Nelson on how to best proceed. The Board commended Judge Carringer for handling the recruitment efforts with the SCBA, and all were very pleased that applications are pending to fill the vacant seat.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:

On August 21, 2015, it was announced by CCCLL's Legislative Committee that S.B. 711 (2015) was approved on consent at a recent Assembly Appropriations Committee hearing. If everything goes to plan, the following processes will occur: (1.) the bill will be placed on the Assembly Floor consent calendar the week of August 24th for a vote; (2.) it will then return to the Senate Floor for concurrence in the Assembly amendments; (3.) if also placed on consent in the Senate, the Governor will have until mid-October to sign the bill; (4.) if signed, the bill will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

Since he had yet to receive a response from the CCCLL Legislative Committee Chairperson, Mr. Watson conducted his own research regarding the benefits associated with amending the definition of public libraries to include county law libraries. According to an analysis prepared by the Assembly Committee on Appropriations (August 19, 2015), the State Library maintains a list of "public libraries" that are eligible for grants and other funding opportunities. S.B. 711 (2015) would extend grant and funding eligibility to county law libraries. However, as specified by the bill, county law libraries will not infringe on the state funding provided to public libraries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on September 28, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Taylor at 4:32 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jonathan Watson

**JONATHAN WATSON, SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOLANO COUNTY LAW LIBRARY**