

**EASTERN SHORES LIBRARY SYSTEM & MID-WISCONSIN LIBRARY SYSTEM  
JOINT NEGOTIATING MEETING**

HORICON, MWFLS HEADQUARTERS

**March 14, 2016**

**Called to Order: 10:30 A.M.**

**Adjourn: 12:04 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Bruce Smith; ESLS representatives Linda Bendix, Garrett Erickson, Robert Nitsch, Amy Birtell, Steve Ruggieri and Jim Hughes; and the MWFLS representatives Mark Hanson, Margaret McFadden, Amy Becker, Bret Jaeger, Patrick Busch and Michael Gelhausen.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Vanessa Taylir from Slinger, Geri Feucht from MWFLS, Henry Nelson from ESLS, Susan Smith from MWFLS, Doug Rakowski from MWFLS, Elizabeth Daniels From Iron Ridge and Alex Harvancik from Horicon.

**ATTENDING VIA THE GOTO MEETING:** Alison Ross from ESLS, Ashley Pike from Mequon-Thiensville, Bill Goehring from ESLS, Candy Graulich from Hustisford, Jan Gerber from Saukville, Jennifer Einwalter from Hartford, Mary Alice Bodden from Theresa, Paula Torgeson from Fox Lake and Sue Potter from ESLS.

**I. Call to Order**

WILS facilitator Bruce Smith called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. This meeting was posted with the media in both library systems. The meeting was also available virtually via the GoTo Meeting application.

**II. Public Comment**

There were no comments at this time.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

There was a motion by Margaret McFadden to approve the agenda as posted. This was seconded by Linda Bendix. Bruce asked to add a brief update concerning the state-wide study on the future of systems. This was agreed to and the motion passed as amended.

**IV. Approval of the Minutes of February 29, 2016**

A motion was made by Amy Becker to approve the minutes as presented. This was seconded by Linda Bendix, and the motion passed.

**V. Old Business**

**System Redesign Task Force**

Bruce discussed the meeting last week for the Wisconsin system redesign work groups. Their timeline for the workgroups is two years. Possibly by 2018 new models of a system service structure might be ready. The earliest any legislative action for changing systems would be 2020 or 2021. If ESLS/MWFLS merge in 2017 it might be two years before there may be proposed updates in services and probably four years before possible legislative changes to the structure of library systems.

**Review of Headquarters Issues**

ESLS has seven years left on the lease, it would cost at least three years worth of rent equaling

\$162,000 to get out of the building according to Mrs. Birtell. Mike Gelhausen read out the motion from MWFLS stating they would be willing to keep the headquarters in Sheboygan but keep the new delivery van as a priority over the bookmobile for covered space. The motion also indicated that the new system would use the remainder of the lease to do an in-depth study as to the future need for a headquarters including location, space needs, staffing, system services and delivery option. Amy Birtell stated that the bookmobile is paid for by the Sheboygan and Ozaukee Counties and would need to be inside so the new system might need to find a place to store a second a van. Linda Bendix asked about meetings locations and reimbursement of travel. It was assumed that librarian, committee and system board meetings would be held at various libraries throughout the new system area. MWFLS currently does pay for librarian and staff travel mileage, ESLS does not. Amy Birtell has looked into location online to see if there is an option to have a place to keep a van in the Washington County. It was agreed that the motion by MWFLS was acceptable to ESLS.

### **Review of Delivery Service Issues**

Bruce noted some topics to discuss such as delivery hubs and delivery times. There was discussion on the housing options for the delivery vans and the book mobile. Mike Gelhausen stated it could be very tough to get all of Washington and Dodge done on a daily basis so perhaps an evaluation of routing options and location of the van storage is necessary. However, MWFLS does support the continuing 5 day a week delivery, the new system would own and operate the delivery service, and after three years instead of 18 months, the entire delivery operation would be evaluated. Linda Bendix brought up the lease length of the possible new location to hold a new van. Having a shorter lease would then not tie the system down like the current headquarters' agreement.

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. ILS of a Merged System**

Amy Birtell stated that the ESLS library directors voted in December to stay with Polaris as the new system's ILS. MWFLS is concerned about the cost and loss of options by moving to Polaris. ESLS is concerned about losing the experience of the ILS manager that they have. MWFLS is concerned about the software products we have versus Polaris. Alison at ESLS could better tell us about that. Polaris has a possible version of Mobile Circ called LEAP. Alison could find the out the cost of LEAP. Polaris has the ability to work with collection agencies. Mike will provide ESLS with the Sirsi/Dynix estimated costs for converting ESLS to our platform and products, the 2016 operating costs for Sirsi/Dynix in MWFLS and trio operating rules and policies. Robert, Patrick and Alison will work on getting a comparison of services for each ILS done by the next meeting. Amy stated that MWFLS is concerned about the standard of lease period and circulation standards. Circulation standards are a must for MWFLS. ESLS is looking at developing uniform circulation standards and should have more the information on this request at the next meeting.

### **b. Governance Issues of a Merged System**

Amy Birtell stated that ESLS were interested in going to a weighed vote on all library decisions regardless of being financial or policy. MWFLS basically reaches consensus on all decisions but does use a weighted vote if necessary on financial issues and a one vote per library formula for policy issues. ESLS suggested it would be easier to use a weighted vote for all issues instead of deciding what is financial or policy related only. Mark Hanson noted that the weighted vote that ESLS had proposed in its first budget breakdown was very even among the counties, but by accepting a weighted vote for everything you take away for reaching a consensus. ESLS uses service population for its dividing formula as the number is provided by the state and is more stable. A lot of time, policy decisions really impact local finances and operations so it is not

always clear cut. MWFLS will go back to the directors to hear about how they feel about a weighted vote for all issues. State statutes dictate how the number of county representatives on system boards is determined so this is not an issue toward merger.

#### **VII. Topics for Discuss at the Next Meeting**

The issues to focus on will be centralized cataloging within the ILS and Resource Library Funding and Services. The group also would like to see the development of some budget numbers and perhaps a side-by-side comparison of ESLS and MWFLS budget and services in 2016. ESLS also asked if MWFLS could ask its member libraries about the willingness to accept some form of new materials moratorium as part of the circulation policy.

#### **VIII. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016, at 1:00 pm at the Cedarburg Public Library. This meeting will also have a GoToMeeting option.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Amy Becker to adjourn this meeting. This was seconded by Margaret McFadden, and passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vanessa Tylir, Slinger Community Library