

MINUTES
North Texas Regional Library System
Board of Directors Meeting
October 23, 2008

The North Texas Regional Library System Board of Directors held a meeting on October 23, 2008 at North Texas Regional Library System, 6320 Southwest Blvd., Suite 101, Fort Worth, Texas, 76109.

Board Members Present: Barbara Chayer, Chair, Region 7
Bill Whiteside, Region 5
Patricia Jefferson, Region 2
Cecil Carter, Parliamentarian, At Large
Kenneth Haas, Region 6
Dana Wood, Region 1, Via Video Conference
Adam Wright, Executive Director, *ex-officio member*

Board Members Absent: Ray Stephens, Vice Chair, Region 3,
Kay Clark, Region 4, Joseph Brawner, Treasurer, At Large

NTRLS Staff Present: Lynn Gritta

Guests Present: Dale Fleeger, Gleniece Robinson

ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIONS ACCEPTED:

Adam Wright will remind the Board to contact their regional representatives to encourage attendance at the next System Assembly in January to vote on Bylaws revisions.

MOTIONS:

Agenda Items B. Approval of Minutes. Jefferson moved to approve. Whiteside seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item G. Approval of health insurance options. Haas moved to approve both options for NTRLS staff. Carter seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item H. Approval of Tutor.com contract. Carter moved to approve. Wood seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item I. Approve ad-hoc System Assembly Committee. Carter moved to adopt ad-hoc SAM Committee. Wood seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item J. Approval of second SAM in FY2009. Carter moved to approve. Jefferson seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item M. Approval of Libraries for Literacy website contract. Carter moved to approve. Wood seconded. Passed.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Barbara Chayer called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of September 25, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Pat Jefferson made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill Whiteside seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed.

C. BOARD REPORTS

Pat Jefferson reported the Region 2 meeting went well and she commended Adam and Carolyn for their reporting. Dana Wood reported Region 1 meeting was well attended. Region 3 meeting had lower attendance than usual, but they were outspoken.

D. MONTHLY FINANCIALS

Adam Wright reported that Walt Hatter worked hard on the new report to incorporate different categories and clarify items in reporting to the Board. Adam mentioned dona weisman will be traveling more in November for Special Needs program, CE car allowances were increased, and Program Income had 10 hours available to offer Lynn Gritta as CE assistant.

E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Adam reported that Pat Smith from Austin invited him to attend the Nov 13 meeting of the Priddy Foundation and help give a presentation in Wichita Falls for renovating smaller and rural libraries. Houston Public Library received 1 million dollars they used to modify an RV as a mobile computer lab which travels to communities especially benefitting the lower income areas. They set up 16 work stations and have video conference equipment. It was reported that TSLAC lifted some of the restrictions on grant writing during System time. A full time position for grant writer may be created for the 2010/2011 FY.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were none.

G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF HEALTH INSURANCE

Adam spoke with Gus Bates Insurance Agency and they recommended offering the PPO reduced plan and also the Health Savings Account. In an HSA, the first \$2,500 is out of pocket for the insured and anything over 2,500 is covered 100% by the plan. Wellness Exams are fully covered. The first year can be partially funded by NTRLS with \$84 direct deposited in each employees account. There are penalties for withdrawing early or taking out a loan much like an IRA. Ken Haas made a motion to accept both health insurance options (PPO and HSA) and NTRLS funding each

employee HSA with \$84 monthly for the first year. Cecil Carter seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

H. CONSIDERATION OF LIVE HOMEWORK HELP CONTRACT

Crowley's first year was hugely successful and their fee increased from \$1,500 to \$4,500. Bowie approached their ISD to help fund the program. The comments from users are very favorable and the program is deemed successful overall. There are two typos in the contract; the year and amount need to be corrected. Cecil Carter made a motion to accept the Tutor.com contract. Dana Wood seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

I. CONSIDERATION OF AD-HOC SYSTEM ASSEMBLY MEETING COMMITTEE

Gleniece Robinson, FWPL Director, suggested a System Assembly Committee be formed to help plan two annual meetings for FY2010. Several library directors and lay reps affirmed they wanted two meetings a year. Gleniece stated that our larger cities like Fort Worth could host one meeting a year by providing a location and help with catering. Cecil Carter made a motion to adopt the ad-hoc System Assembly Meeting Committee. Dana Wood seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

J. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ADDING A SECOND SYSTEM ASSEMBLY MEETING

After further discussion on the need for two System Assemblies annually, Cecil Carter made a motion to add an additional System Assembly for the FY2009. Pat Jefferson seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

K. DISCUSSION FOR ADVOCACY FOR SYSTEM FUNDING

Cecil Carter stated that he served on several boards and the NTRLS board is the most effective and professionally run board he serves and he commended the leadership of Adam Wright. He recommended the Board become proactive in advocacy and lobbying their local and state government representatives. Cecil also reported that five of the ten Texas Library System Boards called their commissioners and kept pushing for funding to be increased for the Systems. Currently an additional 2 million dollars is being considered in the State Library budget to be allocated to the ten Systems and this is a direct result of the efforts of those board members. The issue of how the Board would advocate, individually or corporately, was discussed.

L. DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDATION OF THE AD-HOC BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Dale Fleeger reported on all the proposed changes in the NTRLS Bylaws and that the Bylaws Committee would present these to the members at

the next System Assembly. Dale clarified that there should be two sets of Bylaws, one for the "System" and one set for the "Corporation." The committee wants each entity to have their roles clearly defined. He said the power of the nonprofit could be used to a greater degree with separate bylaws for the "Corporation." Bill Whiteside requested the language be simplified and be made available at the December Board meeting.

M. CONSIDERATION OF LIBRARIES FOR LITERACY WEBSITE CONTRACT

Adam stated that he would negotiate on some of the fees and reduce the contract cost to around \$5,000. After a brief discussion, Cecil Carter made a motion to accept the Libraries for Literacy Website contract. Dana Wood seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

N. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dale Fleeger and Gleniece Robinson reported in previous agenda items.

O. ANNOUNCEMENTS

P. SET DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was set for December 4, 2008 at 10:00 am.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

Barbara Chayer adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm.

Approved by _____

Date _____