

**Board of Directors** 

## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, Oct 13, 2014, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Call To Order	Gary Dielman, President called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. The meeting was held in the Riverside Meeting Room at the Baker County Public Library, 2400 Resort Street, Baker City, Oregon. Directors present were Gary <b>Dielman</b> , Della <b>Steele</b> , and Kyra <b>Rohner-Ingram</b> with Betty <b>Palmer</b> arriving at 6:10pm. Also present were Perry <b>Stokes</b> , Library Director; and Christine <b>Hawes</b> , Business Manager. Guest present: Scott Ungerecht, volunteer photographer attending for an agenda item.
Agenda Approved	Dielman asked for additions or changes to the agenda. None were given.
Conflict or potential conflict of interest	Dielman asked if there were any potential conflicts of interest to be declared. There were none.
Minutes Approved	Dielman asked for corrections to minutes. There were none. Rohner-Ingram made a motion to approve both the Agenda and the September 8, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented; Steele seconded; motion passed unanimously by three Directors present (Dielman, Rohner-Ingram, and Steele).
Open Forum	Dielman stated that other than Mr. Ungerecht who is present for a presentation on the agenda, there were no other members of the public present. Stokes said he had no correspondence for the board.  Palmer arrived at the meeting at 6:10 pm.
Guest Presentation: Photo Book	Dielman recognized Scott Ungerecht who was attending the meeting to present a newly produced photo book as a gift to the Library. Scott said that all photos shown on the video he shared at the previous are in the book. The video is planned to be linked from the Library website. Only one copy of the book was published. Board members passed the book around the table. Dielman thanked Ungerecht for all his time donated to the Library. Stokes said that the photo book will be added to the library collection and made available for checkout. Palmer reiterated that it is a beautiful book.
Revenue Projection	Stokes reported it is the time of year the Baker County Assessor releases a projected millage report. The valuation reports for 2014-2015 have good news for the district. For the FY14-15 budget, the growth rate was estimated at 2.5%, but the report shows growth of 4.4%. This equates to additional revenue of approximately \$23,500 more than anticipated. In addition, delayed hiring of facility and cataloger staff, will equate to about another \$13,000 in savings. A total of \$39,500 will be available to allocate as needed. Options include the book collections, upcoming large repairs, and enhancing the operations reserve. The compression rate continues to significantly reduce revenue, but has plateaued for the coming year at about 22%. The collection rate



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	remains high at 93-94%.
Statistic Report Highlights	Stokes highlighted select data from the recently submitted Oregon State Library statistics report. The number of registered users for the District is 10,800, which is about 65% of the service population. He showed a series of graphs, looking at Revenue & Expenditures from 1999-2014, the graph compared increase rates of operating revenue, total expenditures, salaries & wages, benefits, total personnel, and other operating expenses. The next graph, collection investment vs. use, showed circulation of digital units purchased, circulation and collections.
	The district has boosted investment in the collection and changed marketing strategies. Stokes commended Diana Pearson and the branch staff for their hard work to feature new books by rotating them around the branches. Data shows a spike in digital collection circulation. However, digital checkouts remain just a fraction of print checkouts. Interlibrary loans have skyrocketed with the expansion of Sage, which has added Hood River, The Dalles, and Klamath Community College in recent years.
	BCLD borrows more than is lent through Sage interlibrary loans; Stokes aims to have the loan count higher than the borrow count which would mean that patron needs are being met in-house. Adult collection checkouts have steadily grown. All of these are good indicators that staff work has paid off and the public is being served well. Children's book circulation is one area in which Stokes would like to see improvements.
Presentation: Libraries, present and future	Stokes shared a slideshow on national library trends he presented recently at the 2014 Eastern Oregon Word Roundup in Pendleton and at the BCLD staff training event on October 13.
	Library staff often get asked "Doesn't the Internet make the library obsolete?" The answer is an emphatic "no". Libraries are used now more than ever. Studies show library attendance rates, according to surveys, are higher than movie attendance in the US; 72% have visited a library and 94% believe that having a library improves the quality of life. There are 121,000 libraries in the US, 80% of which are in rural areas. Two-thirds of Americans have a library card. Libraries are adapting and incorporating new technologies such as eBooks and 3D printers, portable device technologies, and non-traditional collections. Library usage has increased with these adaptations and as communities struggle through the recession.
	While the popularity of eBooks has increased, they are not on track to replace printed books in the foreseeable future. Two-thirds of Americans report reading a book in



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print (2013 statistic). Digital formats do put additional strain on library budgets because we are now expected to offer two more copies of the same book – as downloadable ebook and audiobook. BCLD is a member of the Oregon Digital Library Consortium which provides a digital collection called Library2Go. Currently the Library2Go catalog includes 31,000 eBooks, 22,000 audio books, and 1,300 videos.

The publishing industry has been hostile to library loaning of ebooks. Some publishers have employed various restrictive methods for library copies, such as extremely high prices, caps on the number of checkouts of an item, and lease terms with short expiration dates. The restriction terms are generally based on large library data and disproportionately impact rural libraries.

In technology, 7 in 10 libraries report increase in computer usage. There is a great demand to have adequate bandwidth speed, especially as more are using computers to access streaming media (videos, online games, webinars). 76% of libraries report they do not have enough computers to meet demand.

In rural areas, libraries are often the only place that provides free Internet, which is increasingly vital for job hunting and access of government services. Baker County library data shows a decline in public computer usage over the past 2 years which may be partly attributed to cutting the hours back. Stokes suspects actual usage is higher than the reports indicate and that not all sessions are getting logged – either due to software error or circumvention by users. The decline also correlates with a change in the computer management system, decentralizing the system from a master control server at the main branch to each branch having their own server. Another factor is that more people bring in their own WiFi-enabled devices such as phones and tablets to use the Internet. With the newly implemented UniFi system, we have begun to track daily WiFi usage numbers. Libraries are using social media to market their services – BCLD uses Facebook, and has explored others such as Twitter and Pinterest but do not actively use them. There is no library blog.

Stokes went on to talk about publisher-library troubled relationships. He described challenges libraries face working with publishers for digital materials. Stokes said it is "still a wild west out there". This antagonistic atmosphere has caused libraries to go outside of traditional vendor models. One library is creating its own website (Colorado eVoke) in an attempt to gain more control over the investment in books. eBooks are leased so you don't own the materials. Palmer asked if patrons can pay a minimum fee that allows us to purchase extra copies to avoid a long wait? Stokes responded that there is something called the Advantage program from Library2Go by which members can purchase titles that are exclusive to their own member patrons and not the consortium as a whole.



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Another library trend known as "roaming" involves staff getting out from behind service desk barriers and more into the library and community. Makerspaces are a hot new trend of recent years, also known as hacker-spaces. A Detroit Public Library put a makerspace lab in the middle of the collection encouraging creativity and productivity. BCLD has tried to do that by making software available for creativity. ALA has a "Make it at your library" website. The moral of the story, Stokes concluded, is that libraries' future has no end.

Ungerecht asked how many libraries have volunteer photographers. Stokes replied he has no information on that topic.

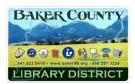
#### 2015 Planning

Stokes had two items to discuss in thinking ahead for 2015. In May 2015, 2 Directors are up for re-election. Forrester reported to Stokes that she plans to run for re-election. She can step down if she gets to a point where she doesn't feel able to contribute. Dielman stated that he also intends to run for re-election. The next levy renewal will be in spring 2016.

Stokes said that he plans to take an extended vacation next September (September 5-20) for family purposes. The September board meeting can either be cancelled or someone else can organize the meeting. A second signer will be needed for midmonth checks that month. Stokes asked the board to approve his vacation request. All members agreed unanimously.

### Administrative Reports: Director's Report

Beginning with Programs, the Friends are supporting the 2014 Oregon Reads events, providing funds for programs and giveaway items. Under Facilities, a diseased birch tree was removed along the pathway at the main branch by new Facilities Specialist Vinny Russo. He brings years of tree pruning experience to the job. Stokes added that we have many large trees that need professional trimming. Out Technology Specialist is working with Russo to clean and organize the shop/storage space. They intend to build a secure storage case for power tools and create a tool asset list. The wood siding around the building is a priority for the fall. The Haines Library reported a natural gas odor; a service call has been scheduled. A grant request was submitted to the Leo Adler Community Fund for \$15,000 to provide a HVAC solution for the Richland Library. He will be traveling to Salem next week to attend the Oregon State Library board meeting to request approval on an appeal submitted to fund the second year of the LSTA Sage cataloging cleanup grant. In Personnel, as mentioned previously Vincent Russo was hired for the Facility Specialist position. The first choice, Mr. Booth, was unable to take the position due to family matters. The cataloger position is currently posted. An advertisement has been published in the Baker City Herald and placed on professional library listservs in Oregon and Idaho.



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	Applications will be accepted through November 2, 2014. Stokes said that a special hiring committee may need to be selected to evaluate the candidates. If his spouse applies for the position, he will have to recuse himself due to a conflict of interest. Dielman said in that case he would appoint a committee to evaluate position applications and make the hiring decision. Dielman suggested that retired Library Director, Aletha Bonebrake, take the lead on that committee if necessary. The board agreed.
Business and Financial Report	Hawes passed out check packets and financial reports. The General Fund has currently borrowed \$100,000 from Other Funds for operating and it appears that will be sufficient to make it through the November 1 payroll, after which tax turnovers should start coming in. It did receive tax turnovers of \$3,349.99 on October 1. Notable checks include Special Districts Worker's Comp of \$393.21 the final payment for the FY2013-2014 year, Ingram \$941.19, Apple Books \$1,149.47 for children's books, A-To-Z Database \$1064, and Nero Network \$715.50 for 2014 third quarter Internet for the Baker Library.  The Other Funds received \$242.33 in Amazon book sales and wrote commission checks totaling \$59.72. It also received \$3,000 from the Friends for their committed one-half of the Early Learning Workstations.  The Sage Fund received the first of the membership dues totaling \$36,785 deposited October 14. EOU was invoiced for the final \$7,117.96 funds remaining in trust for the Sage System.  Checks were signed and approved by those present.
Next Meeting Date	The next regular meeting will be November 10, 2014 at 6:00pm.
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.  Respectfully submitted,  Perry Stokes, Secretary to the Board  PS/ch