

**FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
**Board of Trustees Public Meeting Minutes**

***November 14, 2022 – Washougal Community Library/Hybrid Meeting***

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Higgins called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Higgins immediately convened an Executive Session on the topics of Personnel: RCW 42.30.110 (g); Real Estate: RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b) (c) which adjourned at 6:35pm and returned to the regular meeting.

**ATTENDEES:**

*Board Members Present:* Jane Higgins, Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, Penny Love-Henslee, Olga Lukomsky Hodges, Megan Dugan, Kristy Morgan

*Board Members Virtual:* Vikram Kotwani

*Administrative Team:* Amelia Shelley, Executive Director; Mary Abler, Deputy Director; Lee Strehlow, Human Resources Director; Lynne Caldwell, Collection & Technology Services Director; Justin Keeler, Outreach & Community Partnerships Director; Dave Josephson, Facilities Director; Tak Kendrick, Communications & Marketing Director; Attar Bhargal, Finance Manager; Special Guests: Terra McLeod, Goldendale Branch Manager; Zoe Nash, Washougal Branch Manager, Rick Smithrud, FVRL Foundation Director; Recording: Sami Bretherton, Executive Assistant

**2. AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Mary Ann Duncan-Cole moved and Penny Love-Henslee seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried via roll call.

**3. CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Higgins shared these comments:

*First, I want to thank the staff of the Washougal Community Library and the Washougal Friends for hosting our meeting tonight. It is always good to be in Washougal.*

*I want to call the Board's attention to the articles and webinars we have been linked to regarding collection development. That policy is currently under review. The more knowledge from all points of view we can bring to the table, the better policy we will have at the end. Even if the policy will be finished before the webinars, policy will always be a work in progress, especially as new formats and platforms develop. I encourage everyone to read and/or participate as they are able.*

*Last month I announced that in order to encourage public speakers on a wider range of topics, we would no longer accept oral comment on DQSH at our business meetings, although written comment would still be welcome. That was within the law as written. However, the State Attorney General's office has told us that court rulings subsequent to the law have interpreted that to mean that if one topic is restricted, all oral comment must be restricted from the meeting. Since the purpose of my decision was to encourage a wide-ranging offering of public opinion, limiting DQSH testimony defeats that. So, DQSH speakers are again welcome. In fairness, if there is someone who came tonight specifically to speak on DQSH, I will adjourn the meeting for five minutes while you fill out a form to speak. If you have already turned in a form to speak on another topic, that form will be pulled. The rules state that one person can speak to only one topic per meeting. And what you speak to must match what is on the registration form. Is there someone who wishes to speak to DQSH and didn't fill out a form earlier?*

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Written comments were received in support of inclusive programming and collection policies and Freedom to Read rights: Patricia Presson, Kattie Gardner, MacKenzie Leggett, Liz Thompson, Laura Nagel, Julie Gorham, L.J.

Written comments were received against Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH) programs in the library: Jon Anderson, Dennis Anderson, Lori Judkins, Marilyn Roggenkamp, Anna, Afton Foltz, Susan Wilson, Dawn Land

In Person comments:

Merrie and Glenn Thompson welcomed the Board of Trustees and the public to the Washougal Library. Quill Onstead and Rose spoke against censorship.

Summer Fontenot spoke in support of keeping the library safe for everyone.

Wendy Wick spoke about equity of representation within curation.

Randy Schmidt, Gary Wilson, Margo Logan, Dawn Land, Dawn Seaver, Chuck Miller spoke against DQSH programming in the library and voiced their right to continue to provide comment on the topic at public meetings.

#### **5. REPORTS**

5.1 FVRL Organizational Report, Administrative Team

The Administrative team updated the Board on their work and projects.

5.2 Branch Report: Goldendale Community Library, Terra McLeod

McLeod reported on the Goldendale Library activities for the past year.

5.3 October Financial Statements, Attar Bhargal

Bhargal shared an overview of the October revenues and expenses.

5.4 FVRL Foundation Report, Rick Smithrud

Smithrud reviewed the events of the Foundation. The Foundation Board presented information on the relationship between the FVRL and the Foundation and presented a draft Memorandum of Understanding to the FVRL Board for review.

#### **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

6.1a Minutes Approval - October 17, 2022 meeting

Kristy Morgan asked for an amendment to the October 17, 2022 Minutes to include Chair Higgins full comments.

**MOTION:** Kristy Morgan moved and Penny Love-Henslee seconded approval of the amended October Minutes. The motion carried via roll call with abstentions from Megan Dugan and Kristy Morgan.

6.1b FVRL Expenditure Approval: Reviewed by Kristy Morgan

**MOTION:** Kristy Morgan moved and Megan Dugan seconded approval of the October expenditures. The motion carried via roll call.

#### **7. BUSINESS**

7.1 Policy Committee

Placement of New Library Facilities - second reading

The Policy Committee has combined two existing FVRL policies concerning the siting of new libraries into a single revised policy. Procedures associated with siting new facilities and services were revised to include

using the equity lens as a guide for site selection and criteria for closing an existing location. This policy will be on the January meeting's consent agenda.

#### 7.2 Finance Committee

##### 2023 Levy - Public Hearing

Shelley presented information on the 2023 levy and budget prior to calling for comments.

**MOTION:** Megan Dugan moved and Kristy Morgan seconded the opening of the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously via roll call.

No public comments were received.

**MOTION:** Kristy Morgan moved and Penny Love-Henslee seconded closing the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously via roll call.

##### Resolution 2022-22: 2023 Levy

**MOTION:** Megan Dugan moved and Kristy Morgan seconded approval of Resolution 2022-22. The motion carried unanimously via roll call.

#### 7.3 2023 Preliminary Budget (second reading)

Shelley reviewed the details of the 2023 Preliminary Budget. This budget will be on the December meeting's consent agenda.

#### 7.4 Energy Northwest EVCS Lease Agreement

Energy Northwest seeks the option to lease a portion of the Stevenson Community Library parking lot for electric vehicle charging stations. Shelley presented information on the project and the lease agreement and responded to Board questions.

##### Resolution 2022-24: Electronic Vehicle Charging Station Agreement

**MOTION:** Olga Hodges moved and Megan Dugan seconded approval of Resolution 2022-24. The motion carried unanimously via roll call.

#### 7.5 Nominating Committee: Slate of 2023 Officers/Committee Appointments

Trustees received a draft 2023 meeting schedule for review. Please share via email to administration any conflicts you may have. The suggested slate of 2023 officers will be voted on at the December meeting. Nominations are: Kristy Morgan, Chair; Megan Dugan, Vice Chair; and Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, Secretary.

#### 7.6 Personnel Committee: Executive Director's Annual Review

The Executive Director received her annual review in writing.

##### Resolution 2022-23: Executive Director's Compensation

**MOTION:** Penny Love-Henslee moved and Mary Ann Duncan-Cole seconded approval of Resolution 2022-23. The motion carried unanimously via roll call.

### **8. BOARD COMMENTS**

Kristy Morgan thanked Chair Higgins for reinstating public comment for items not on the agenda. Morgan was impressed with the 3D printer technology the libraries provide noting the medical devices they can

create at low cost. Olga Hodges thanked Amelia Shelley for guiding her through the budget and numbers. Jane Higgins thanked the Foundation for coming to the meeting and delivering a draft MOU for consideration.

**9. NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next meeting is Monday, December 19, 2022 (Vancouver/Zoom)

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

**Approved:**

*Dorcas Jane Higgins*  
Dorcas Jane Higgins (Dec 20, 2022 12:07 PST)

Jane Higgins, Chair

Dec 20, 2022

Date

*Penny Love-Henslee*  
Penny Love-Henslee (Dec 20, 2022 21:28 PST)

Penny Love-Henslee, Vice Chair

Dec 20, 2022

Date