

**Minutes**  
**ODL Board of Directors**  
**November 5, 2004**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Oklahoma Department of Libraries**  
**South Conference Room**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**

Chair Judi Knapp called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for roll call. Board members present: Duchess Bartmess, Betty Bass, Anne Geurkink, Doyle Kinney, Judi Knapp, and Susan McVey, ex officio. Absent: Hannibal Johnson, Sherry Roberts.

Guests and staff present: Karen Currie, Ginny Dietrich, Susan Gilley, Mary Hardin, Gary Harrington, Sandra King, Vicki Mohr, Debra Schwartz, Vicki Sullivan and Desiree Webber.

Knapp asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 24, 2004 meeting. Kinney moved the minutes be approved. Bartmess seconded. Votes were as follows: Bartmess, yes; Bass, yes; Geurkink, yes; Kinney, yes; Knapp, yes; Johnson, absent; Roberts, absent. The motion passed.

New board member Hannibal Johnson will attend the January 28, 2005 board meeting. Mr. Johnson is an author, Harvard Law School graduate, attorney and consultant, and adjunct professor at the University of Tulsa College of Law and at OSU. Johnson is the author of the books *Aces of Aspiration*, *All Black Towns in Oklahoma*, *Black Wall Street*, and *Up From the Ashes*.

McVey asked for Division reports. Susan Gilley, Cartwright Library, reported two new Supreme Court Justices, Stephen Taylor and Tom Colbert, have been sworn in. Judge Taylor presided over the Terry Nichols trial and will replace retiring Judge Ralph Hodges, who served for forty years. Colbert replaces Judge Daniel Boudreau. All of the judges are frequent law library users and the new judges were presented an *Oklahoma Almanac* and library card application.

Leslie Gelders reported on the Pro Literacy Conference. Seven hundred and eighty people attended (including two hundred from Oklahoma and eighty-five adult learners). Conference highlights were the welcoming reception, the opening session with Lieutenant Governor Mary Fallin, the Friday night banquet with author Billie Letts, and Representative Newport's session on advocacy. A speaker from the U.S. Department of Education also attended. The basket auction raised three thousand dollars for literacy efforts.

Gary Harrington spoke about the upcoming *Oral History* workshops to be held on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at the Oklahoma City Zoo Education Center, and held in conjunction with *Archives Week*, November 14<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>. Brochures were sent to historical societies, museums, libraries and other interested individuals.

*Oklahoma Reads Oklahoma* will announce the 2005 winner at a ceremony on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004, in the State Capitol's Blue Room. Each author or a representative will speak about his or

her book. Secretary of State Susan Savage and author Billie Letts will be on hand at the event to honor this year's authors and to announce the selected title. Members of the media, capitol staff, Oklahoma readers, and ODL board members are invited to the announcement.

Mohr reported on the status of grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The original grant received in 2000 was for the purchase of computer hardware and software. In addition, the Foundation staff provided training for public librarians to use the computer equipment and software. Subsequent grants for \$302,640 in the categories of connectivity and computer hardware replacement are the current active projects.

The T1 Connectivity grant funds the upgrading of forty-six libraries' computer connections from dsl and 56k lines to T1 lines. A T1 line increases access speed and allows libraries to have an online catalog. The speed of 56k and dsl lines is not adequate to operate online catalogs. Desiree Webber, Mustang Public Library, spoke briefly about using the grant for a T1 line and to establish a computer training lab, with six laptops and wireless connections.

Mohr also spoke about the grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to be used for computer hardware and software upgrades for computers used by the public in selected public libraries. Communities' poverty level (provided from the U.S. Census data) was used as one of the criteria for the grant for replacements and upgrades. A few libraries that did not or could not apply for the original computer hardware and software grants the first time were allowed to apply for this grant.

McVey reported that staff member Donna Norvell, Children's Services Consultant for ODL, passed away October 27<sup>th</sup>, due to terminal illness. Norvell had been with ODL since 1992 and produced many of ODL's summer reading programs.

Vicki Mohr spoke about the *Oklahoma Reads Oklahoma* statewide tour with author Billie Letts. Letts visited sixteen communities around the state. Staff members Bill Young, Cathy Van Hoy, Ginny Dietrich, Pat Williams, Kitty Pittman, and Vicki Mohr took turns accompanying Letts to the sixteen locations. Attendance was high at each program.

Knapp asked for any public comment. There was none.

Knapp asked for consideration on the following FFY2004 federal Library Services and Technology Act grant proposals:

1. ODL will participate in a collaborative summer reading program with about thirty other state libraries. A common theme will be chosen and developed, with manuals, posters, bookmarks, reading records, reading certificates, stickers, and book bags. ODL will provide baseline materials and libraries will be able to purchase additional materials from the *UPSTART* company. The production schedule will be earlier and the bulk of the order will be shipped directly to the libraries. A young adult programming manual and materials will be available as well as a directory of Oklahoma presenters available for programs. Regional workshops will be held to introduce the theme. Approximately 97,000 children participated in last year's summer reading program.

2. Continuing Education grants will be awarded to libraries to allow staff to attend continuing education events such conferences sponsored by the Public Library Association, American Library Association, Texas Library Association, Oklahoma Library Association, and others. All recipients must earn less than \$35,000 and be currently certified under the Oklahoma Certification Program and must not have received three or more conference grants in previous years. The library or system must also be eligible for State Aid.

Knapp asked for consideration and a possible vote on the FFY2004 federal Library Services and Technology Act grant proposals. Bartmess made the motion to accept and Geurkink seconded. Votes were as follows: Bartmess, yes; Bass, yes; Geurkink, yes; Kinney, yes; Knapp, yes; Johnson, absent; Roberts, absent. The motion passed.

Next agenda item was consideration and possible vote on the 2005 Board meeting schedule. Bartmess made a motion to accept the schedule with 10:00 a.m. meeting times, and Kinney seconded. Votes were as follows: Bartmess, yes; Bass, yes; Geurkink, yes; Kinney, yes; Knapp, yes; Johnson, absent; Roberts, absent. The motion passed.

Consideration and possible vote on the formula for State Aid was next. The legislature provides money to fund public libraries that meet the requirements of the State Aid Rules and Regulations. The Office of Library Development tries to assist all libraries in attaining State Aid eligibility. A library must receive State Aid to be eligible for federal grants available through the department. The state aid formula for FY2005 is that public library systems will receive \$8.69 per square mile plus per capita. Unaffiliated libraries will receive either the minimum grant of \$1,417 for communities under 3,000 or per capita for communities over 3,000. The per capita amount is 0.461549097. Bass made the motion to accept the formula and Bartmess seconded. Votes were as follows: Bartmess, yes; Bass, yes; Geurkink, yes; Kinney, yes; Knapp, yes; Johnson, absent; Roberts, absent. The motion passed.

McVey invited the board members to attend the library open house at the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism immediately after adjournment.

Knapp asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kinney motioned to adjourn, and Geurkink seconded. Votes were as follows: Bartmess, yes; Bass, yes; Geurkink, yes; Kinney, yes; Knapp, yes; Johnson, absent; Roberts, absent. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m. ODL's next board meeting is January 28, 2005, 10 a.m.

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Susan McVey, Secretary