

*Minutes of the Meeting of the
Consortium of County Law Library Resources Boards
November 19, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
Ohio Supreme Court Law Library, Columbus, Ohio*

The Consortium of County Law Library Resources Boards (hereinafter "Consortium") held a meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at the Ohio Supreme Court Law Library in Columbus, Ohio. The following Board Members were in attendance: Chair Judge Charles Schneider; Ken Kozlowski; and Secretary Kathleen M. Dugan. Also in attendance were: Executive Director Judy Maxwell; Senior Assistant Attorney General Jessica Tom; Business Counsel Kari B. Hertel from the Ohio Attorney General's office (arrived at 10:45 a.m.); Angela Baldree; and Sharla Parkomaki. Advisory Council members Susan Boland, Mary Jenkins and Dick Baker participated by telephone, and Galen Avery arrived in person at 10:12 a.m. The following County Law Librarians participated by telephone: Kendel Croston; Melissa Barney; and Ardis Stein.

Judge Schneider convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. and called for approval of the September 29, 2015 Minutes. Judge Schneider made a motion to approve these Minutes, Ken Kozlowski seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Judy Maxwell then presented the Fiscal 2015 report, indicating that she estimates finishing year end 2015 with a balance of \$8,457.98, which is sufficient to pay Memoranda of Understanding ("MOU") with 3 CLLRBs. She also stated that she and Ken Kozlowski are frustrated with ongoing, legitimate bills from Lexis, she had to cancel the Domestic Relations Handbook, and she will insist on immediate invoices for everything that Lexis ships next year. As a result, Judge Schneider moved to approve the cancellation of the Domestic Relations Handbook, Ken Kozlowski seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

The Board next discussed its prior approval of \$50,000.00 toward Lexis books for 2016, and Ms. Maxwell indicated that legal counsel is still working out contract language to dovetail with the State's biennium. Judge Schneider reaffirmed that the Board would like to commit to the longest contract term possible.

Judge Schneider then indicated that there may be some uncertainty about the future of OJI if its publisher, the Ohio Judicial Conference, disbands. There is some talk about the Ohio Supreme Court taking over publication, but the Judge does not favor that proposal.

Ms. Maxwell then presented a proposal from West Publishing for discounts on 2, 3 or 4 titles for every CLLRB. The Board discussed these options, the figure of \$80,000.00 which the Board previously authorized, potential statutory dues the Consortium might expect in early 2016, and alternative sources information Westlaw plans and through the Consortium's ILL system. Although Judge Schneider indicated that Franklin County Law Library's revenues have been up in 2015, Ms. Dugan indicated that her Library's revenues are down significantly. As a result, the

Board postponed a decision on West books and indicated that it will revisit the issue in 1st quarter 2016 once revenue can be evaluated.

Jessica Tom then indicated that the renewal MOU's with the Clermont and Delaware County Law Libraries reflect wage increases, and all 3 renewal MOU's have been signed by the Attorney General's office. As a result, Judge Schneider signed all 3 MOU's during the meeting.

The Board next discussed revisions to the optional grant guidelines. Angela Baldree explained the changes she made and indicated that she will reduce the maximum amount to \$50,000.00. Pursuant to an inquiry from Judge Shriver, she included the costs of registration, transportation and housing for staff training grants. Pursuant to a question from Mary Jenkins, the Board consensus was to add a requirement that grant recipients provide a report, and upon the failure to do so, grant recipients would have to refund their grant money and remain ineligible for future grants until providing the report. Discussion then ensued about libraries submitting multiple grant requests. Pursuant to a suggestion by Ms. Dugan, Judge Schneider moved to 1) change the existing language from a maximum of \$5,000.00 in any category to a maximum of \$5,000.00 per library, and 2) require libraries that submit grant requests in multiple categories to prioritize their requests. Ken Kozlowski seconded this motion, and it was unanimously approved. Judge Schneider then moved to approve all of the suggested changes in the grant RFP, including the \$50,000.00 total allocated for optional grants. Ken Kozlowski seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mary Jenkins then updated the Board on a proposed merger between a public library and a law library in Portland, Oregon. She further indicated that best practices for these arrangements are being drafted to ensure that users, citizens and access to justice are kept in the forefront. When she mentioned county law library closures over the last few years, Judge Schneider asked her to present Ohio's model to AALL if it would be helpful to others.

Kari Hertel arrived at this time (10:45 a.m.).

Ms. Dugan asked the Board to consider seeking its own grants to fund projects, and Jessica Tom indicated that there are no prohibitions on state entities applying for grants. Judge Schneider suggested that the Board could approach the Columbus Bar Foundation and others. Ms. Dugan suggested that a committee could identify projects, funds needed, funders, and a timeline. The Advisory Council was asked to identify possible projects and potential funding sources and then submit the data to the Board. The Board will then send a detailed survey to all Consortium members. Mary Jenkins offered to convene the Advisory Council meetings.

Under items too late for the agenda, Shara Parkomaki indicated that the judges and commissioners in Ashtabula County have decided to move the County Law Library from the Courthouse to an old law office that it recently purchased. The space is smaller, and it will be renovated, but she does not have any details yet. The Judge offered to help if the Law Library would like the Consortium to intervene. Both Ms. Dugan and Ms. Maxwell supported that offer,

and Angela Baldree suggested that John Leutz should be notified. Ms. Maxwell then indicated that another county is having trouble like Wood County experienced, and she has sent that Library Wood County's information and an Attorney General opinion.

Judge Schneider then noted that George Baker is ill and was not able to attend the meeting. He asked everyone to keep George in their thoughts and pass on any information that they hear about his condition.

The Board next discussed training for Consortium members, and Judge Schneider offered to host the first live training session in early 2016 at a new Franklin County Common Pleas Courtroom. He also indicated that the Columbus Law Library Association would pay for lunch and copy expenses. Ms. Maxwell indicated that she is creating a master directory of existing training programs, podcasts, 'cool tools' programs, LibGuides, and other training materials. Angela and Ms. Dugan suggested coordinating 'cool tools' training with the Spring Retreat of the ORALL County SIG on April 22, 2016 at the Franklin Courthouse. To facilitate this, Judge Schneider moved to change the optional grant approval deadline from April 1, 2016 to April 30, 2016. Ken Kozlowski seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Mary Jenkins then suggested holding telephone conferences with a moderator on some of the other topics sooner. Ms. Dugan suggested a subcommittee be created to plan these programs and offered to participate. However, it was decided that anyone who was interested would discuss topics and projects after the Board meeting. Angela Baldree suggested that Kari Hertel could assist with a program on negotiating contracts with vendors. Judge Schneider then asked Ms. Maxwell to send an email to CLLRBs about the April 22, 2016 date.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Judge Schneider adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathleen M. Dugan, Esq., MLS