

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PIERCE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MEETING MINUTES – JULY 14, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pat Jenkins called to order the regular meeting of the Pierce County Rural Library District Board of Trustees at 3:30 pm. Board members present were Jamilyn Penn, Brian Thomason and Rob Allen. Daren Jones was excused. The meeting was conducted virtually due to the Safe Start Washington Reopening Plan to slow the transmission of the coronavirus.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of June 9, 2021, Regular Meeting
2. Approval of June 2021 Payroll, Benefits and Vouchers
3. Staff Vehicle Purchases
4. Resolution 2021-08: To Declare Furnishings and Equipment Surplus to Public Service Needs

Trustee Allen moved for approval of the consent agenda. Trustee Thomason seconded the motion and it was passed.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Trustee Thomason thanked the Board and Library staff for the experience serving on the Board. He praised the relationships between the Library leadership team and the Board.

ROUTINE REPORTS

Branch Services Report – Customer Experience Managers Kayce Austin and Meghan Sullivan reported the Summit Library opened today for in building service. Sumner and Eatonville would be opening next. Lakewood and Parkland/Spanaway Libraries are scheduled to open for in-building service later this month. Capacity limits will be expanding in the near future.

Executive Director Lomax thanked the team and expressed her excitement to welcome the public back into the buildings.

Farewell and Thank you to Rob Allen and Brian Thomason – Director Georgia Lomax expressed her gratitude to Trustee Allen for his 10-year service on the Board. She thanked him for his ongoing support of the Library and its communities, noting his advice and guidance have been invaluable.

Director Lomax also thanked Trustee Thomason for his commitment to the Library, as well as his valued perspective, during his short term on the Board.

Fellow Board members added their sentiments of appreciation for Trustee Allen's and Thomason's service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Future Libraries Update – Director Lomax provided an overview of the project. The Sumner Library is on the Library's Facilities Master Plan priority list for improvement. The current building is over 40 years old and is difficult to access due to traffic issues. The City of Sumner purchased 1.7 acres on Main Street in 2018 to hold as a location for a potential new library. The public was surveyed in 2019 and indicated a strong interest in a new building and location. The Library conducted a fundraising feasibility study in 2019. The project was paused during the pandemic, and in the summer of 2020, the Library reevaluated the plan and made some changes, including eliminating asking voters to consider funding the project through a property tax bond levy. The project will rely on available funds and philanthropy.

The next step is to transfer ownership of the property from the City to the Library. City and Library staff will work with the City Council and Library Board of Trustees in August and September.

Fundraising efforts continue in the "silent phase". The Capital Campaign Steering Team is speaking with potential donors and community members who they hope will provide lead gifts.

COVID-19 Update on Public Meetings – Director Lomax confirmed that public meetings are still required to be virtual.

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Budget Calendar – Finance and Business Operations Director Cliff Jo provided an overview of the budget process for the remainder of the year. He noted property values have increased by 16% or more in Pierce County, which is higher than previous projections.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:15 pm, Trustee Penn moved to recess to Executive Session, per RCW 42.30.110 and RCW 42.30.140, to discuss a periodic personnel evaluation and collective bargaining for approximately 20 minutes. Trustee Allen seconded the motion and it was passed. The Session ended at 4:41 pm.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Trustee Vacancy – Director Lomax noted the appointments of the new Trustees should be on the Council's agenda soon. They will join the Board in August.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm on motion by Trustee Allen, seconded by Trustee Penn.

Georgia Lomax, Secretary

Pat Jenkins, Chair