Vice-Chair Donna Albers called to order the regular meeting of the Pierce County Rural Library District Board of Trustees at 3:32 pm. Board members present were J.J. McCament, Allen Rose and Linda Ishem. Rob Allen was absent.

There was no public comment.

Ms. McCament moved for approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Rose seconded the motion and it was passed.

Mr. Rose provided an update on the upcoming US Open golf tournament.

Ms. McCament asked about delinquent taxes being lower than in past years. Clifford Jo, Finance and Business Director, noted it is a result of fewer delinquencies.

Ms. Lomax said staff voted and ranked responses from the SWOT exercises. Supervisors worked with staff to draw conclusions. She noted the responses were thoughtful and cohesive and will be used to focus and set direction through the end of 2016 and will allow the Library to use its budget wisely as it begins a full comprehensive planning process. Ms. Lomax added the Library will use a consultant for the planning process.

Ms. Lomax said the Library is very excited that Elise DeGuiseppi will be on the committee. She noted Ms. DeGuiseppi will serve a two year term and the Library will be supporting her attendance at conferences.
Legal Counsel - Ms. Lomax reported the Library has entered into an agreement with Summit Law Group for labor counsel, a step that reflects the Library’s growth as an organization. Chereé Green, Staff Experience Director, said the goal was to create a strategic long-term partnership with the group, which is experienced in working with public entities. Mr. Rose said it would be helpful to have a firm devoted to labor law.

Regional Trustees’ Gathering - Ms. Lomax noted the event will be held Saturday, October 24, 2015. The time has yet to be determined. Ms. McBride, Clerk to the Board, will send a meeting notice to the Trustees.

Deputy Director Hiring - Ms. Lomax reported the position will be posted shortly and close early July. Interviews will be held in August.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board Vacancy - Trustee Appointment - Ms. Lomax said an offer has been extended to Monica Butler, who is looking forward to being on the Board. Mr. Rose noted the appointment request was logged today and will move through the Council within the next several weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Capital Projects - Year-End Report - Mr. Jo reviewed projects from 2014, noting they were much smaller and most were on budget. He said the Library plans to keep $1 million in the capital fund over the next five years as it works on technology projects in lieu of building projects. McCament asked about elevated restroom upgrade costs. Mr. Jo said this was a result of additional costs to meet new code standards. Ms. Ishem asked if the Library needed larger contingencies on older buildings. Mr. Jo said a contingency is usually budgeted at 10% but as buildings age that may be increased to accommodate code related upgrades.

2015 Mid-Year Budget Process - Ms. Lomax said the Library has had a long-standing process focused primarily on the using the dollars and cents. This year department heads are looking at the budget as one element of the operating plan so they will be asking themselves how they are doing in achieving the work set in motion by approving the budget.

Ms. Lomax said she will be confirming work plans and priorities for the 3rd and 4th quarters for both departments and the system as a whole to ensure budgeted work and services are accomplished.

Ms. Ishem praised Ms. Lomax’s decision, noting it is good practice to monitor recovery and strategically redeploy resources.

Mr. Jo reported county property values will be released next week.

Ms. Lomax noted she and Ms. Ishem will be attending the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Annual Forum June 24-25, 2015. Also in June, several staff members are attending the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference. Several staff members will join her in the ALA career center to network and encourage potential job-seekers to consider Pierce County Library System.

Ms. McCament said she enjoyed the article in the Puyallup Herald featuring Ms. Lomax.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm on motion by Ms. McCament, seconded by Ms. Ishem.