King County Library System
Board of Trustees Meeting

Videoconference
5pm • August 25, 2021

PRESENT

KCLS Board
Pamela Grad
Ron Higgs
Harish Kulkarni
Robin McClelland
Srini Raghavan
Anne Repass
Lalita Upalala

KCLS Staff
Julie Acteson
Angelina Benedetti
Jenny Engstrom
Nicholas Lee
Sergio Razo
Cynthia McNabb
Dominica Myers
Danielle Perry
Sergio Razo
Greg Smith
Tracey Thompson

MOTIONS APPROVED

1. Board Meeting agenda
2. July 28, 2021 Board Meeting minutes
3. Payroll expenditures
4. General Fund #0010 expenditures

CALL TO ORDER
President Ron Higgs called the meeting to order at 5:05pm. Trustee McClelland joined the meeting via telephone.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Harish Kulkarni moved approval of the Board Meeting agenda. Anne Repass seconded. Pamela Grad moved to amend the agenda to remove Fresh Start from the Staff Reports. Lalita Upalala seconded and the motion passed by majority. (Trustee McClelland’s vote was not audible.)

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES
Lalita Upalala moved approval of the July 28, 2021 Board Meeting minutes. Srini Raghavan seconded and the motion passed by majority. (Trustee McClelland’s vote was not audible.)

PUBLIC COMMENT
Helen Stanwell said there is no reason for libraries to be closed two days a week and in some cases three days a week, which accounts for a 55% reduction in normal operating hours. She said the public heard at last month’s Board meeting that KCLS is operating with a budget surplus as a result of reductions in open hours and other cost-saving measures, and she considers it a prevarication for KCLS to say there isn’t enough money to operate with full open hours. She said most library employees are part-time LTAs and PSAs who all want to work full time. If KCLS were to employ them full time and call back substitutes, there would be enough staff to operate normal hours and it would reduce the high turnover rate of this vital work force. Instead, she said Executive Director Rosenblum is spending funds to hire two Deputy Directors at the Service Center whose salaries top out at $192,000. No previous KCLS director has ever hired these positions, which makes her question whether they are essential or simply serving the needs of the Executive Director. Ms. Stanwell said that instead of all branches being closed on Sunday and Monday, she questioned why some branches can’t be open Sunday through Thursday, and others open Tuesdays through Saturday so that the public has library access seven days a week? She also questioned whether libraries are being targetted for decreased funding to sway people to vote for a levy lid lift, and whether the Executive Director is aware of low staff morale.

Cynthia McNabb, Deputy Director of Administrative Services, responded on Lisa Rosenblum’s behalf. She said that KCLS is analyzing current operations, including library schedules in each region and what positions, if any, can be converted from part time to full time in order to add more open hours. Ms. McNabb said she cannot speak to the last two questions but said they would be recorded for Executive Director Rosenblum.
STAFF REPORTS

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM - FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Greg Smith, Director of Facilities Management Services, said that KCLS’ five-year Capital Investment Program (CIP) covers major repair and replacement of capital assets. Projects are prioritized based on four criteria: health and safety standards; urgency; support for new or expanded services; and condition based on Estimated Useful Life (EUL) or Facility Condition Index (FCI) metrics. Projects also may be initiated in order to remain code-compliant with local jurisdictions.

Year to date, there are 23 projects currently in design, underway, or completed. Six projects were moved up from 2022. The Service Center roof repair is the only project over budget based on current bids. KCLS anticipates total expenditures for all projects combined will be on or under budget.

FINANCE REPORT

General fund revenue year to date in July was $69.3M, including $513K in current-year property tax payments. KCLS will receive its next significant property tax payment in October.

Total general fund expenditures year to date in July were $63.5M, which reflects 48.8% of the total budget expended.

Year-to-date expenditures in the Capital Investment Program are $1.2M, which includes $623K in the FMS program budget (24.9% expended) and $558K in the ITS program budget (38.3% expended).

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY EXPENDITURES

Srin Raghavan moved approval of Payroll expenditures for July in the amount of $2,563,235.80: (07/09) Ck#00200673-00200690; 407374471-407375671; (07/23) Ck#00200691-00200705; 410646496-410647689. Anne Repass seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Pamela Grad moved approval of General Fund #0010 expenditures for July in the amount of $4,898,960.76: Travel Advances - Ck#; (07/07) Ck#5012721-5012728; (07/07) Ck#1134484-1134486; (07/07) Ck#1134487-1134565; (07/12) Ck#5012729; (07/12) Ck#1134566-1134567; (07/14) Ck#5012730; (07/14) Ck#113458-1134705 (07/20) Ck#1134706-1134730; (07/22) Ck#5012731-5012740; (07/22) Ck#1134731-1134820; (07/26) Ck#1134821-1134873; (07/28) Ck#5012741-5012743; (07/28) Ck#1134874-1134940; (07/30) Ck#1134941-1134973; (08/03) Ck#1134974-1135016; (08/04) Ck#5012744; Voids - Ck#1134597. Harish Kulakarni seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The Executive Director’s report was submitted as written in Lisa Rosenblum’s absence.

TRUSTEES REPORT

There were no Trustee reports.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:04pm.

Ron Higgs, President

Anne Repass, Secretary