

LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MEETING OF THE LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Tuesday 15 June 2021

Minutes No. 860

The meeting was held in the Bronwyn Halliday Learning Studio, Spence Wing, State Library and started at 10.00am.

1 Welcome

1.1 Present

Bruce Linn (Chair), Professor Amanda Nettelbeck, Janet Finlay, Bronwyn Lewis, Scott Hicks, Megan Berghuis, Professor Joanne Cys and Jillian Whittaker.

In Attendance:

Geoff Stempel (Director, State Library of SA)

Jo Bayly (Associate Director, State Library Services)

Hanlie Erasmus (Associate Director, Public Library Services)

Marissa King (Manager, Finance Risk and Compliance, State Library & Public Library Services)

Tracey Parnis (State Library of SA – Minutes)

1.2 Apologies

Nil.

1.3 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair made an acknowledgement of Country.

1.4 Conflict of Interest

Bronwyn Lewis declared a conflict of interest regarding the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia.

Local Government Council members declared a standing conflict of interest regarding negotiations for a new MOA between State and Local Governments.

2 Starring of Agenda Items

Motion: That all non-starred items be received and all recommendations contained therein are adopted and carried.

Moved: S Hicks

Seconded: B Lewis

3 Minutes

3.1 Minutes of previous meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 10 May be confirmed.

Moved: A Nettelbeck

Seconded: B Lewis

3.2 Action List – June 2021

- The first five actions on the list are budget related and due dates will be included when the budget has been finalised.

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- Subgroup to discuss the management of investments has met. A Draft Board Investment Policy is under consideration and expected to be finalised in July 2021.
- The Draft Policy includes an ESG (environmental, social and governance) section.
- Macquarie has been providing advice on adjusting the risk profile of the Board's investments.

3.3 Matters dealt with out of session

(a) Circular Motion to Board regarding approval of the trading of investments
(emailed to Board 4/6/21 and approved by Board 7/6/21)

The Board notes and records its approval of the Circular Motion of 4 June 2021. The motion being:

- the trading of investments as follows based on investment values at 31 May 2021:
 - Australian Foundation Investment Co (AFI) sell to the value of approximately \$669,000
 - Shopping Centres Australasia Property Group (SCP) sell to the value of approximately \$411,000
 - Sydney Airport (SYD) sell to the value of approximately \$282,000
 - Mineral Resources (MIN) purchase to the value of approximately \$340,000
 - Inghams Group (ING) purchase to the value of approximately \$340,000
 - Woodside Petroleum (WPL) purchase to the value of approximately \$340,000
 - Computershare (CPU) purchase to the value of approximately \$340,000
- the Director executing his delegation in line with the above.

Moved: J Finlay

Seconded: B Lewis

4 Strategic Matters (Presentations, Key Strategy Updates)

4.1 Memorandum of Agreement Negotiations Update

The Chair and Director, State Library met with Local Government Association President, Mayor Angela Evans to further discuss the MOA.

The MOA will now be between the Libraries Board of South Australia and the Local Government Association. This change has been reflected in the draft MOA.

Once the State Budget is delivered on Tuesday 22 June 2021, the MOA discussion can be finalised.

Discussion was held about establishing a Board Charter which would include key objectives of the Board, funding of the public libraries and the State Library, investment approach and other relevant matters.

Moved: B Lewis

Seconded: M Berghuis

5 For Decision (Strategic)

5.1 Budgets for State Library, Public Library Services and the public library network over the forward estimates

Circular Motion to Board regarding SLSA/PLS State Budgets
(emailed to Board 18/6/21 and approved by Board 21/6/2021)

Motion: The Libraries Board approves the resolution in principle subject to minor edits after circulating a final draft to the Board. The resolution being:

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The Libraries Board is deeply concerned about the significant cuts to funding for the library sector over the Government's budget forward estimates projections which reduces funding by \$3.391M over this period.

For the purposes of ensuring grants to councils and certainty in budgeting for the State Library for the 2021/22 year the Board approves a \$20.701M allocation (plus carry over funds of \$430,000) for the public library network and \$14.992M for the State Library.

The Board can not endorse the proposed funding allocations for the subsequent years and seeks a meeting with senior DPC and DTF staff to discuss the impact of the intended unsustainable cuts to the Library sector beyond 2021-2022.

The Board also notes the long-standing role of public libraries and the State Library in supporting digital transformation, social and digital inclusion in accordance with the Arts Plan, and seeks additional funding to address these government priorities.

The Board reaffirms its commitment to exploring diversification of its funding from various government and private sources.

The Board asks the Executive to identify what would need to be cut from the State Library's services, programs and activities to allow it to exist within its current budget allocation.

Moved: A Nettelbeck Seconded: S Hicks

6 For Decision (Operational) 6.1 Royal Geographical Society of South Australia – update

Motion: The Libraries Board approves:

- A proposal to modify the tenancy agreement for the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia (RGSSA) to provide greater clarity of the Board's role and intentions in relation to the management of the Society's library collection.
- An approach that facilitates the assessment of the value to the State Library of South Australia of any items that the RGSSA seeks to sell or dispose of.
- A letter to the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia outlining the Board's intentions in relation to this matter.

Moved: M Berghuis Seconded: Professor J Cys

[Bronwyn Lewis abstained from the vote]

6.2 History Trust of South Australia History Trust staff will be co-located with State Library staff which is seen as beneficial.

Motion: The Libraries Board notes the status of discussions with HTSA in relation to a potential co-location of some staff commencing in 2022 and provides approval for SLSA officers to continue negotiations.

Moved: B Lewis Seconded: A Nettelbeck

6.3 Support for possible Writers' Fellowships Support for the fellowships was viewed as a strategic way to raise the profile of the State Library and the Board.

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The Library has taken over the management of the Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature, including the Premier's Awards.

Motion: The Libraries Board approves to:

- assign \$10,000 p.a. for three years as part of its contribution towards Writers' Fellowships subject to contributions from Writers SA, Arts SA and the Australia Council for the Arts.
- approach the three South Australian universities to propose their engagement with the Library in regard to the Fellowships.
- invite the Premier of South Australia to launch the Writers' Fellowships at the 2022 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature award ceremony.
- include a Marketing and Communications section in future Board papers to highlight the value of initiatives to the Library.

Moved: B Lewis Seconded: Professor J Cys

6.4 OneCard LMS Contract Variation

Motion:

- The Libraries Board notes the formal contract review which Public Library Services has undertaken. No significant issues were identified in this review.
- The Libraries Board approves:
 - a) PLS seeking an LMS contract variation with SirsiDynix for an additional four (4) years (2+2) with a new expiry date of 30 April 2026, for the continuation of services of the fully hosted LMS solution in place servicing all South Australian public libraries. (The estimated value of the variation is \$3M with an estimated total value of the contract of \$9.5M, which is for the term (7+3) +2+2 years, totalling 14 years.)
 - b) that PLS writes to all councils outlining this plan to extend the current contract seeking their support and feedback before a formal recommendation is made to the Libraries Board for the contract extension which will provide for a new contract completion date of up to April 2026. During 2025 a full open market approach will likely need to occur.

Moved: M Berghuis Seconded: B Lewis

6.5 Financial Authorisations 2021-2022 Update

Motion: The Libraries Board approves the updated attached Financial Authorisations 2021-2022 effective 1 July 2021.

Moved: M Berghuis Seconded: Professor J Cys

7. Director's Report

The Director provided a verbal report on:

- Mem Fox's visit to the Library to view the proposed location for the new children's / family area in the Library
- the appointment of a Cultural Change Lead who will work 3 days a week
- History Council of South Australia Awards which were held in the Mortlock
- a meeting held with Public Library Managers to discuss strategic priorities.

Moved: S Hicks Seconded: B Lewis

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- 8. **For noting**
- 8.1 **Unstarred item. Public Library Services Report for the January to March 2021 quarter**

Motion: The Libraries Board notes this report.

- 9. **Any Other Business**
No other business was raised.

- 10. **Date of Next Meeting**
The next Libraries Board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 12 July 2021** at **10am** in the Bronwyn Halliday Learning Studio, State Library of South Australia.

The meeting closed at 12.03pm.

Chair:

Date: