Welcome and Introductions

President Bernardo called the California Library Services Board meeting to order on April 8, 2016 at 9:54 a.m.


California State Library Staff Present: State Librarian Greg Lucas, Deputy State Librarian Gerald Maginnity, Janet Coles, Lisa Dale, Susan Hanks, Wendy Hopkins, Lena Pham, Monica Rivas, Annly Roman, and Mark Webster.

Adoption of Agenda

President Bernardo requested that the agenda be amended to move item D, Legislative Update, to right after item B, Reports to the Board. Mike Dillon and Christina DiCaro, the lobbyists for the California Library Association, had an update on the budget, which she thought the Board should hear prior to discussing the budget portion of the agenda.

It was moved, seconded (Christmas/Murguia) and carried unanimously that the California Library Services Board adopts the agenda of the April 8, 2016 meeting as amended.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved, seconded (Maghsoudi/Huguenin) and carried unanimously that the California Library Services Board approves the draft minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting.

Board Meeting date for fall 2016
Annly Roman reported that the discussion at the September 2015 Board meeting was to have a face-to-face meeting in the fall. Staff recommended the meeting be held in Sacramento in late August or early September. President Bernardo commented that late August would be her preference, especially since the Board would be dealing with budget issues. Annly Roman said that she would send out a Doodle poll to the Board for dates in early August and late September. She also stated that the Board would take care of the LSTA position of its duties at that meeting.

Annly Roman brought up that at the September 2015 meeting there had been some discussion on trying to meet with legislative offices in September 2016. She stated that most legislators would already be back in their districts but wanted to address the possibility to gauge the Board’s interest. President Bernardo said that she thought they did not need scheduled visits.

**Nomination of Board Officers**

Annly Roman put forward that the Nominating Committee, once elected, could a) independently discuss and decide who to put forward for the nomination, or b) put out a poll to the Board to gain a sense of what other Board members wanted. However, no matter what method they choose, nominations would still be considered from the floor as required by law.

Member Schockman commented that, as a Committee member from 2015, he felt the polling system was judicious, timely, and allowed everyone to have a say in the nomination and that system should be continued. Member Williams agreed.

President Bernardo suggested that they should act as the Nominating Committee again and both Member Schockman and Williams stated that they would be willing.

*It was moved, seconded (Murguia/Kastanis) and carried unanimously that the California Library Services Board appoints Eric Schockman and Connie Williams to the Nominating Committee to select Board Officers for 2017.*

**REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

**Board President’s Report**

President Bernardo reported that she had been monitoring the American Library Association’s listserv notices and alerts to contact legislators. She participated in the American Association of Law Libraries Government Relations Office listserv and made attempts to stay on top of their
activities and alerts, and she also monitored the California Library Association’s calix listserv and
saw quite a bit of activity and discussion on what’s going on with public libraries.

President Bernardo reported that she was able to attend the Special Libraries Association
Sierra Nevada Chapter Workshop in Davis, CA. She attended, as the law library’s liaison, the State
Bar’s law practice, management, and technologies meeting. She also attended the Council of
County Law Librarians legislative day on March 1. They were preparing for their 125 anniversary
this year with a reception with legislators later in the summer.

**Board Vice-President’s Report**

Vice-President Maghsoudi reported that she participated on the California Library Association’s
(CLA) legislative meeting and sent out information or updates as necessary. She also participated
in the CLA conference.

**Chief Executive Officer’s Report**

State Librarian Lucas reported that this year the state budget allocated more funding for the
Literacy programs that the State Library conducted at about 800 libraries, which permitted the
addition of new jurisdictions and the stabilization of programs. This stabilized funding allowed for
the recruiting of more volunteer tutors, which lowered the backlog of learners.

Lucas also reported that, if the Federal Government passed the LSTA and IMLS portion of the
budget as proposed, the funding to be given out on a per-capita basis would be reduced from
previous years. California would still receive more funding due to a growth in its population,
however, some of the smaller states were concerned that they would receive less. ALA brought
that to the attention of congress but it was unclear what would happen.

The State Library was in the process of putting together the program for Federal money it
would receive in October. State Librarian Lucas said that the State Library would be taking almost
a third of the $10 million it normally put into the field and concentrating $1 million each on three
programs. The first would help local libraries and cultural institutions work together to prioritize
and digitize the most important parts of their collections. Another million would focus on
immigrant integration. Many new Californians use the library to find out where to go for basic
services. He stated that since libraries were already providing these services, the State Library was
trying to focus more attention on those issues. Lucas had meetings with Social Services, who had
put about $15 million toward helping immigrants complete the Deferred Action for Childhood
Arrivals (DACA) documentation, which was geared toward young people and allowed them to get
a two year work permit. The process was very complex and intimidating. Libraries in San Diego
County had done a terrific job of assisting with the DACA process and the State Library was trying
to connect libraries facing these immigration issues to help them get ideas for assistance
programs.

The third category was mental health or public health issues. As with the immigration issue,
many patrons seek answers to mental/public health questions at the library. Per the Department
of Public Health (DPH), all of the federal funding for “safety net” programs was allocated to
various state agencies; social services, CDFA, etc. DPH has struggled with how to ensure that
eligible individuals do not have to go to four different agencies for assistance when many have
trouble reaching a single agency. The State Library was looking into how these federal funds could
be used to facilitate an easier process.

State Librarian Lucas commented that the reason the State Library is trying to concentrate
funds on three areas was, in part, because of the Board’s discussion about public/private
partnerships at the April 2015 meeting. The State Library had $1 million and social services had
invested $15 million, maybe by working together the funds could go farther. Member Williams
suggested working with the school libraries on the immigration initiative. The high schools in their
county had been working with the local community colleges on DACA and would also like to work
with public libraries.

Member Kastanis asked what had been happening with the Prisons systems. Brandy Buenafe,
the Principal librarian from the California Corrections and Rehabilitation Department, commented
that last year Senate Bill 343 codified that prison libraries provide literacy instruction. That
allowed the Department of Corrections to access federal Workforce Investment Opportunity Act
money to increase prison libraries’ physical collections. They were also working on developing
partnerships with the community colleges that offer face-to-face instruction in the prisons to
provide support to learners with an emphasis on earning a legitimate college degree that required
academic research opportunities. The prisons were working on how to navigate having
computerized databases in a non-network world.
Member McGinity brought up literacy programs and expressed concern over a perceived lack of sharing amongst libraries on what programs or methods worked best. He asked if the State Library studied whether there were library literacy programs that touched a larger number of people more quickly and less expensively then other programs. He wanted to know if there was an opportunity to study that question to determine if there was a set of successful libraries that should be helping libraries that are not as successful. He felt like it was incumbent upon them as a Board to make sure that literacy money was being spent in the best way possible.

Lisa Dale, the State Library Literacy Director, commented that the state did an annual report, collecting information on how libraries reach out to their community, engage tutors, engage learners, and serve families. That information was reviewed by State Library staff and agencies were contacted about any issues. Lisa stated that there were also tightknit, regional networks that met at least annually and had shared listservs. Additionally, there was a California Literacy Services listserv where best practices were shared, so library practices were reviewed by State Library staff and shared regularly.

Additionally, many of the literacy coordinators were operating on shoe string budgets. What the state provided kept their programs going but they were unable to serve or reach all relevant segments of the community. In an effort to reach more learners coordinators asked colleagues how they could improve and the State library helped them with program improvement suggestions and efficiency ideas. State Librarian Lucas added that we were in the first or second year of a large examination of adult education in community colleges and how those services were provided. There were consortiums established which could provide local libraries a seat at the table to discuss those kinds of issues with community colleges. The intent was to create a spectrum of service, so there was an examination going on at the state level on how that consortium is working.

Member McGinity requested that Library staff send him a copy of their best reports so that he can get a sense of the programs. Lisa Dale stated that it would not be a problem.

Member McGinity brought up that the prior meeting’s minutes showed that the Board had requested a report to be brought to them in the fall showing a ten year span of the program
workload and the system demographics. Annly Roman commented that they would be provided that information with their fall meeting packets.

**Broadband Update Report**

Gerry Maginnity reported that it was the second year of Broadband Technology Improvement Grants. In year one of the state grants 42 libraries were enrolled, most of which should be connected by the end of the current fiscal year. Our partners; Cenic, Califa, and the Southern California Library Cooperative, did a thorough review with libraries this past summer and determined that 65 libraries would be eligible for the year two grants. 47 grants had been given out and three libraries were pending with either contract issues or waiting for bids. $1.272 million had been awarded. The year two libraries would begin to connect July 1, 2016. There were 31 libraries connected in an early pilot phase, aimed mostly at the central valley, which used local and federal Recovery Act funds, 42 in year one, and the potential for 47-50 in year two, so connections were approaching 130 public libraries connected out of 183 jurisdictions.

There was discussion of a potential need for network improvement in those pilot libraries because they were hooked up a while ago. A review would be conducted, with the potential of awarding around $400,000. Maginnity indicated the review would include eligible branches and connected libraries or libraries in the process of being connected. That information would be provided to the field, hopefully in April 2016. Maginnity estimated that close to $1 million would be awarded. Since the current budget did not provide more funding for broadband connections Maginnity commented that he estimated there would be potentially $1 million left to award in year three. Member Williams asked if $1 million would be enough to connect all the libraries including branches. Gerry Maginnity estimated it would take $4 to $5 million to finish.

Member McGinity asked why only 47-50 of the 65 eligible libraries were being connected and how eligibility was determined for the 65 libraries. Gerry Maginnity replied that libraries had dropped out for various reasons. He explained that libraries were contacted by the partners and a process outline provided. The beginning step was a letter of agency and once submitted each library looked at their resources to decide if they would go to the bid process. Some of them did not get that far, and some of them bid but could not do it this year.
Member Kastanis asked about responses from connected libraries, were people using and appreciating the connection. Gerry Maginnity commented that, based on responses he received; the connections were really making a difference. State Librarian Lucas commented that when he asked Library Directors if people were complimenting them on the faster speeds they say no, but they were getting fewer complaints. It showed that people using the library expected a fast connection and now expectations were being meeting. Gerry commented that these connections also lay the groundwork for additional projects not originally considered by the libraries such as digitization efforts which would benefit from a better broadband connection to improve delivery of the digital items. Additionally, some programs, such as Career Online High School, were all online and required a faster connection. These connections could help overcome reluctance to move into some of those areas. Lucas also pointed out that previously libraries were paying more for slower service. Connecting got libraries faster speeds, often at a significantly lower cost.

Member Huguenin asked if the State Library had partnered with any major internet providers since those businesses depended on people being able to read and download. She sat in on a meeting dealing with partnerships in other states and in Washington they were looking at providers paying for connections. She felt that since the industry was reliant on people connecting, maybe we could persuade those companies to fund a state network.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

**CLA Legislative Advocate’s Report**

Mike Dillon and Christina DiCaro, legislative advocates for the California Library Association (CLA), gave a report on the new California Library Services Act (CLSA) funds in the California State Budget. Mike Dillon gave a brief explanation of him and Christina’s involvement in CLA as well as a report on the origin of and historical funding levels of CLSA. He also discussed the state’s financial struggles over the last decade and the negative impact that had on public library and CLSA funding. This included a discussion of political changes, such as the decrease in the availability of funding and an increase in the number of people seeking funds, and the impact those changes had on him and Christina’s ability to effectively lobby on behalf of library issues.

Christina DiCaro detailed some of their advocacy efforts and the development of relationships with and the involvement of the Department of Finance (DOF) in these efforts. She described the
support and assistance they have received from the director of the DOF, Michael Cohen, and the budget analyst on library issues, Jack Zwald, as well as the DOF’s efforts to understand the systems and the library field in general.

She expressed that, during a meeting with DOF staff in October, in which the cooperative systems’ coordination was discussed, there was the impression of potential opportunities for additional CLSA funds. The CLA legislative committee provided ideas to the DOF, including digitization, platforms for the sharing of materials, universal library cards, library card programs for school children, as well as the critical need for reimbursement for the movement of eBook related materials. Additionally, she and Mike Dillon helped facilitate visits, by DOF staff, to libraries around the state, including an opportunity for all the NorthNet library directors to provide direct feedback and ideas, organized by Melanie Lightbody.

Christina reported the when Governor released his proposed 2016/2017 budget it provided, under the California Library Services Act, the $1.88 million systems have been getting for communications and delivery for the past 3 or 4 years, an additional $1.75 million in ongoing funding for communications and delivery, and $3 million in one-time funds.

After the budget release, Christina and Mike met with DOF staff to gain a sense of how they envisioned the funds being used. The staff indicated that they did not want to put many restrictions on the $3 million in one-time funding because they wanted to give the authority to the California Library Services Board (Board) to make some of those decisions. DOF staff indicated that the ongoing funding were necessary because the Systems needed boots on the ground to implement anything they would do with the one-time funding.

The $3 million in one-time funding was allocated in a budget trailer bill which also made modernizing changes to the California Library Services Act. Christina reported that the lack of bill language directing the spending of the one-time funding did generate some questions and concerns in the Senate Budget Subcommittee on exactly how the funds would be used. Both State Librarian Greg Lucas and Mike Dillon assured the members of the Subcommittee that the Board would be meeting to determine a framework for how the funds would be used. Christina expressed that they were cautiously optimistic that the CLSA money would be included in the final budget.
One change in the CLSA budget trailer bill was the permanent elimination of the language related to the Transfer Based Reimbursement (TBR) program, a way of reimbursing libraries for the movement and lending of materials. Christina DiCaro stated that, due to the decreased funding for CLSA there had not been money to fund the TBR program. The Department of Finance argued that the TBR system was probably not the best way to reimburse for the movement of materials and, by removing the language completely; they hoped to generate a conversation to find a better system.

Member Murguia asked for clarification on TBR because she represented a very rural area and she wasn’t sure how they might be impacted by removal of the TBR program. It was then asked if the State Library of California Library Association had a plan for TBR or a program in place of TBR. Both State Librarian Lucas and the Dillons indicated that they did not. Murguia asked if the Board was supposed to use the new funding to create a replacement program.

State Librarian Lucas indicated that the existing language allowed for reimbursement; I send you a book, I send you a bill, you send me a check, but funding had not been available for five years and there was no intent to provide any in the future. There were more cost effective ways of moving materials back and forth, such as moving them digitally. The new $3 million and $1.75 were to augment the Systems, not to create a replacement for TBR. On the administrative side, the $1.75 was to make the Systems more financially robust so that they could make regional decisions and the $3 million was to invest in some kind of future improvement in what the libraries do. Lucas said to run the TBR program in a realistic way would be about $50 million and questioned if it would be the best system to promote in the 21st century. There were new programs like Zip Books, a pilot project in rural California, which were cheaper and more efficient. Under the Zip Books program libraries purchase requested materials they do not own and ship those materials directly to the patron’s home. Once the patron is finished with the material they bring it to the library and it becomes part of the collection.

Member Kastanis said that she was curious how much change there had been to lobbying on issues now versus the past. Mike Dillon responded that every year it was just an ongoing effort and that they tried to encourage field participation by requesting letters from the entire CLA.
membership to the Budget subcommittees, however, it had been very tight. He indicated that there was more competition for limited resources.

Susan Hildreth, from Pacific Library Partnership, NorthNet Library System, and Califa, stated that they were very excited about the potential for the additional funds. Of the $1.75 million, which the systems hoped the Board would allocate as on-going funding, only 25% could be spent on administration, so the idea that it would bulk up boots on the ground was not realistic. The other real challenge at the System level was a conflict between their want to support digital sharing and the limited definition of what could be shared in the Communication and Delivery section of CLSA. The systems wanted to see that broadened so they could more effectively use the $1.75 million.

President Bernardo thanked Mike Dillon and Christina DiCaro for their presentation.

Consider federal and state legislative issues

Annly Roman informed the Board that the Department of Finance’s proposed language for the California Library Services Act bill was included in their agenda packet. Annly explained that the bill would give the Board an idea of the changes the Department was proposing.

A letter from CLA to the Budget subcommittee with their comments on the bill was also included and President Bernardo pointed out that the CLA letter contained additional requests for funding in other library related areas such as $4 million for broadband grants.

Board reports on Legislative Visits

Member Ibanez reported that he attended four legislator meetings, one with a legislator and the rest with staff. All of them were receptive; however there were questions about how the $3 million would be spent. His last meeting was with Senator Liu’s chief of staff, who expressed that she felt there was a need within the state for digitalization. Member Ibanez said that his general impression was that legislators and staff were supportive.

Member Christmas stated that he met with four staff members from different offices and spoke to them about CLSA and broadband funding. All the offices seemed supportive, however all asked about how the $3 million in one-time funding would be used and two offices asked about broadband funding specifics.
Member Murguia reported that she spoke with Senator McGuire about the current CLSA budget proposal and the additional request from CLA for an additional $4 million for broadband and he was interested in both. She missed Assemblymember Wood but did meet with his staff and they were very supportive. He was on the special subcommittee on the digital divide so he was very interested in Broadband and would be a natural in terms of support for the additional funds.

President Bernardo reported that on March 1 she joined the Law librarians on their legislative day and included her bid for additional support for CLSA funding while she was at those meetings. They were all very supportive so she was very hopeful that the funds will remain in the budget through the May revise.

**CLSA PROGRAM ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ACTION**

**BUDGET AND PLANNING**

**CLSA Proposed Budget for FY 2016/17**

A draft motion was presented to the Board which stated that the Board adopted, contingent on the passage of the state budget, the 2016/17 CLSA budget totaling $3,360,000 for allocation to the systems. Member McGinity stated that his inclination was to change the approval amount of $3.63 million to $1.88 million. He suggested making a decision on the other $1.75 million in ongoing funding in concert with the Boards decisions on the $3 million in one-time funding because he wanted the Board to make a comprehensive, strategic decision around the use of the new funds as a whole.

It was clarified that the $1.75 million and $3 million were allocated separately, with the $1.75 million allocated in the main budget document and the $3 million allocated in a separate budget trailer bill. State Librarian Lucas said he did not think anything would restrict the Board’s ability to do what McGinity proposed but that staff would get clarification during the meeting for the $1.75 million in ongoing funding since it was allocated with the $1.88 million in ongoing funding for communication and delivery.

Annly Roman commented that she was unsure of impact on the systems’ plans of service if the Board waited to allocate the $1.75 million at the next Board meeting because, normally, the
Board would be approving those plans. She wanted the Board to be aware that it would require
an addendum to the cooperative system’s plans of service to be approved at a later date.

Member McGinity said that the funds were proposed so amendments could be required
anyway if the budget changed. Approving the motion with the $1.88 million gave the systems
their normally budget, which they should already have planned for. Since their budgets would be
effectively doubled with the $1.75 million, he thought approving it later would not interrupt their
planning as the systems had probably not determined exactly what to do with the funds. McGinity
proposed that, if needed, a phone meeting could be held at the beginning of the fiscal year to
address extra funding issues so libraries would have the ability to use the funds thoughtfully over
the fiscal year.

McGinity stated that, based on the testimony from the Dillons and the systems, the Board
should try to be strategic about the use of the new funds. There was a reason that the
administration proposed the $1.75 million increase concurrently with $3 million in one-time
funding and he wanted the Board to be thoughtful in their approach. Member Murguia suggested
hearing from the systems on what the extra $1.75 million would mean.

Diane Satchwell, executive director of Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC), Serra,
and 49-99, said that several cooperatives held a workshop to discuss potential initiatives.
Cooperative system funding ideas were provided to the Board in the agenda packet, however, as
indicated by Susan Hildreth earlier, many ideas do not meet the restrictive regulatory
requirements and definitions for communications and delivery.

Member McGinity wondered if it would be helpful to have the California Library Association
(CLA) propose a trailer bill to tweak the California Library Services Act (CLSA) communication and
delivery language to allow for more innovative programs. Susan Hildreth, who was on the CLA
legislative committee, said that they had talked about modifying the language in the regulations
to broaden some of the eligible e-resource activities. For example, current CLSA regulatory
requirements only allow eBook platforms if they are shared by three or more member libraries, so
they can only use CLSA funds for Overdrive, Zinio, or online magazines if they have three or more
members participating. They cannot use CLSA funds for streaming audio or video.
Jack Zwald, Department of Finance, stated that the budget trailer bill addressing CLSA did expand the communication and delivery language surrounding digital materials but most of the restrictions on fund usage were regulatory issues. State Librarian Lucas stated that the regulations that implemented the original California Library Services Act contained language that defined, more specifically, what communications and delivery involved. The Board had adopted regulations to implement the Act in the past but it had been quite some time since changes were made. He stated that State Library staff read through the regulations at the end of 2015 with an eye toward possible changes, however, the regulatory process was complex and the scope of changes that could be initiated by the State Library, independent of the Board, were too modest to move forward.

President Bernardo asked if conforming regulatory changes would be necessary if the new CLSA language passed. State Librarian Lucas agreed that changes would need to be made. Anny Roman stated that state agencies must give the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) advanced notice of intent to add or amend regulations so that those potential changes can be noticed in the yearly regulatory calendar. The State Library put in a request to be on the 2016 calendar for the CLSA regulations but the action dates were left as “to be determined” and would probably extend into 2017 because of the waiting periods built into the regulatory process. Any regulatory change decisions should be made after the trailer bill’s passage so that language could be properly incorporated and all changes would have to go before the Board for approval. Anny stated that she would add the CLSA regulations to the fall meeting agenda per the Board’s direction.

President Bernardo adjourned for lunch at 11:45 AM and stated that the Board would reconvene at 12:45 PM.

President Bernardo reconvened the session of the California Library Services Board at 12:55 PM. Discussion returned to the previous proposal of allocating only the ongoing $1.88 million at the April meeting and waiting to make decisions on and allocate the new funding. Member McGinity clarified that his proposal did not changing the method or formula for allocation of the $1.75 million, just the timing. He also emphasized the importance of allocating the $1.88 million in a timely manner so the standard funds are not disrupted while the Board is considering and
dealing with the new on-going and one-time funds. President Bernardo called for comments from
the systems on the proposal to allocate only the $1.88 million at this time.

Susan Hildreth stated that it would give the systems a base budget for a few months for which
they could do a plan of service. If the Board was able to identify a few priorities, she felt that it
was reasonable to ask the systems to report back on plans for the $1.75 million and ways in which
they could use those funds to leverage the $3 million. Susan expressed that the systems wanted
the $3 million to be allocated to the systems based on the existing allocation formula.

Mary George, Placer County Library Director of Library Services and member of the NorthNet
consortium, said they were encouraged by the trailer bill. They have been using Zip Books and
have seen some of the richest impact stories from the field, so they would like to encourage
moving that program forward. A lot of their colleagues have also said they were interested
because they saw the benefit. They would really like to recommend that the new $1.75 million sit
under communications and delivery for those kinds of programs. She also advocated for the
Board to allocate at least some of the $3 million in one-time funding for Broadband as the
program was essential for the NorthNet libraries which were in some of the more rural areas of
California. Her comments were seconded by Rita Lovell, Alpine County Library.

Stephanie Beverage, Huntington Beach Public Library, speaking for the Santiago Library
System, stated that they agreed about broadband. They would also want to use some of the $3
million to continue their special literacy and Career Online High School programs.

Vice-President Maghsoudi asked if the Board had to have a decision in place with regards to
the spending of the $3 million prior to the Governor’s May revise. State Librarian Lucas responded
that they were not required to have anything in place, but it would be helpful to have some
general ideas or guidelines in place for strategic uses of the money.

It was moved, seconded (McGinity/Christmas) and carried unanimously
that the California Library Services Board adopts, contingent upon the
passage of the State Budget Act, the 2016/17 CLSA budget as directed in the
Governor’s Proposed 2016/17 Budget, totaling $1,880,000 for allocation to
Cooperative Library Systems

A second draft motion was placed before the Board which authorized California State Library
staff to collect and summarize input on spending option for the $3 million in one-time funding for
presentation to the Board at the next meeting. Member McGinity proposed including the new $1.75 million in on-going funding within that motion and several Board members agreed.

Significant additional discussion, initiated by Member Murguia, was had by the Board on whether the Board should include their priorities for spending the $3 million in one-time funds within that motion or if a third motion should be made containing their priorities and any direction they wished to provide to the Cooperative Systems. There was general consensus from Members Christmas, Ibanez, and Murguia that, based on comments they heard from legislators and legislative staff during their meetings the day before, the Board needed to identify and communicate to the legislature and cooperative systems priorities or direction for the expenditure of the $3 million in one-time funding. It was determined that the motion directing the State Library to collect and summarize information should be kept broad and if they wanted to specify priorities that could be done in another motion.

There was also discussion on whether the Board felt that they needed the library to gather more information or if they had all the information they needed, from the letters provided by the cooperative systems in the agenda packets, to decide on a program and instead wanted to direct State library staff to draft specific proposals with clear budget numbers and outlines on how the funds would be spent in the designated areas. Vice-President Maghsoudi felt that the Board had the information they needed but Member McGinity, with the agreement of Members Huguenin and Christmas, stated that he felt the paragraphs provided by the systems on their project ideas did not provide enough information. He was uncertain what those ideas actually meant for libraries, which ideas were feasible within the $3 million, and what the costs would look like. He recommended that the Board seek additional information to help make a better, more informed decision.

Anny Roman reminded the Board that part of their decision was how to allocate the funds. Funds could be allocated either through the allocation formula to the systems, as grants under a section in the Act dealing with special services programs, or a combination of the two. The decision directly related to the kinds of proposals the Board would be discussing.

*It was moved, seconded (McGinity/Christmas) and carried unanimously that the California Library Services Board directs the California State Library staff to*
gather and summarize input from libraries across the state for usage of the
proposed $3 million in one-time and for the $1.75 in ongoing CLSA funds in the
Governor’s Proposed 2016/17 Budget for consideration by the Board at the Fall
2016 Meeting.

McGinity recommended that the Board determine some core principles, based on the letters
already received from the field, and direct State Library staff to draft a letter to the Chairs of the
Subcommittees letting them know the priorities that would be the Board’s focus for the $3
million. He felt they could leave content to the discretion of the Board Chair.

President Bernardo initiated the discussion of the Board’s intentions for the $3 million in one-
time funds. She stated that she tallied the suggestions from the systems by subject and there were
18 different main ideas which ranged anywhere from early literacy to STEM labs. Statewide e-
resources had the most number of votes with seven systems agreeing, statewide virtual card was
number two, and a student library card was number three.

Member Williams put forward communications and delivery, broadband, digitization, and e-
content as the main priorities based on her interpretation of the information in the agenda packet
and the earlier testimony. Member Buenafe spoke of breaking down barriers as a common theme
and suggested that statewide library cards or databases would be important for the less affluent
counties.

President Bernardo brought up that in their discussions, the Board should consider the
sustainability of each project. She, and Members Williams and Christmas agreed that the Board
should not spend one-time money on something that would either be lost, or that would need
funds allocated again and again. Member Williams suggested using on-going funding to purchase
items and one-time funding to build knowledge (training, publicizing, etc.) around those items.
Christmas stated that he liked the suggestion from Pacific Library Partnership to use some of the
money to plan, coordinate and evaluate system resources to be better prepared to go forward in
the future. He also brought up some of the other suggestions such as the mental health initiative
proposed by SCLC or the statewide library card, although he expressed concern that some
projects, like the statewide library card, would have ongoing costs that it would be difficult to
account for. He felt investing in planning and perhaps some coordination among the systems
would be the most appropriate uses.
Member Kastanis asked State Librarian Lucas what he thought about the statewide library card and the processes that might be associated with making it work. Lucas stated that there would be different ways of getting it done. One way to do a statewide card would be to do Link+ for every library in the state. The libraries in the bay area were connected by Link+, which allowed patrons to use their card anywhere in the larger bay area through the Link+ program. Santa Barbara and the central coast do a similar thing and Sacramento is also part of the Link+ system. That system would cost more money than is being spent now, but potentially some of that cost could be offset by eliminating the processes these library systems or geographic areas are currently using.

Member McGinity asked if other states had a statewide card. Annly Roman stated that there were not many states that have full participation but there are states that have the majority of their libraries participating in a shared card system but they tend to be the smaller states. Member Huguenin suggested that maybe the Board should try to track what was going on in other states. She thought that maybe states with more rural populations such as Wyoming might have thought of something California had not.

Member McGinity suggested that digitizing local libraries’ collections and sharing those documents through the State Library would be beneficial to libraries in the state. He asked if the State Library knew what should be a priority. State Librarian Lucas said that the Library did have some information from past programs the state has done but it was not enough to give a comprehensive overview. For the digitization grant he mentioned earlier, the first phase would be for local jurisdictions to coordinate with local cultural heritage groups to get some idea of the collections. Step two would be to prioritize the collections. McGinity suggested including University Libraries’ collections as well, although Members Kastanis and Murguia expressed the difficulty of getting libraries to coordinate. Lucas said the hope was for everyone to begin working together because there is not enough money for everyone to do what they want on their own.

President Bernardo asked if, even though Gerry Maginnity estimated $4 million more was needed, it made any sense to use some of the $3 million for Cenic. Member Murguia thought some of the funds should be used for Broadband. She represented a rural area and it was essential for them to be able to connect.
State Librarian Lucas clarified that, while the administration had not put additional funds into connection grants, the budget did have funds for the annual dues to Cenic and there was a separate pot of money for connection assistance. Even if the state put forward no more money for these onsite improvements, Cenic would still be available because the state was paying the annual dues. The local libraries would just have to come up with the full price to connect. At the same time, because the state is a member of Cenic, Cenic can offer equipment and routers to libraries at a significant (65%) discount. There were also other programs with the federal government where potentially libraries could get a deeper discount. Whether the Board put funds into Cenic or not, the ability for libraries to connect to Cenic will still be available, the $3 million would just make it easier. The first year of the program the Board took money out of CLSA and put it into the broadband grants, so the Board could do that again.

Member Williams suggested that the Board should look for more new, innovative programs then Broadband and Member Christmas brought up that CLA had asked the legislature for an additional $4 million in broadband funding and that proposal could be funded making the use of the $3 million unnecessary. Member McGinity agreed with Members Christmas and Williams. He felt the Governor had been setting funds aside for that specific purpose and if he had wanted the $3 million used for broadband he could have made that allocation.

Member Christmas stated that he would like to see the $3 million used for innovative, collaborative projects mostly coordinated by the Cooperative Systems with guidelines from the Board on spending. His preference would be for collaborations between systems. Member Williams agreed stating that resource sharing, planning, statewide content, statewide library card, or breaking down barriers were her preferred statewide priorities.

McGinity disagreed that the main decisions on funding should be coordinated through the Cooperative Systems. Rather, he felt that direction should be given from the state level on a state level issue. He was not sure what direction would be the best, but thought the Board should pick one or two ideas as innovative statewide initiatives. He just wanted to make sure that resources are shared between systems, not just within a system. Christmas said that he agreed that the State Library and the Board should set the direction they want the systems to go, and have the
systems come back to with more details on their suggested programs. He asked to hear from the systems.

Member Schockman brought up item E on the agenda, becoming entrepreneurial/public private partnerships, because none of the proposals from the systems addressed how they might move toward being more entrepreneurial and it had not come up in the discussion so far.

Ryan Baker, Vice-Chair of Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC), said, based on all the letters, there was a general need for resources sharing. He also wanted to emphasize that any project the Board decided on should be shared amongst either the cooperative systems or statewide. For the Board’s benefit he provided specific descriptions of the programs SCLC suggested in their letter. Ideas they were considering included: using funds to coordinate mental health services and provide a link between the community and the mental health agencies, legal services, medical services, and other services people might need but have trouble accessing; statewide resource sharing using makerspace and digitization vans to reach underserved communities; statewide library card or collection sharing though Link+ or a similar program; and an immigration mentoring program, providing guidance on how to access services, connect with others, and specific guidance on the citizenship process.

Susan Hildreth, representing Pacific Library Partnership (PLP) and NorthNet, asked clarifying questions regarding the special library programs section of the Act. Gerry Maginnity stated that although the section did not fall under the communication and delivery requirements, all ideas would still need to comply with the intent, goals and requirements of the Act.

Proposals from PLP and NorthNet tried to focus on resource sharing. Susan discussed some potential projects such as; a statewide virtual library card pilot program, e-resources funded in collaboration with the Department of Education or the Community Colleges, and student success cards, a program giving students direct access to library resources using their student ID to login. Additionally, NorthNet was interested in broadband. She recommended resource sharing as the priority the Board should identify.

Diane Satchwell agreed that resource sharing was a priority. She also brought up that the Board should consider, in terms of sustainability, that some systems may not have funding for programs with ongoing costs. Susan Hildreth reported that most of the systems do not have a lot of staff
capacity. In order to manage the new funds and make any program successful the systems would need to be able to use some of the funds for administration. President Bernardo clarified that the systems could take up to 25% for administration. Member McGinity ask if the systems were suggested that the Board should set aside funds for administration and Diane responded that they were.

Members Christmas, McGinity, and Williams touched on Susan Hildreth’s comments regarding partnerships with the Department of Education for shared databases as a possible way to expand the reach of the $3 million for a greater statewide impact and asked if that would be easier since CLSA had funds to leverage. State Librarian Lucas responded that there was interest. About 10 years ago the Department of Education sought statewide database that public schools could use to create a minimum level of service throughout the state and there was a bill about 7 years ago under the Schwarzenegger administration that dealt with creating or studying a statewide database system. There are potential issues with vendors because the vendors wanted each entity to pay for a separate license as well as the difficulty of getting different groups to collaborate and agree.

Member Christmas thought the Board could set resource sharing as their main priority with some specifics underneath it but leave it open for other things that might come up from the systems, such as collaborative projects like Azusa’s mental health initiative. Member Williams agreed that resource sharing should be the main focus. She and Member Kastanis expressed concern that the money given by the administration was really a small amount in terms of possible projects. They felt the Board needed to be cautious and not direct the funds toward unattainable projects or projects that were expensive to maintain long term. Additionally, they emphasized that the Board should look at resource sharing in terms of sharing materials, people, and ideas as well as working toward collaborations to get more bang for their buck. Members Williams and Christmas agreed that projects should leave openings for partnerships with vendors, local community groups such as Rotary Clubs, all kinds of schools, and other kinds of libraries. President Bernardo suggested the Board could give direction that the cooperative systems include potential partnerships in any proposal information they provided. Christmas said that if resource sharing was the only priority, the Board should provide examples of what that means and
emphasized that he felt the systems should be implementing any programs with their local libraries.

State Librarian Lucas brought up that one of its purposes of the California Library Services Act (CLSA) was to provide better service for underserved communities, which is any population whose needs are not adequately met by traditional library service patterns including those who are geographically isolated, economically disadvantaged, functionally illiterate, non or limited English speaking, homebound or institutionalized, or disabled. Members Williams and Huguenin brought up examples of students who are underserved but might not be on the underserved radar, either from lacking access to a school library and librarian or access to necessary resources such as computer and printers. Some, like a student in Salinas who created a computer lab for students in his area to use by soliciting donations, are working on solutions to their lack of access, but maybe programs created by the new CLSA funds could make it easier.

President Bernardo said that it sounded like the Board had reached consensus that resource sharing would be the focus. Rita Lovell commented that in order for a lot the concepts the Board discussed to work, libraries needed a robust infrastructure. $3 million was not a lot of money in terms of creating infrastructure but she wanted to urge the Board to keep that in mind as they made decisions.

It was moved, seconded (Christmas/Ibanez) and carried by a vote of 11 ayes and 1 abstention (Schockman) that the California Library Services Board directs the California State Librarian to draft and distribute a letter to the Systems and legislators stating that the California Library Services Board intends to use the $3 million in one-time funds to emphasize resource sharing within the Cooperative library systems around the state and that would include such projects as e-library card, e-resource collaborations, collaborations with other libraries and local organizations.

There was additional discussion, initiated by Member Murguia on how many public libraries were not members of a cooperative system. State Librarian Lucas said that it was only a few. Diane Satchwell stated that, because of broadband and the new funds, Santa Monica Public Library had successfully requested to affiliate with SCLC and that request would come before the Board in the fall.

Vice-President Maghsoudi had to leave the meeting.
RESOURCESHARING

CLSA System-level programs

Monica Rivas reported that CLSA funds continued to support communications and delivery at the cooperative system level. Included in the agenda packets were attachments that had data on their annual programs and use and spending statistics. She also thanked all the systems for the due diligence of completing and submitting their reports on time.

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS 2016/17

Becoming Entrepreneurial and public/private partnerships

President Bernardo said that the Board had discussed becoming entrepreneurial and public/private partnerships in reference to the new $3 million and asked if anyone else had further discussion on the issue. State Librarian Lucas brought up Member Kastanis’ and Williams’ concern about how feasible a large scale project would be with only $3 million and provided examples of various projects where partnerships have expanded programs or allowed groups to implement changes or programs they could not afford on their own. These examples included: libraries in Queens, New York and Brooklyn working together to get facility upgrade funds that led to longer term partnerships; Career Online High School scholarship awards from the state requiring matching scholarships from the community; and Riverside libraries getting used computers from law firms in their area. Member Christmas also brought up the potential for facilities partnerships such as buildings or parking covers with solar panels to generate electricity and often, additional funding for the county. Member Huguenin agreed that finding opportunities for partnerships and investment was important and stated that libraries were essential and valued in America so if they kept asking for investment and partnerships something would appear.

State Librarian Lucas said the Board and the State Library could examine any proposed ideas for the $3 million in funding with an eye toward how the programs could be structured to foster partnerships. Several Board members indicated their agreement.

Member Williams asked, after the letter had gone out to the Legislators and systems, would the Board discuss more about what an initiative actually looked like and make final decisions when they then met in fall. Several members suggested that the Board meet earlier and President
Bernard said that there could be a special meeting held by teleconference if an earlier decision was needed. Member Murguia stated that the Board should do what is necessary to move the process forward. Member Christmas suggested that since the one-time funding would have to be encumbered in fiscal year 16/17 it would be better to encourage the systems to provide plans for the one-time funding, if passed by the legislature that could be presented to the Board. Williams agreed with member Murguia and Christmas’ comments.

Christmas asked if, since the cooperative systems would be completing plans for service for the next board meeting, could the systems address the priorities and extra funds in those plans of service? Annly Roman said that since the Board had only approved $1.88 million to be allocated to the systems and the plans of service would be based on that amount. If the budget passed the systems would update those plans depending on how the Board allocated the funds.

State Librarian Lucas said that it sounded like the Board members were asking for a subsequent meeting after the budget passed but before the fall meeting. Williams said that the Board needed more information and in order to determine the direction for the funds, she felt they should meet before fall. Lucas said that as part of the priorities letter the Library was sending they could ask for options to present to the Board.

Member McGinity said that he agreed the Board needed an earlier meeting to discuss options. He suggested that the State Library present the Board, in July or August, with five options from the field, each worth around $3 million, for the Board to discuss. He thought that would give them a good framework for a conversation. Then the Board could make a decision on one, or a combination of the options.

Member Christmas asked how that would work with the plans of service. Annly Roman stated that it depends on how the Board allocated the money. The funds could be allocated through the special services programs section of the CLSA or the Board could allocate the money to the systems based on the existing allocation formula. The Board could also allocate the funds using a combination of those two options. Annly clarified that the plans of service deal with the funds given to the systems based on the allocation formula. Monica Rivas clarified that right now, the only thing that would be included in their plan of service would be the $1.88 million and that if the Board had already approved those plans the systems could do an amendment. Annly stated
that if the Board came back in July or August and passed a motion to give the $1.75 by allocation to the systems, the systems would have to amend their plans of service and the Board would have to meet again to approve those amendments. It was the Board’s responsibility to approve the plans of service. Christmas verified that the one-time money could go out as a lump sum for a project or could be allocated to the systems and would then have to be included in their plans of service and Annly Roman confirmed. He asked that the systems be given an opportunity to submit ideas for the $3 million in one-time funds.

Member Williams brought up that the Board had already discussed not using the funds for programs with ongoing costs. She would recommend the $3 million be used for administration, planning, and support activities. Christmas said that they wanted to make sure that the request for information to systems should emphasize that the programs be completed or otherwise sustainable.

Member McGinity said that he felt a meeting after the passage of the budget was needed. He was also concerned with how long it would take state library staff to gather options for the Board and how long it would take the systems to create a plan of service. State Librarian Lucas said that the process of collecting options could begin right away. His intent would be to have something ready for the Board shortly after the budget passed. Diane Satchwell stated that the systems typically get from March until June to create a plan of service. She said how long they needed would depend on the program being addressed. If they were identifying partners or coordinating with vendors for pricing it would take longer because of all the moving parts. President Bernardo suggested eight weeks as enough time. McGinity then suggested that, if they held an earlier meeting, the Board approve the plans of service for the $1.88 million and deal with an amendment for the $1.75 million later. That way there would be no interruption in the spending of the $1.88 million for programs that were already in place. He suggested that the Board have a phone meeting to discuss options for the new funding sometime between the middle of June and July, and give the systems until early September to update.

Diane Satchwell stated the number of coordinators could be a problem, for example, she had three systems and each one needed to meet to discuss and approve program suggestions. They would need to calendar special meetings for early August or September to make sure they got
everything approved. McGinity asked if the Board would be asking the impossible. Diane said that it would be very difficult. President Bernardo asked if it would be more feasible if they were given until the beginning of October and if so would they have time to implement before the end of the fiscal year. Gerry Maginnity stated, for the benefit of the systems’ people attending the meeting that once awarded the funds they have two years to spend it. Diane said that would be possible.

Member McGinity, after additional feedback from Gerry Maginnity and Diane Satchwell on how long the processes of generating and assessing options would take, said that he would suggest that the Board have a phone meeting about two weeks after the budget passes, so early to mid-July, to discuss options. Once a decision is made, they would give the systems, assuming the funds go out through the systems which they could not, until October to amend and deal with those amendments at the fall meeting.

Annly Roman clarified that the July meeting would be a phone meeting at which the Board would consider the ideas and options for how to send the new funds and adopt the plans of service on the $1.88 million. The October meeting would be in person to discuss the amended plans of service and any other budget related decisions. She said that she would send out a doodle poll for a teleconference meeting in July contingent on the new funding in the budget being approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment.

**COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/OFFICERS**

Member Buenafe thanked the Board for making her feel so welcome and expressed that she was excited about the opportunity.

Member Huguenin said that she thought that this was an exciting time for the Board.

Member McGinity stated that ever since he joined the Board every meeting they had discussed how there was not much to do because there was not any money. He was excited that the Governor and Legislature put money into libraries. While it was complicated he felt that it was a great problem to have.

Member Williams thanked everyone for the great discussion. The California School Library Association had its 100 year celebration at the conference and they had a history book made that
went through an incredible amount of primary source information about the history of school libraries in California. She presented two copies to the State Library.

Member Mindnich stated that the meeting was a good learning experience for a new member.

President Bernardo said that she would like to thank California State Library staff for all the effort and work they put into getting the meeting ready. She also congratulated Brandy on joining the Board and congratulated the re-appointees.

OLD BUSINESS

Annly Roman stated that the concept of having someone come in to help the Board with Strategic Planning to determine what the Board’s direction should be and what issues should be their focus was still on the table. It has been discussed but kept being put off as something to do when there was a fully appointment Board and probably when there was more money to actually put toward a goal. It had been brought up at the September 2015 meeting and the Board decided they wanted to move it to the April agenda to have that discussion when they met in person. Members Christmas and Huguenin thought it was a good idea but suggested waiting to address it until the Board was done handling the budget issue.

Annly stated that they could move it to the next Board meeting. She stated that she thought the session would take a large portion of time so the Board should probably address it at a meeting where they could focus most of the discussion on the Strategic Plan. Member McGinity said that based on how often they met and what they have to discuss he did not feel it was a priority. He felt that the decisions that needed to be made surrounding the budget should be the priority and he though the Board should focus on that. President Bernardo and Member Christmas agreed.

Bernardo suggested, and McGinity and Christmas agreed, that it should be kept on the Agenda as a reminder in case the Board had funding and time to address it at a later date.

AGENDA BUILDING

There were no additional agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

President Bernardo adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m.