

Approved October 1, 2024  
**California Library Services Board Meeting**  
**May 28, 2024**  
Remote Meeting: Zoom

**BOARD OPENING**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Board president Williams called the California Library Services Board meeting to order on May 28, 2024, at 10:00 am.

**Board Members Present:**

James Lau, Sharon Weissman, Sandra Tauler, Elizabeth Murguia, Anne Bernardo, Maria Nieto Senour, Paymaneh Maghsoudi, and Connie Williams.

**California State Library Staff Present:**

Monica Rivas, Annly Roman, California State Librarian Greg Lucas, Natalie Cole, Deputy State Librarian Rebecca Wendt, Lynne Oliva, Lena Pham, and Meg DePriest.

**Adoption of Agenda**

*It was moved, seconded (Tauler /Weissman) and carried with seven ayes and one abstention (Maghsoudi) that the California Library Services Board adopts the agenda for the May 28, 2024, meeting.*

**Approval of February 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

*It was moved, seconded (Weissman / Bernardo) and carried with seven ayes and one abstention (Maghsoudi) that the California Library Services Board approves, as presented, the draft minutes of the February 01, 2024, California Library Services Act Board Meeting.*

**REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

**Board President's Report**

Board President Connie Williams reported that California School Library Association (CSLA) continues to work on AB 535, which was not funded at the time of meeting. Williams briefly spoke about the potential positive impact of this bill on school communities, particularly the need for teacher librarians. Williams spoke about the bill's development, with consideration of AI bills and the Model School Library Standards.

1 **Vice President's Report**

2 Vice President Anne Bernardo updated the Board on the challenges faced by  
3 California's public law libraries, particularly the ongoing issues related to funding.  
4 Bernardo noted that efforts are being made to secure additional resources to  
5 support these institutions, which are crucial for access to justice. Bernardo also  
6 shared insights from her continued monitoring of national library trends through  
7 participation in American Library Association, California Library Association, and  
8 regional library calls-to-action.

9 **Chief Executive Officer's Report**

10 State Librarian Greg Lucas provided an overview of the State Library's activities  
11 since the last board meeting. Lucas briefly discussed the continued work of  
12 maintaining the level of local assistance provided and ensuring the State Library's  
13 services to California residents and state employees can continue.

14 Board president Williams thanked Lucas for his recent presentation to the  
15 Board of Education.

16 **Zip Books Grant Program Report**

17 California State Library Grants and Bureau Operation Manager Annly Roman  
18 provided an overview of the Zip Books program structure and shared an update  
19 on the program, which continues to be a vital resource for underserved  
20 communities across California. Roman highlighted the program's success in  
21 delivering timely and cost-effective access to books in areas where traditional  
22 library services are limited. In the 2022-23 fiscal year, total money requested was  
23 over the budgeted amount, so awards given to the 96 requesting programs were  
24 adjusted based on each program's LIPC (Local income Per Capita) level. For the  
25 2023-24 fiscal year, the program has expanded to include 99 library programs out  
26 of 186 jurisdictions. Final reports from the library programs for the 2023-24 fiscal  
27 year will be due on July 31, 2024. Applications for the upcoming fiscal year are  
28 open and will close June 12, 2024. Application orientations are being held so that  
29 programs have opportunities to discuss the program and any questions about the  
30 application process. Roman mentioned that the program's future depends on the  
31 final approval of the State Budget, with \$1 million allocated for the next fiscal year.

32 **CALIFORNIA LIBRARY SERVICES ACT**

33 **BUDGET AND PLANNING**

34 ***Library Services Act Preliminary Budget for FY 2024-2025***

35 The Board reviewed the preliminary budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year, as  
36 outlined in Document 2. California State Library Grants and Bureau Operation

1 Manager Annly Roman spoke about the Governor's proposed budget, which  
2 includes a proposal to provide \$3.63 million in funding for the California Library  
3 Services Act program and \$1 million for the Zip Books program. Document 2  
4 contains projected allocations, divided up by the current CLSA allocation  
5 formula. Roman shared that the Department of Finance posted a revision letter  
6 proposing to reduce the annual allocation to CLSA by \$1.75 million, leaving \$1.88  
7 million to be allocated to the cooperative libraries systems. Roman stated that the  
8 suggested reduction was not incorporated into any budget bills at the time of  
9 Board meeting but was the most current information. Roman shared this  
10 information so that the Board understood what their options were for potential  
11 action items, and CLSA Coordinator and Analyst Monica Rivas restated the  
12 potential action items with the specific numbers provided in the Board packet.

13 Board member Weissman asked if action to approve based on the  
14 reduced allocation would cause that reduced allocation to be included in the  
15 finalized budget. Roman responded that the Department of Finance receives a  
16 copy of all Board actions. Weissman also asked if the Board would be meeting  
17 before the start of the 2024-25 fiscal year. Rivas responded that the next meeting  
18 of the Board will be in fall 2024, at which the Board will approve the final budget.

19 Board member Murguia asked if it is possible for a motion to include the  
20 \$3.63 million *and/or* the budgeted amount in the adopted budget. Roman  
21 responded that it is possible to state a motion that includes approval of the \$3.63  
22 million allocation, language that reflects that this number is contingent upon  
23 passage of the finalized budget, and language that includes approval of what  
24 the updated allocation may be in the finalized budget.

25 ***It was moved and seconded (Murguia/Weissman) and carried with***  
26 ***seven ayes and one abstention (Maghsoudi) that the California***  
27 ***Library Services Board approve contingent upon the passage of the***  
28 ***State Budget Act, the 2024-2025 CLSA budget as directed in the***  
29 ***proposed 2024-2025 budget, totaling \$3,630,000, or the appropriated***  
30 ***allocation in the final 2024-2025 budget, for allocation to Cooperative***  
31 ***Library Systems.***

32 Board member Bernardo shared the need for a second action item for the  
33 Zip Books program. Roman restated the current process for the Zip Books  
34 allocations. Rivas restated the amount currently in the budget.

35 ***It was further moved and seconded (Tauler/ Bernardo) and carried***  
36 ***with seven ayes and one abstention (Maghsoudi) that the California***  
37 ***Library Services Board approve, contingent upon the passage of the***

1 **State Budget Act, the \$1 million allocated in the 2024-2025 budget to**  
2 **invest in the Zip Books program to ensure timely and cost-effective**  
3 **access to information in California's hard-to-reach and underserved**  
4 **communities.**

## 5 **RESOURCE SHARING**

### 6 **Annual Report for FY 2022-2023**

7 The Board reviewed the System Annual Report for the 2022-23 fiscal year, as  
8 outlined in Document 3. The report highlighted key achievements, including  
9 successful collaborative initiatives between library systems. CLSA Coordinator and  
10 Analyst Monica Rivas explained the Annual Report and how the budget for the  
11 2022-23 fiscal year contributed to the expansion of library programming,  
12 particularly digital resources.

### 13 **Correction to 2023-2024 Population and Membership Figures**

14 The Board discussed the need to update the population and membership  
15 figures for the Santiago Library System Cooperative, as outlined in Document 4. It  
16 was noted that the previous figures were inaccurate and required correction to  
17 ensure proper representation and funding allocation.

### 18 **Library Withdrawal from System Cooperative**

19 The Board addressed the withdrawal of Palo Verde Valley District Library from  
20 the Inland Library System Cooperative, as outlined in Document 5. The reasons for  
21 withdrawal were discussed, including the impact on both the library and the  
22 cooperative system.

## 23 **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

### 24 **Overview of Legislation Affecting Libraries FY 2024-2025**

25 State Librarian Lucas provided an update on legislative issues impacting  
26 California libraries, particularly focusing on how the potential budget change  
27 impacted funding for Career Pathways, BrainFuse, and the proposed rollback of  
28 \$131 million from the Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program  
29 funds. These cuts, proposed in the Governor's budget, could severely affect  
30 infrastructure projects and digital access in libraries, especially in underserved  
31 communities.

32 Board member Weissman requested that information about specific programs  
33 that will be eliminated under the proposed budget be provided. Lucas said that  
34 information would be provided.

35 Board member Bernardo asked for clarification about the legislative  
36 developments regarding the State Library grants portal. Lucas explained the  
37 interest from outside groups and agencies in changing the grants portal, and  
38 explained why it is not likely to happen.

1 Lucas gave a brief overview of federal developments, specifically regarding  
2 the upcoming opportunity for renewal of the Institute of Museum and Library  
3 Services (IMLS) budget.

#### 4 **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS FY 2024-2025**

##### 5 **Strategies and Legislative Goals**

6 The Board engaged in a focused discussion on their advocacy strategies and  
7 legislative goals for the upcoming fiscal year, with consideration for concerns over  
8 the proposed state budget cuts.

9 Board President Williams raised for discussion ways for the Board to advocate  
10 to policymakers about the value and importance of libraries. Williams mentioned  
11 Board member Weissman's experience speaking with legislators and Board  
12 member Lau's opportunity to speak with State Parks about library and cultural  
13 initiatives. Williams suggested the Board consider visits to local offices of state and  
14 federal elected officials. Williams suggested developing talking points and  
15 scheduling meetings within a shared timeframe to allow Board members to report  
16 back.

17 Weissman appreciated the idea and expressed interest in participating in her  
18 local offices.

19 Lau serves on the board of the California State Parks Foundation and spoke  
20 about advocacy experience through that service. Lau spoke about the potential  
21 impact of joining forces with other organizations, interest groups, and lobbyists.

22 Weissman spoke about a conversation she had with Senate Majority Leader  
23 Lena Gonzalez about libraries state budget. Weissman plans to speak with  
24 legislators about library interest and welcomes any talking points that can be  
25 shared.

26 Williams requested development of talking points on Institute of Museum and  
27 Library Services and on state funded library programs, particularly BrainFuse and  
28 Career Pathways. Williams asked that State Library staff assist in scheduling  
29 meetings with policymakers. Murguia suggested that Board members might  
30 better be able to schedule for themselves.

31 Weissman requested that talking points include specific information on budget  
32 data, particularly cuts to library program as a result of budget cuts.

33 Weissman asked about when talking points and data might be received. State  
34 Librarian Greg Lucas said information would be gathered quickly and should not  
35 take long to deliver.

##### 36 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

37 There was no public comment brought forward.

1 **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS/OFFICERS**

2 No further comments were discussed all were covered under Board Discussion.

3 **OLD BUSINESS**

4 **Palm Desert Library Affiliation Update**

5 State Librarian Lucas provided an update on the Palm Desert Library's  
6 affiliation with the Inland Library System, confirming that the California State  
7 Library received Ordinance-1408, completing the process. The Board expressed  
8 satisfaction with the progress and welcomed Palm Desert Library to the  
9 cooperative system.

10 **Update on Administrative Assistant II Position**

11 Deputy State Librarian Wendt updated the Board on the hiring process for  
12 the Administrative Assistant II position, noting that first interview process was  
13 unsuccessful and that the position posting would be reopened. Board President  
14 Williams will serve as Board representation in the hiring process.

15 **Update on CLSA Forms**

16 CSL Grants and Bureau Operation Manager Annly Roman provided an  
17 update on the new CLSA forms used for reporting, highlighting improvements in  
18 the submission process and data-gathering questions, and the feedback  
19 received from participants. Roman also discussed the move to a new grant  
20 management system, AmpliFund.

21 Roman also shared that, because of the changes to the forms for Plans for  
22 Service, the deadline for submission has been extended to August 1, 2024.

23 **AGENDA BUILDING**

24 **Board Vacancies**

25 Board member Weissman discussed potentially including an agenda item  
26 regarding recruitment for Board vacancies. CSL Grants and Bureau Operation  
27 Manager Annly Roman provided a list of vacancies in the meeting chat.

28 **Advocacy Materials Development**

29 Board member Weissman asked about resources and information for  
30 patrons to advocate for the Library, and suggested including an agenda item to  
31 discuss the development of these materials. Board President Williams mentioned  
32 existing American Library Association resources, and Weissman suggested these  
33 materials be shared on the Board or Library webpage. State Librarian Lucas  
34 shared that an attendee mentioned in the meeting chat that the California  
35 Library Association has advocacy materials, and that EveryLibrary has materials  
36 as well. Board member Murguia mentioned existing resources on the California  
37 State Library website.

1 **Institute of Museum and Library Services**

2 Board President Williams will add an Institute of Museum and Library  
3 Services update to the agenda for the next meeting.

4 **ADJOURNMENT**

5 Board President Williams adjourned the California Library Services Board  
6 meeting at 12:50 pm.