

# SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY LIBRARY SYSTEM

## Electronic Resources Committee Meeting February 17, 2022

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### MINUTES

#### **I. Call to Order**

Nathan Boyer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **II. Introductions**

Members Present: Nathan Boyer, Chair (SJVLS); Nathan Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron Library District); Alyssa Furin (Fresno County Public Library); Ashley Nuhfer (Kings County Library); Mary Jo Lawrence (Madera County Library); Rebecca Adams (Mariposa County Library); Smruti Deshpande (Merced County Library); Jose Ruiz-Garcia (Tulare County Library); Maria Marquez (Tulare Public Library)

Members Absent: Heather Eddy (Kern County Library)

Others Present: Yer Vang (Tulare County Library)

Yer Vang was introduced as the new committee member for the Tulare County Library.

#### **III. Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as written.

#### **IV. Comments from the Public**

None

#### **V. Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2022 (Attachment 1)**

The minutes were unanimously approved with the following corrections: Motion to approve the minutes of February 4, 2022 was made by Eddy (Kern) with Second by Furin (Fresno). Motion to approve Resolution was made by Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron) with Second by Adams (Mariposa).

Motion: Marquez (Tulare Public)

Second: Deshpande (Merced)

#### **VI. Projects for Discussion and Action**

A. Discussion and Action: Continuing Teleconferences under Amended Brown Act – Subsequent Resolution (Attachment 2)

Statewide mask requirements ended on February 15, however Governor Newsom's state of emergency remains in effect in California.

Members were invited to share local guidance for addressing the ongoing pandemic and/or library policies concerning staff, visitors from other organizations and vendors, and the public.

Vosburg stated that Coalinga-Huron followed guidance from California

Department of Public Health until February 15. The library is planning to start public programs and masks will not be required.

Furin stated that Fresno libraries are still requiring masks for unvaccinated persons but not if vaccinated. The Fresno Central library is in outbreak status and masks are required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status. Staff can meet in person, however digital meetings are encouraged.

Nuhfer shared that Kings County requires masks for unvaccinated persons, but not for those who are vaccinated. The library is having an in-person staff meeting next month. In-person meetings with outside vendors may happen during the spring.

Lawrence said that Madera has lifted their mask mandate. The library is opening for indoor, in person programs but is still enforcing social distancing for public and staff.

Adams reported that Mariposa is still requiring masks regardless of vaccination status. Staff are being tested for COVID-19 once per week. Virtual meetings are encouraged. Limited public services are available.

Deshpande said that Merced is also requiring masks for unvaccinated persons, but not for vaccinated. The library is offering children's programs and masks are required. Library meetings are being held virtually.

Ruiz-Garcia and Vang shared that Tulare County is requiring masks regardless of vaccination status. The library is offering limited in person services. Public programs are being held outside to enforce social distancing. Recent staff meetings have been virtual.

Marquez stated that Tulare Public is following state guidelines and masks are required for unvaccinated persons. Staff are wearing masks when dealing with the public. Masks are not required in staff-only areas, but most staff are still wearing masks. The library is offering some programming, but masks are required. Staff meetings are virtual.

Because the majority of member libraries are still requiring masks, enforcing social distancing, and/or encouraging virtual meetings as an alternative to in-person meetings, Boyer introduced the resolution to continue to hold virtual committee meetings in accordance with the Brown Act as amended by AB361.

Motion: Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron)

Second: Marquez (Tulare Public)

Ayes: Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron), Furin (Fresno), Nuhfer (Kings), Lawrence (Madera), Adams (Mariposa), Deshpande (Merced), Ruiz-Garcia (Tulare County), Marquez (Tulare Public)

Noes: None

The motion passed and the resolution will be reconsidered at the next meeting, no later than March 19, 2022.

B. Discussion: Systemwide Gale Resources

With State Library providing access to Interactive Science and In Context: Science the system has a \$2,888 credit from Gale for our general database subscription. Kirk Peterson has presented an option to roll that credit into a Gale reference ebook subscription. The collection includes about 550 titles. Our cost, after the credit, would be \$5,212.

Lawrence expressed concern over adding a new resource might result in additional system costs if the State Library doesn't continue to provide access to the same resources and the system needs to pay for those again. Lawrence and Vosburg indicated that reference ebooks wouldn't be used enough to justify the cost.

C. Discussion: SJVLS Administrative Council presentations

Former committee member presented to Admin Council in November 2021 and proposed examining priorities on the type of resources that are offered for the entire system. Also discussed whether digital reference resources might be useful in replacing print reference materials, especially for libraries that have weeded their print reference collections. Boyer asked if the committee still wanted to reexamine the types of digital resources offered to the entire system.

Consensus among members that reference resources are not used as often as in the past. People are finding answers to reference and research questions via Google or from resources provided by school and college/university libraries. Some members believe it's important to maintain at least minimal general-purpose resources.

Libraries report greater user interest in resources that promote lifelong learning, hobbies, and skills development. People look to public libraries because those types of resources aren't necessarily offered by school and university libraries.

Vosburg asked for a survey that will allow committee members to rate and share resource types that might be valued. Members could share their library successes with resources for consideration as systemwide resources. Lawrence asked if it was possible to share systemwide usage stats for resources so that members might understand big picture of database usage. Boyer will develop survey and will share systemwide stats for shared resources.

**VII. Status Update on System Resources**

System enabled user suggestions for purchase in cloudLibrary and had soft rollout in January. So far we're seeing moderate interest and engagement. Boyer will provide stats.

**VIII. Set date of next meeting: tentatively March 17, 2022**

**IX. Announcements**

Members commented on Libby becoming the main app for Overdrive.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.