The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Wapiti Regional Library Board was held on Saturday, November 19, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the Northern Regional Recreation Centre, Redwing SK.

Present:

**Rural Municipalities (16)**
- C. Bauer-Hyde  District of Lakeland #521 (Executive Committee Chair)
- L. Clavelle  RM of Buckland
- H. Diederichs  RM of Hoodoo #401
- L. Kulchar  RM of Kinistino
- A. Guillet  RM of Lake Lenore #399
- R. Diehl  RM of Leask
- L. Holmen  RM of Moose Range #486
- Z. Graham  RM of Pleasantdale #398
- **M. Rovensky**  RM of Porcupine #395 (Executive Committee)
- B. Franc  RM of Prince Albert #461
- D. Oleksyn  RM of Shellbrook
- K. Willson  RM of Spiritwood
- A. Roy  RM of St. Louis #431
- A. Campbell  RM of Star City #428
- G. Cleaveley  RM of Tisdale #427
- D. Wiebe  RM of Willow Creek #458

**Villages (6)**
- L. Anderson  Village of Aylsham
- V. Manton  Village of Candle Lake
- R. Craswell  Village of Leoville
- A. Henbid  Village of Pebble Bay
- A. Weiers  Village of Shell Lake
- M. Emro  Village of Valparaiso

**“B” Towns (6)**
- S. Gilbert  Town of Big River
- N. Pochipinski  Town of Carrot River
- E. Olexson  Town of Cudworth
- **E. Poniatowski**  Town of Porcupine Plain (Executive Committee Vice-chair)
- E. Fish  Town of Shellbrook
- B. Noble  Town of Wakaw

**“A” Towns (2)**
- L. Serack  Town of Nipawin (Executive Committee)
- M. Baker  Town of Tisdale

**City of Humboldt (1)**
- S. Weyland
Call to Order: Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

1. Introductions: Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde welcomed those in attendance, asking that all introduce themselves. Attending Executive Committee members and staff were introduced. Meeting guidelines and voting rules were reviewed.

C. Bauer-Hyde announced that the 2015 Marion Sherman Bursary was awarded to applicant C. Severino, currently attending the University of Toronto.

2. Agenda: C. Bauer-Hyde asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

MSC to accept the agenda as presented.

3. Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting: Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde presented minutes of the April 30, 2016 Annual General Meeting. There were no additions or changes.

MSC to accept the April 30, 2016 Annual General meeting minutes as presented.

4. Chairperson Status Report: Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde presented the Chairperson Status Report. She quoted a resolution passed at the recent Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) convention:

Resolution 8-16M, Single Integrated Library Systems Funding, RM of Corman Park No. 344

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WHEREAS under The Public Libraries Act, 1996, the province establishes the boundaries of the regional library systems and requires that all municipal governments within a regional library system must participate unless they are part of the provincially approved municipal libraries (Saskatoon and Regina), making libraries a joint responsibility of all municipalities and the province; and WHEREAS The Public Libraries Act, 1996 sets out one of the main purposes of the provincial library system is to facilitate equitable access to basic library services by all residents of Saskatchewan; and WHEREAS there is a limited ability for regional library systems to support their headquarters through the levy structure; and WHEREAS there is now a Single Integrated Library System (SILS) in place to ensure accessibility to materials for all residents the cost of which is born in part by municipalities; and WHEREAS there is no fee for service with respect to use of the library; and WHEREAS the government has indicated that libraries fall under the Ministry of Education; BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Association for Rural Municipalities (SARM) advocate with the Government of Saskatchewan to begin year-to-year funding increases for SILS and the library system, in order to: maintain pace with inflation and work toward 100 per cent provincial funding of Single Integrated Library System (SILS); ensure library services are provided to all residents of the province, regardless of where they reside or their financial circumstance; and to reduce the burden for the cost of Single Integrated Library System (SILS) on municipalities.

C. Bauer-Hyde presented statistics concerning Wapiti Regional Library’s geographical area, population and communities served. She noted that Wapiti was Saskatchewan’s first regional library system, and was the model for today’s province-wide system. She explained how the Regional Board, consisting of representatives from municipalities within the regional area, governs Wapiti and how every municipality agreed to abide by established bylaws and provincial legislation.

C. Bauer-Hyde emphasized that Wapiti is never a “we” and “them” situation, but rather, Wapiti is “us” – the communities and citizens within regional boundaries. Wapiti is not an “anonymous” corporate entity, but “all of us working together to provide library services for our region.”

Congratulations were extended to branch libraries that celebrated significant anniversaries in 2016: 20th – Prud’homme; 35th – Duck Lake; 40th – Debden; 50th – Hudson Bay; 55th – Carrot River, Shell Lake & Spiritwood.

Wapiti’s appreciation was extended to representatives for their attendance, hard work, and continuing support. The Northern Regional Recreation Centre was thanked for providing the facility.

It was noted that there are currently three (3) vacancies on the Wapiti Executive Committee: one (1) representing villages, one (1) representing RMs and one (1) representing Metis/First Nations communities. Regional Board members were encouraged to consider serving on the committee.
5. Regional Director's Report:
Regional Director T. Murphy presented the Director’s Report containing 2016 highlights:

- “Always. Moving. Forward.” has been Wapiti’s *modus operandi* for over 60 years
- New digital services hoopla and Flipster usage by patrons has steadily increased
- Introducing electronic elements is “not killing libraries.” Wapiti’s Community Service Librarian has been, and will continue to hold training sessions throughout the region, teaching patrons how to use electronic resources
- NNELS and the new SELA services provide materials for print disabled patrons. Wapiti Regional Office will be increasing programming to help branches offer these services
- CUPE contract negotiations have resulted in a new Collective Agreement. Major updates were achieved and all staff were thanked for an amicable negotiation process
- New marketing and promotion strategies included a wrap for Wapiti’s delivery van. The van was exhibited in 2016 community parades. Promotional products such as bookmarks and posters advertising electronic resources were increasingly distributed in branches and plans are underway to place these products in municipalities that don’t have a library, promoting greater awareness of online resources, and what nearby libraries offer these populations

Both the Wapiti Regional Library Board Chairperson’s Report and the Regional Director’s Report were followed by a “Question and Answer” session where regional representatives had a number of questions around the current situation with John M. Cuelenaere Public Library and the City of Prince Albert, as well as questions about library resources and services.

6. 2017 Proposed Regional Office Budget:
Finance Manager B. Lawreniuk presented the 2017 Proposed Wapiti Regional Library Budget. The budget was drafted to account for the City of Prince Albert’s motion that JMCPL become a municipal library by January 1, 2017. As confirmed by provincial government, JMCPL leaving Wapiti would remove the City of Prince Albert’s 35,129 citizens from Wapiti’s overall population. Since regional library funding is determined largely by population, the decrease would result in an anticipated loss of $156,000.00 funding to Wapiti.

The proposed budget asks for $1.50 per capita from the region's municipal grants to support Regional Office operations, to offset the loss of the $156,000.00 in provincial funding. (For the RMTV category, this is not an 'additional' $1.50, but rather, a reallocation from within the current levy amount for 2017). The five Area Resource Centre libraries created their own budget strategies to manage the $1.50 reallocation.
The presentation of the 2017 Proposed Regional Office Budget was followed by a “Question and Answer” session that dealt with questions about Wapiti’s “Resource Centres Grant,” as well as the financial loss of $156,000 should Prince Albert pull out of the Wapiti Region, and the plan for that budgetary loss that was delineated in the 2017 Proposed Wapiti Regional Library Budget.

Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde asked for a motion to approve the 2017 Proposed Wapiti Regional Library Budget as presented.

**MSC to accept the 2016 Proposed Wapiti Regional Office Budget as presented.**

Regional Board members thanked Wapiti Regional Office staff and Executive Committee for “all the hard work creating a budget under difficult circumstances.”

7. **Policy Revision:** Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde explained that on July 4, 2016, the Wapiti Executive Committee made motion 09-16 recommending a policy change to remove John M. Cuelenaere Public Library from the Wapiti Regional Library’s Resource Centres Grant Program.

**MSC to revise the Wapiti Regional Library Policy Manual, Section 3.7, Resource Centres Grant, by removing the John M. Cuelenaere Public Library from the Resource Centres Grant program.**

8. **Next Meeting:** The 2017 Wapiti Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017, 1:00 pm at the Northern Regional Recreation Centre, Redwing, SK.

10. **Adjournment:** Upon motion that the meeting be adjourned, Chairperson C. Bauer-Hyde thanked the members for their attendance and the Regional Office staff for organizing the meeting. She wished everyone a safe journey and declared the meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.