

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.D**

MEETING DATE: **May 17, 2024**

SUBJECT: **Executive Director's Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

2024 Institutional Membership Dues

As of May 16, I am happy to report that 236 public library systems are Institutional Members of OLC. We have 12 library systems that are still in the process of renewing their memberships and submitting payment. We did have a few counties where invoices were delayed due to inaccurate information from county auditors.

The following three public library systems have not paid any portion of their 2024 dues and were not included in the revenue projections for the 2024 OLC operational budget:

Library	2024 Dues
Bettsville Public Library	460
Franklin Public Library	5,195
Plain City Public Library	1,674
TOTAL	7,329

Library Levies on March Primary Ballot

On March 19, voters approved five out of seven public library levies on local ballots around Ohio. The issues included four renewals, two replacements and one renewal with an increase. The five levies that passed did so by significant margins with an average voter approval rate of 67 percent. More information is available on OLC's website:

<https://olc.org/blog/2024/03/20/ohio-voters-approve-5-out-of-7-public-library-levies/>

Trustee Dinners

This spring, OLC returned to our tradition of having in-person Trustee Dinners around the state. These are dinner meetings throughout the state for public library trustees and administrators. These events focus on the challenges and opportunities ahead for Ohio's public libraries and provide a venue for library trustees and administrators to share information and ideas with their counterparts throughout the region. Below is a summary of attendance for this year with the number of trustees in parentheses. Overall, 102 trustees attended.

Date	2022 Locations (In-Person)	Attendance
Mar. 28	SE Ohio – Guernsey County Library	16 (9)
Apr. 11	NW Ohio – Stone Ridge Golf Club, Bowling Green	45 (26)
Apr. 25	SW Ohio – Walnut Grove Country Club, Dayton	21 (12)
May 2	NE Ohio – Embassy Suites, Independence	85 (55)

PLA 2024

More than 7,500 people attended the Public Library Association's national conference in Columbus last month. It was great to see so many OLC members in attendance and presenting! We hope you were energized by the inspiring sessions and speakers.

- Overall Registration for Full Conference (Exhibitors/Speakers/Sponsors) – 7,573
- Registration for OLC's Pre-Conference Workshop on the Science of Reading – 75

PLA does not have full financials yet from the conference. It is usually a 60-day turnaround for ALA financials so we should have more information on OLC's Pre-Con Workshop in June.

Overall, it was a wonderful event and opportunity for Ohio's public libraries to shine. Also, I had the ability to do the following:

- Hosted my fellow Library State Assoc. Executive Directors from Virginia, Illinois, Washington and Pennsylvania.
- Met w/PLA's Executive Director.
- Met w/ALA's Interim Executive Director.
- Supported our OLC members as they presented in more than 10 different breakout sessions.

Unfortunately, the Welcome Reception at the Columbus Metropolitan Library had to be canceled due to severe weather and concern for public safety. The food for the reception was kept in coolers by the caterer and redistributed through their local networks, including the Life Care Alliance. More information will be shared at the meeting.

Science of Reading – Literacy Roundtables & Right to Read Film

It was an honor to have our public libraries included in the Governor's Literacy Roundtable tour earlier last month. The governor made stops in Youngstown, Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati for community conversations on the importance of the Science of Reading and overall literacy in general. We were fortunate to have public libraries host two of the stops on the tour and have local public library directors invited to the other locations.

Also, thank you to everyone who was able to come to Columbus on April 16th for the Right to Read film screening at the Lincoln Theatre. Thank you for traveling during this busy month and thank you for bringing your staff. OLC shared a sampling of the media coverage:

OLC Staff Anniversaries

Recent OLC staff anniversaries include:

- Angie Jacobsen: March 28 – 8 years
- Laurie Miller: April 19 – 3 years
- Ro Swanson: May 8 – 24 years

Activities

Activities since the last Board meeting include:

Mar. 18 2024 PLA Presidential Candidates Forum
Mar. 19 Planning Meeting for OLC Broadband Session at PLA
Meeting on Columbia University Study
ALA Town Hall Meeting
Planning Meeting for OLC Science of Reading Session at PLA
Mar. 20 Meeting w/North Hill Consulting
Mar. 25 Planning Meeting for OLC ODE/LAL Grant Session at PLA
Mar. 26 America 250 Planning Meeting
Onboarding with Adult Services Conf. Chair
Meeting on Columbia University Study
Mar. 27 OLC/PLA Planning Meeting
Mar. 28 SE Ohio Trustee Dinner – Cambridge
Mar. 29 Onboarding with Management & Leadership Conf. Chair
Law for Libraries Meeting
Apr. 2 PLA 2024 Set-up
OLC Pre-Con Workshop at PLA
Apr. 3 ALA Public Policy Meeting
Unite Against Book Bans Session
Reception for George Needham
PLA President’s Reception
State Association ED’s Dinner
Apr. 4 Meeting w/ALA Interim Executive Director
OLC Broadband Session at PLA
PLA All Conference Reception
Apr. 5 LJ Librarian of the Year Breakfast
PLA President’s Breakfast/Coffee
Expo Hall Meetings w/Vendors
Apr. 10 Meeting w/OLC’s Legal Counsel
State of the State
Apr. 11 Meeting w/Nebula on OLC Phone System
OLC Science of Reading Webinar II – Prof. Development
NW Ohio Trustee Dinner – Bowling Green
Apr. 12 CPIM Planning Meeting
OPLIN Board Meeting
Meeting w/Sen. Blessing
OLC Leg Day Prep Webinar
Apr. 16 Literacy Roundtable w/Gov. DeWine & ODEW Director Dackin
Right to Read Reception
Right to Read Film Screening
Apr. 17 Library Accounting Division Meeting on Handbook
Apr. 18 OLC CPIM Library Fiscal Officer Conference
Library Fiscal Officer 102 Planning Meeting
Apr. 19 OLC CPIM Library Fiscal Officer Conference
Meeting w/ODEW Director Steve Dackin
Apr. 22 OLC Audit
Apr. 23 Meeting w/LTG’s Team on Social Media
Apr. 24 OLC Legislative Day
Apr. 25 SW Ohio Trustee Dinner – Dayton
Apr. 26 Meeting w/Nebula on OLC Phone System
Book Ban Meeting w/Mike Curtain
Apr. 29 OLA Luncheon w/ORP Chair Alex Triantafilou
Apr. 30 Meeting w/iMIS on new Assoc. Management Software

May 1	Meeting w/Heartland Forward on PLA Telehealth Module
May 2	Meeting w/iMIS on new Assoc. Management Software OLC Intellectual Freedom Comm. Meeting OLC Nominating Committee Meeting NE Ohio Trustee Dinner – Independence
May 3	Meeting w/Howard Fleeter
May 6	Meeting w/School Principals Assoc.
May 7	PLA Debrief with CML
May 8	CMC Forum w/Gov. DeWine Nominating Committee Calls
May 9	ODEW Planning Meeting on Science of Reading ODEW Meeting OLC Small Libraries Division Action Council Meeting OLC Science of Reading Webinar III – Office Hours ALA Chapter Leaders Orientation
May 10	Meeting w/Amazon Business
May 13	Meeting w/Growth Zone on new Assoc. Management Software Meeting w/Howard Fleeter Meeting w/Nebula on OLC Phone System Meeting w/OLC Legal Counsel
May 14	OLC New Directors Workshop
May 15	OLC Staff Demo w/iMIS on new Assoc. Management Software Meeting w/ODEW on Science of Learning Next Steps
May 16	Meeting w/Growth Zone on new Assoc. Management Software OLC Diversity Committee Meeting