

LAW LIBRARY BOARD

Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2009

In attendance were trustees: J. Macklin, J. Hooten, Comm. Marschall, Att'y. McNellis, Library Division Head Birdsey and Law Librarians Freyberg and Taylor.

The date, time and agenda for the meeting were posted on the County's web page.

Financial Issue

The law library maintains membership in a legal Self-Help Center telephone line thru the Metropolitan Law Libraries. While the funding for the phone line is not in immediate danger, continuation of the economic crisis could endanger it. Commissioner Marschall voiced support for continuing to fund the County's share.

Legislation

Discussion of H.F. #889/S.F. 1457 which would allow county law libraries to be housed in public library buildings, and S.F. 1627 which would limit the imposition of law library fees. It was determined that the law librarians would monitor the progress of the bills.

Westlaw Contract

- ❖ The current bill for Westlaw services is \$3,655 per month, offset by approximately \$1,000 in savings from Westlaw texts print costs.
- ❖ Staff is planning on reducing some of the services currently received and negotiate to bring the cost down, and believes they will be able to do so due to good competition from Lexus, which would charge the law library approximately \$1,800, (but would lose the discount from Westlaw on its printed texts.)
- ❖ Staff will also seek to obtain the basic program for the three largest city libraries which will cost approximately \$1,325.
- ❖ J. Macklin suggested the possibility of joining the State's law library Westlaw system.

Pro Se Legal Advice Program

The law library staff has started a legal advice clinic for pro se parties. Three local attorneys have volunteered their time. The attorneys will not represent the people, but give general information regarding the law, practice and procedure. Currently waiting for the return of one of the attorneys from a neighboring program to schedule appointments.

New trustee

J. Macklin resigned from the Board of Trustees and Judge Carol Hooten was appointed.