

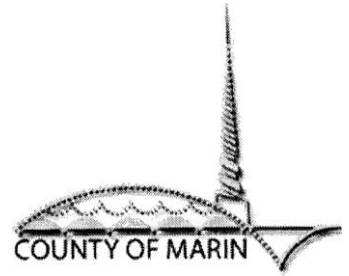
# Special Meeting of the Board of Law Library Trustees

ACTING LIBRARY DIRECTOR:

of Marin County

COUNTY OF MARIN

Laurie Vaala-Olsen



BOARD OF TRUSTEES:  
Benjamin Gale, President

A California Independent Public Agency Under Steven Schoonover, Esq.

Business & Professions Code Section 6300 et seq. Sam Ware, Esq.  
Alexandria Quam, Esq.  
Robert Begley, Esq.

Monday, January 20, 2015, at 5:15 p.m.

Elliot Bien, Esq.

Present: Ben Gale, Steven Schoonover, Sam Ware, Alexandria Quam,  
Elliot Bien, and Laurie Vaala-Olsen, Acting Secretary.

Absent: Robert Begley

Also Present: Sheila Lichtblau, Bill Hale, Lise Strandgaard

## Call to Order

Ben called the meeting to order at 5:24 p.m., and thereafter presided.

## Open Forum

Bill requested copies of the agenda packet, and additional documents available to the Board, and was provided with the same

1.0 ACTION ITEM: Request to approve Resolution to execute letter of unconditional commitment under Government Code 54960.2 to cease, desist from and not repeat challenged actions per letter of December 15, 2015. (See Attachment)

Ben presented Resolution No 2015-01 , and proposed that paragraph 6 be revised to exclude the last part of the sentence that states: "and to provide Bill Hale with the settlement agreement between Jason Voelker and Marin County Law Library" because it raises confidentiality issues. Jason Voelker objects to the public disclosure of his settlement agreement for the reasons stated in his January 19, 2015 letter to the President of the MCLL Board of Trustees. The January 19 letter was provided to all persons attending the meeting, and is attached to the Minutes.

Alexandria also raised questions regarding paragraph 6 of the Resolution, and expressed that said provision should be further researched before agreeing to publicly disclose the settlement agreement. Elliot was in agreement that the Board does not want to break the confidentiality of the settlement agreement. Ben expressed that disclosure of the settlement agreement may be necessary pursuant to Brown Act requirements.

There was a question regarding whether Bill Hale had in fact specifically requested that he be provided with Jason Voelker's settlement agreement, so the Board sought clarification from Bill. Bill confirmed that he has requested, and does request, a copy of Jason's settlement agreement.

Sheila suggested that the Board allow themselves 10 days to respond to Mr. Hale's request. Following discussion, the Resolution was amended at paragraph 6 as follows:

Delete the period at the end of the sentence, insert a comma and add the following language: "in 10 days, if so required by law, in order to allow Jason Voelker to seek all available remedies with respect to the release of the agreement."

Public Comment: The Board then sought public comment, but none was offered.

Sam moved, and Alexandria seconded, that Resolution 2015-01 be approved as amended. The motion passed with 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, and 1 Abstention.

2. ACTION ITEM: Request to reduce Law Library hours during two weekday mornings to meet staffing concerns.

Although this agenda item was previously, and correctly, agendized, it is being presented again at this meeting to allow for public comment. Sam stated that it was necessary to reduce Law Library hours because we have not been able to adequately staff the library to keep the hours of operation the same. The library now opens at 11 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday mornings instead of 8:30 a.m., but it is still open until 8:00 p.m. in the evening.

Steven commented that library income from court filing fees continues to decline and the library cannot continue to meet its staff salary and other expense obligations under those conditions without making changes, such as reducing its hours.

Ben reported that the Board spent extensive time and efforts in their last request for a filing fee increase of \$3.00, which was not granted.

Public Comment: Bill Hale expressed frustration and disappointment with the Board because it has not pursued fundraising efforts utilizing a well-crafted letter that was created with Marin Community Foundation assistance. Alexandria responded that the Board continues to work on this.

Following public comment, Sam moved, and Elliot seconded, that Tuesday and Thursday hours be reduced from opening at 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The motion passed with a vote of: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, and 1 Abstention.

3. ACTION ITEM: Request to appoint Laurie Vaala-Olsen as Acting Law Library Director and approve compensation of \$20 hourly.

Ben presented the request to appoint Laurie Vaala-Olsen as Acting Law Library Director and to approve her compensation of \$20 hourly.

Public Comment: Bill Hale commented that Jason Voelker is the best person to be operating the Law Library, and that the Board has an obligation to recognize that fact. He suggested that Jason could be reinstated with appropriate measures in place to address the moral turpitude issue, if necessary.

4. Adjournment

All business before the Board having been considered, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Benjamin Gale, Chair

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Laurie Vaala-Olsen, Acting Secretary