

1 LAS VEGAS-CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING
3 AT THE RAINBOW LIBRARY AND VIA ZOOM
4 THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024

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6 [Meeting began at 5:01 p.m.]

7 CHAIR WAUGH: Good evening -- early -- late
8 afternoon/early evening, everybody. I'm going to call this meeting
9 of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District Board of Trustees to
10 order on July 10th at 5:01 p.m. Ms. Nance, would you please call
11 the roll?

12 MS. NANCE: Chair Waugh.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: Here.

14 MS. NANCE: Trustee Rogers.

15 [No heard response.]

16 MS. NANCE: Trustee Jiron

17 TRUSTEE JIRON: Here.

18 MS. NANCE: Trustee Whiteley.

19 [No heard response.]

20 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Rogers, present.

21 MS. NANCE: I have you.

22 Trustee Foyt.

23 TRUSTEE FOYT: Here.

24 MS. NANCE: Trustee Ortiz.

25 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Present.

1 MS. NANCE: Trustee Benavidez.

2 [No heard response.]

3 MS. NANCE: Trustee Sanchez.

4 [No heard response.]

5 MS. NANCE: Trustee Dutkowski.

6 TRUSTEE DUTKOWSKI: Present.

7 MS. NANCE: And we do have a quorum, Chair.

8 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you very much.

9 Would everyone please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance?

10 [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

11 CHAIR WAUGH: Moving to Agenda Item Number II,
12 Public Comment. Topics raised on this item must be limited to
13 matters on today's agenda. Anyone wishing to speak during this
14 item must sign up on the roster provided prior to the public
15 comment period. Do we have anyone for public comment?

16 MS. NANCE: Yes, we do.

17 And you all can just go up one by one and state your
18 name and address for the record.

19 MS. NEWSOM: Good evening. My name is Shaundell
20 Newsome. I'm going to speak on Item VIII, New Business B.3. And
21 I'll start by saying my name -- my address is 313 Carrington Street.
22 And I'll start by saying, you know, I grew up in a -- with a mother
23 who was a schoolteacher, so I spent a lot of time in libraries, but in
24 fact this library itself was the library that my kids went to. And I
25 verified that; I was like, wow, about 25/30 years ago, sorry to say,

1 but it's always been a great experience in in the Las Vegas-Clark
2 County Library District.

3 And so when I was Chairman of the Urban Chamber of
4 Commerce, I got to meet Mr. Watson. And me and Ken Evans, Ken
5 was the president, and we were really, really being tough on him to
6 make sure that we were going to get what we wanted to have in our
7 community, not just for the children, but also for the young adults
8 and we also looked at -- we also pushed him to look at outside the
9 box and entrepreneurship.

10 I'm a small business owner, we've owned a business for
11 18 years; in our third generation. I have my daughter as the CEO,
12 my granddaughter is a marketing coordinator at our firm and one of
13 the things that we really believe in is education and we believe that
14 libraries are a very critical piece of our community. And when we
15 had the presentation for the Westside, the library on -- the new
16 library on the Westside, we were blown away and we really -- and
17 our firm actually did all of the outreach and engagement and
18 educated the community on what we're looking at with a 21st
19 Century Library.

20 I'm very impressed by the work that Mr. Watson has done
21 and how he's ingrained in the community, and I'm really excited
22 about the future and opportunities that we have. So I thank you
23 guys for always looking outside and thinking outside the box and
24 having somebody in leadership who can definitely guide us in that
25 direction. Thank you.

1 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you. Next public comment.

2 MR. BUSH: Hi, my name is Robert Bush, Dr. Robert Bush
3 with the National Action Network, an organization here in Las
4 Vegas and founded by the Reverend Al Sharpton and I'm here to
5 speak on Item VIII.B.3. And I want to say first of all that, as a native
6 graduate of Rancho High School, I hadn't been into a library in over
7 40 years, and it was because of Mr. Kelvin Watson that I got excited
8 about visiting a library and at least checking out and tapping into
9 the resources of the libraries in our city. And I -- sad to say time
10 had passed me by and that these libraries are providing an
11 incredible resource for our community that I think our community
12 can't do without.

13 But Mr. Watson is a remarkable individual who has
14 quickly become an integral part of our community in every way. It's
15 not hard when you talk with him to hear his dedication, to see his
16 dedication to not just the community, but to the kids in the
17 community, to the people in the community. He has become an
18 extraordinary leader in our community and National Action
19 Network was proud to honor him as an extraordinary leader during
20 our Black History Week.

21 Listen, it's hard to imagine going into the community and
22 not seeing Mr. Watson somewhere in the community. He is -- well,
23 let me say it this way for our Hip-Hop heads, Jay-Z told Nas, "I'm
24 everywhere and you ain't never there." And he is our -- become
25 our Jay-Z; he's there, he's present. And in order to be a leader in

1 this community you have to be present, you have to be
2 accountable, and you have to show up. And I will say that he has
3 shown up in more ways than one in our community.

4 We're proud to have him here and we're happy that we
5 have finally have -- we're very proud in our community that we
6 finally have the first Black Executive Director for the Clark County
7 libraries in this community, who is not just going through the
8 motions, but is doing a wonderful job. We're proud of him and you
9 should be proud of him also. Thank you.

10 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Dr. Bush.

11 Mr. Jordan.

12 CHAIR WAUGH: Good evening. I'm Lewis Jordan. I'm
13 the proud executive of the Southern Nevada Regional Housing
14 Authority and I rise today -- first of all, I want to say I probably
15 should have been here a while ago just to thank you as a Board for
16 the collaboration and the partnership that's been demonstrated
17 since I got here. I think Mr. Watson came a little bit before I did.

18 Having done this work all around the country, I can't tell
19 you how much easier his willingness to collaborate and partner has
20 made my job and the 45,000 or so people that we serve at the
21 Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority. I could stand here
22 and give examples of laptop giveaways, Chromebook giveaways
23 showing up at community meetings.

24 If you're paying attention to the news, there's a lot going
25 on as it relates to housing right now. Prime example, yesterday we

1 received a \$3 million Jobs Plus grant; an employment grant. And
2 somewhere in that process, Mr. Watson and I sat at a table for a
3 long night helping craft what story we needed to tell the Southern
4 Nevadans in order to get this grant. And as you know, with any
5 federal grants, they're competitive. We're one of 12 housing
6 authorities around the country who got the grant. A number of
7 housing authorities apply. It's so important that we continue to
8 have this level of synergy.

9 Again, one of the easier parts about my job is coming into
10 a community like this and not having to convince a leader of
11 libraries or education that there is a nexus between housing and
12 education, housing and libraries. And some of the things that
13 we've seen around the country are very similar to the things we
14 want to do. As we're in the process of redeveloping Marble Manor,
15 which is right down the street from the new development -- the new
16 library you're putting in, you know, we're talking about ways in
17 which we can get folks from one point to the other, as well as
18 looking at the possibility of having remote kiosks in our
19 development.

20 So, again, a little late in getting here and telling the Board
21 thank you, but I want to say thank you. And I also want to say that
22 I'm glad that as -- I don't think we call ourselves new anymore,
23 we've been here for a while, but it's good to have the partnership
24 and collaboration. But what's most important -- it's so good to
25 work with a leader that gets it and we're looking forward to doing

1 more work together. Thank you.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you.

3 MS. JONES: Good afternoon. My name is Asha Jones
4 and I'm here to just talk about how amazing the library is and then
5 also Mr. Watson, as we call him. I'm also a Rancho graduate, so I'm
6 glad to hear that. This community means so much to me and I
7 think about my earliest memories of the library. We grew up in,
8 Henderson, I went to C.T. Sewell and my mother made us believe
9 the library was an outing. My mom was a stay-at-home mom and
10 there wasn't a lot of money to go out and do things, so we really
11 celebrated going to the library.

12 And one day she took me to the library and she's like, stay
13 here while I grocery shop. The library closed. So I sat outside the
14 library. They let me check out my books, they made sure I was
15 safe, and I spent like two hours reading outside and didn't miss a
16 beat.

17 And then we moved, and we came over into Central Las
18 Vegas behind Rancho High School and the Historic Westside
19 Library, which is now Mohammed Mosque 75, I believe, was the
20 library that we went to, and we watched movies. And I remember
21 we didn't have anything to put our popcorn in, so I took my little
22 brother's hat and put popcorn in it, and that's how we ate our
23 popcorn at the library watching the movie.

24 I went on to experience the Doolittle Recreation Center in
25 the library there, went to help out at the performing arts camp; that

1 whole area was just a place where I grew up. And then I went on
2 and my son did the same thing. He did tutoring here at this library.
3 I also taught him the Dewey Decimal system way -- he didn't need
4 it, we had computers, but I wanted him to learn, and we were at the
5 Sahara West Library, and I remember the librarian saying, what are
6 you doing? I said, oh, I'm showing him how to look up books. And
7 she's like, well, you can use a computer. I was like, no, I want him
8 to understand the Dewey Decimal system. And she was like, my
9 gosh, I've never had anybody do that. I was like, yeah, I'm that
10 weirdo. So the library has always been a part of my life and my
11 family's life.

12 What I will say is if -- my career, I do community work and
13 people come to Las Vegas because they're going to save us, you
14 know? In politics, they come in and they're like, we're the ones who
15 are going to get everybody to vote. We've had whole churches
16 move here because they want to save the souls of Las Vegas. And I
17 tell people when you come to this community, you have to become
18 a part of our community. It's not enough to come in and say I'm
19 here to help. You have to actually show us and we're hard on you.

20 I have people, they're like you guys, Vegas doesn't let
21 anybody in. I was like, well, you need to demonstrate your
22 commitment to Vegas, and then we'll let you in. And that's
23 something I saw with Mr. Watson; when he got the job, we were
24 like, okay, let's see who this guy is, and I began to see him
25 everywhere. I do community work; I'm everywhere, six/seven days

1 a week and then I would see him. So we started talking and I'm one
2 of those people, if I want to get to know you, I'm just going to call
3 you and say, hey, you don't know me, I don't know you, but we
4 should know each other.

5 And we got to talking and he talked about all the ideas
6 and literacy and then I had some ideas and he's like, okay, let's do
7 it. And I wasn't used to that. I was like, wait, I don't have my plan
8 yet. It's just an idea. But he really challenged me to, you know,
9 kind of operate in the vein that I was looking at.

10 So one of our most recent celebrations, the West Las
11 Vegas Library, there was a lot of community concern about what it
12 was going to look like, what it meant to the community, what we
13 were taking away, what we were giving. And at the time I worked
14 for Congressman Horsford and people do call their congressman
15 about the library. They're trying to take it. They're trying to do this.
16 They're trying to do that. And I had the opportunity to sit down
17 with Mr. Watson and also some other folks and really understand.

18 So I got my perspective and then I gave them a list of 15
19 people, and I did this with the -- Mel, the architect. These are the
20 people in our community you need to talk to, and you need to let
21 them know what's happening because for us, we need to know that
22 we're a part of it; it's being done with us and not to us. And some
23 of those people on that list were rough, they were going to let you
24 know.

25 But they took that list and Mr. Watson, not afraid to talk to

1 anybody, sat down, took the fires, took the arrows. And then I was
2 out of town for the groundbreaking, but I heard it was amazing and
3 people have really changed their tone and I think that comes from
4 someone who's committed to community.

5 So I stand here in support of him and everything that he's
6 doing and then the projects that I have that I need him to help me
7 with that are coming. But just looking at how we can continue
8 because libraries are needed. They are so necessary. There are
9 things that are happening, our kids are not getting access. And
10 when I see the ways, the innovative ways that he's going out and
11 during the pandemic and Wi-Fi and all these things, we need to
12 keep that going.

13 And I know he doesn't do it by himself. I know he has an
14 amazing team that actually comes out and supports and help and
15 leadership matters. Our libraries matter and leadership matters.
16 So that is mine and I thank you for all that you do.

17 CHAIR WAUGH: And Asha, you being everywhere is an
18 understatement.

19 MS. LINDERHOLM: Hello, my name is Deana Linderholm;
20 Address 6868 Sky Pointe Drive. I am the Director of the Las Vegas
21 Executives Association. A little history. We are an executive
22 association full of C-Suites; C-Suite Executives. We've been here in
23 the Las Vegas Valley since 1967 and we like to take pride in our
24 members. There's a very arduous, to say the least, vetting system
25 to become a member. Mr. Ron Heesen was a very well-respected

1 member of the Las Vegas Executive Association. He retired in 2020,
2 so you can imagine my delight when Mr. Bruce Woodbury came to
3 me and he said Deana, I believe we found the right representative
4 for the Clark County Library District.

5 So jump to Mr. Watson went through all of the vetting
6 system, he gives a presentation to our membership. I could have
7 heard a pin drop that day. Now remember, these are very busy
8 executives, usually on their phone, suddenly they started to take
9 notes and a pin drop. By the time Mr. Watson finished his
10 presentation there was a line on the side of the -- at the side of the
11 room to sign up for library cards. He actually brought some
12 colleagues there to sign up library cards.

13 The next week some of my executives came in, I've never
14 seen so many people wear Hashtag Get Connected t-shirts to the
15 next executive association meeting, so that was fun. What
16 happened was he ignited a sense of enthusiasm that some of the
17 seasoned members and other members in the community did not
18 realize that the library resources offer; the art programs, the
19 workshops, the online programs, the resources for employees.

20 So what I found, I can tell you what not only I've seen, but
21 what I've heard from some of these members is that they went back
22 to their offices that day and they encouraged their employees to get
23 a card, to get involved and be involved in some of the programs,
24 whether professionally or personally. Not only that, I had members
25 ask me if it would be okay if Mr. Watson can give them tours of the

1 library with their children or grandchildren.

2 And I will say some of our seasoned members don't like
3 change, and they certainly don't like technology. What I found was
4 this was a new way for these members, seasoned members to do
5 something valuable with their grandkids; they are learning
6 something new, and they're both learning, but suddenly it's a really
7 cool thing, suddenly, you know, the grandpas became really cool
8 because of what the library is bringing. But not only that, Mr.
9 Watson has become the go to for resources among many of our
10 members and that has been a valuable, valuable asset.

11 Recently, I believe it was the beginning of the year, one of
12 my members came to me and he said, Deana, one of my employees
13 came in, they were super, super excited that they went to a barber
14 shop, I can't remember which one. He says, there were library
15 books. He says, my son, everybody teases him. He likes to read.
16 He doesn't want to read anymore. It's kind of nerdy, doesn't want
17 to do it, wants to be one of the cool kids.

18 The next day he took his son to the library -- I mean, no,
19 the barber shop and suddenly, he said look, look at all these other
20 people reading books; this is the cool thing to do. It's kind of --
21 there's change going on. So that was a positive thing, and I was
22 proud to hear that from one of our members.

23 Now what I'm learning in the community is that that the
24 future leaders of this community want positive, enthusiastic,
25 innovative change, forward thinking, outside of the box thinking

1 and I believe -- you know, they don't want it, they expect it from us,
2 and I believe Mr. Watson is on the forefront of doing that for our
3 community.

4 So in conclusion, I would like to say that not only has Mr.
5 Watson generated this enthusiasm with LVEA, their members -- I
6 mean their employees and also their families. That's well over 100
7 plus individuals here in the Las Vegas Valley. So I appreciate your
8 time and thank you for all you do.

9 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you.

10 MR. RONALDO: Well, good evening. My name is John
11 Ronaldo, 709 Vantage Lane, 89145; Agenda Item, what was it,
12 VIII.B.3. I'm here representing Cristo Rey St. Viator College
13 Preparatory High School in North Las Vegas and as the Director of
14 Business Partnerships. And first of all, I have to say, I'm literally
15 reading the three books at the same time right now from the Library
16 District, and I'm really thankful for that. I'm reading the Voyage of
17 the Dawn Treader from CS Lewis, I'm reading a Andrew Jackson
18 biography and the Truman biography all the same time. I don't
19 know why I'm doing that, but that's my love for books.

20 But I'm truly thankful for the leadership of Kelvin and --
21 Mr. Watson and his team and we have a great relationship with
22 Cristo Rey St. Viator. First of all, we're extremely thankful for the
23 internship that the Library District provides for four of our students
24 that -- we had four students working there in the Academic Year
25 2023-24 and will continue in Academic Year 24-25. The experience

1 our students are having work in the Library District is huge. Not
2 only is it becoming a pipeline of potential employees for the library
3 in the future, but it's really exposing our students, all who come
4 from limited means and resources to different careers and what our
5 libraries are providing. So we're really thankful for that.

6 The other thing that we're really thankful for is the other
7 innovative ways that the Library District continues to support
8 families and young people in this community. The Outreach Team
9 came to our campus when they partnered with Cox
10 Communications to offer the free Wi-Fi, Free Internet program and
11 many of our families do qualify for that program, and many of our
12 families were able to take advantage of that incredible initiative
13 with Cox Communications Library District. And so again, another
14 win for the families that I serve at Cristo Rey St. Viator, supporting
15 our kids as they work to get ready for college and the workforce as
16 well.

17 And lastly, I think the innovative relationship that you
18 have with Workforce Connections and the employee and the youth
19 hubs that that are being opened is really a huge beneficial resource
20 for our young people. I know more young people that I serve get to
21 benefit from those experiences, but also the wider community.

22 So as a whole we have an incredible relationship with
23 you, Mr. Watson, and with the entire team that you have led, and so
24 we're thankful to be partners and we're thankful for your leadership
25 and your support of our students and our families. Thank you very

1 much.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Dr. Ronaldo.

3 MS. FARRELL: Good evening, Trustees. My name is
4 Maggie Farrell, 2834 Athens Ridge Drive. I am resident of Clark
5 County and an avid online book reader, but not three at a time. I'm
6 so impressed.

7 I am the Dean of Libraries at the University of Nevada Las
8 Vegas and also, I am the Chair of the Nevada State Council on
9 Libraries and Literacy. I want to thank you, Trustees, for your
10 service to the community that advances literacy, education,
11 workforce development, and definitely culture for our citizens.

12 As you consider the library -- I should say, and I am
13 speaking to Agenda Item B, New Business -- Regular Business 3,
14 excuse me.

15 As you consider the Library Director's performance, I
16 thought it might be useful to have the perspective of a peer and the
17 impact of Kelvin Watson's leadership beyond Southern Nevada.
18 The service and visibility of the Library District has never been
19 higher or more prominent as it is now. This is a result of the
20 effective, credible, dedicated library employees but they are led by
21 an energetic, visionary leader with Mr. Watson.

22 And under Mr. Watson's leadership, there have been new
23 programs and new services such as Hotspot, the Bus Internet
24 Program, upgraded online resources, the Prison Family Program,
25 and I could go on. What's incredible is just recently, was it just two

1 weeks ago, the Library District received a third Library of the Future
2 Award, demonstrating the influence and the innovation that is
3 happening in our community. That's unprecedented. I don't know
4 of any other library that has received three awards, but three
5 consecutive years? Congratulations.

6 But I also want to speak to Mr. Watson and his activity
7 within the broader library community. He is active in the Nevada
8 library community, supporting state development initiatives and
9 also working with other Directors. Mr. Watson and I just
10 participated, in early or late May, in a program bringing together all
11 Library Directors. And even with both of our busy schedules, both
12 of us were there and I saw how Mr. Watson engaged his peers.
13 And being the largest Library District in the state, it was -- you could
14 see his generosity and his friendship as he is counseling and
15 helping and engaged in conversations about state activities and
16 with other Directors. As you all know, being a Library Director is a
17 very difficult job and having peers who support you and guide you
18 is essential.

19 I also want to note the national profile that the Library
20 District now has. So I am a member of the ALA governing
21 leadership, most recently as the past Treasurer, current councilors
22 at-large for the American Library Association and I see Mr. Watson
23 active throughout the Association. He is a mentor, he is a guide to
24 new librarians and is advancing librarianship throughout the nation.

25 And what this brings for the Las Vegas community is a

1 respect and an understanding about the innovation that's going on
2 here in Las Vegas. It has even helped UNLV as we recruit nationally
3 for librarians. Some of them will say, well, I know Mr. Watson, or
4 I've heard about what the Library District does. I've also been
5 impressed with the caliber of new librarians joining the dedicated
6 librarians and library staff here in the Library District.

7 So due to his leadership, I am proud to be a peer, I am
8 proud to be a partner and I am so impressed that his leadership, his
9 vision, his action is not just for the Library District, but it goes
10 beyond to the state of Nevada and indeed to our country. And this
11 is improving our community, but it's also improving our nation.
12 Thank you for your time.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Dean Farrell.

14 Is there any more public comment?

15 MR. JONES: Good evening, Trustees. Roger and
16 Christina Jones. We're the owners of vegastickets.com; 4325 S
17 Dean Martin Drive, Suite 300 Las Vegas, NV 89103. We are here to
18 speak on Item VIII.B.3. Thank you for the opportunity.

19 We are pleased to be here today in this public forum and
20 express our sincere gratitude and share a tremendous thank you to
21 Mr. Watson and his staff at the Clark County Library District. You
22 have made myself, my wife, my children, and my company better
23 as a result of our collaboration.

24 Just over two years ago, I attended a breakfast meeting
25 with Mr. Watson. I had met him before, but he was from the library

1 and he was scheduled to give a brief presentation, and he seemed
2 like a great guy, but I mean, it was the library. Well, let me share
3 with you, by the time he was done speaking, I couldn't wait to find
4 out how I could get involved. I learned that the library was, dare I
5 say it, cool to go back into. It's fun, it's safe, and it's engaging, not
6 just for children, but for teens, adults, parents, business leaders and
7 seniors. The initiatives that have been not only implemented while
8 Mr. Watson has been the Executive Director, but also funded as a
9 result of his community engagement and networking are certainly
10 something to be marveled at.

11 My wife and I, as I mentioned, own vegastickets.com.
12 We're a small business located here in Clark County, of which
13 giving back is part of our core values. We are fortunate and have
14 been able to fund a charitable giving program. I grew up in Inner
15 City Chicago and I came from a tumultuous home. I was bullied as
16 a child and often times on the streets where I grew up, it wasn't
17 safe. My local library became my sanctuary, my local librarian and
18 the staff became my family.

19 My wife grew up here in Clark County utilizing the
20 resources of the Clark County Library system and so have our
21 daughters. Our company has become, quite honestly, as a direct
22 result of Mr. Watson and his staff, the sponsor of the Little Learners
23 Literacy Kits at the Enterprise Library. Starting January of this year,
24 we've made a three-year commitment to fund the program. The
25 program has been so successful, and the information shared

1 between both sides, so immediate and so detailed and so great that
2 we've already opted to increase our commitment by 50 percent
3 within the first three months of the program. Additionally, we're in
4 talks to expand the program at another branch within the next six
5 months.

6 I'll close with where I began. To Mr. Watson and your
7 staff, thank you. The success of our relationship with you and the
8 program that we are offering to the community through the Library
9 District brings a great deal of happiness to us. We know we are
10 better for it; we know it is making a difference in our community.
11 Under your leadership, our Library District is fast becoming the
12 standard by which all others shall be measured. Thank you.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you for your generosity.

14 Is there any more public comment?

15 Mr. Ponder.

16 MR. PONDER: Good afternoon. Members of -- Trustees,
17 Mr. Watson. My name is Jon Ponder. I'm the Founder and CEO of
18 an organization called Hope for Prisoners and our organization
19 works with people that are coming home from the prison system to
20 help them to successfully reintegrate back into the home, back into
21 the workplace, and then ultimately back into the community.

22 I first came in contact with Mr. Watson probably a couple/
23 three years ago and we were having a conversation about this
24 concept of this digital library and it was something that was really,
25 really exciting because when we're able to offer these opportunities

1 to -- for education and for reading, if you're going to improve the
2 caliber of how you're going to live the rest of your life, reading and
3 educational opportunities has to be a huge part of that.

4 So we first built the digital library in our headquarters
5 located at 333 N Rancho, and it had become so successful with
6 people participating in this, I made another phone call, and I asked
7 Mr. Watson, would you consider building a digital library inside
8 Nevada Department of Corrections and the transitional facility and
9 Mr. Watson said yes. So we stood that up inside the transitional
10 facility and be -- for us to be able to see the folks there participating
11 in it, it really got me going so I made another phone call. We built
12 out a vocational village in the Southern Desert Correctional Facility
13 where we're going to help people as they come home, and I asked
14 Mr. Watson once again, hey, what do you think about building a
15 digital library inside the prison system and he obviously said yes.
16 He and his staff immediately jumped on it.

17 So I want to tip my hat to Mr. Watson and also the staff of
18 the Clark County Library District, because every time there was a
19 need with dealing with this segment of the population, he
20 immediately responded. So the work that you're doing with our
21 folks is reaching out and touching the next generation of families.
22 Some of the inmates that are insiders saying that their children are
23 coming to the Clark County Library District and picking up library
24 cards. So thank you so very, very much. Great job and thank you
25 for this opportunity.

1 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Mr. Ponder.

2 Is there any more public comment?

3 [No heard response.]

4 Seeing none, I will close public comment. Thank you,
5 everyone, who came out for that.

6 Agenda No. III, Board action to accept proposed agenda.

7 Do I have a motion to accept the agenda?

8 TRUSTEE ROGERS: So moved.

9 TRUSTEE FOYT: I do so propose.

10 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion by Vice Chair Rogers;
11 second by Trustee Foyt. Is there any discussion on the motion?

12 [No heard response.]

13 All those in favor please say aye.

14 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

15 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

16 [No heard response.]

17 Motion carries.

18 Agenda Item No. IV, Approval of Proposed Minutes. You
19 should have the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for June 13th. Are
20 there any -- if there are no changes, I'll accept a motion to approve
21 the Minutes.

22 TRUSTEE ROGERS: So moved.

23 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion by Vice Chair Rogers.

24 Do I have a second?

25 TRUSTEE JIRON: I second.

1 CHAIR WAUGH: Second by Secretary Jiron.

2 All those in favor -- is there any discussion?

3 [No heard response.]

4 All those in favor, please say aye.

5 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

6 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

7 [No heard response.]

8 Motion carries.

9 Agenda Item No. V, Chair's Report. So Trustees who are
10 here, you were given a copy of the *Las Vegas Weekly*, there. And in
11 the back is a wonderful article interview with -- from Vegas Inc with
12 Director Watson talking about our upcoming anniversary. It's an
13 anniversary year coming up and all the great, wonderful things that
14 were happening in the Library District. So if you haven't had a
15 chance to pick that up, take a look.

16 Also, so Committees, we have to -- Trustees, I need your
17 interest in Committees for next year. Trustee -- Vice Chair Rogers is
18 going to remain Chair of Finance and Audit, Secretary Jiron is
19 going to remain Chair of Risk Management and then Treasurer
20 Turner Whiteley will remain as Chair of Bylaws Committee. Does
21 anyone wish to change their Committee assignments at this time;
22 for standing committees?

23 [No heard response.]

24 No. And Trustee Ortiz, I don't have you on my list. What
25 Committee are you on?

1 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Bylaws.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Bylaws? Fantastic. Okey dokey. So
3 that's all I have on that.

4 Are there any other discussions from Trustees or items of
5 interest from Trustees?

6 [No heard response.]

7 Seeing none, I'll move on to reports.

8 Executive Director Watson.

9 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Chair Waugh, Trustees.
10 My report is submitted as always, and I'll take questions about
11 those at the end. But before I, you know, go any further, I want to
12 say thank you to the Trustees and staff that attended the American
13 Library Association Annual in San Diego. We had lots of
14 opportunities in sessions. I spoke at three different events during
15 the event.

16 One of the highlights of the event was attending the
17 Spectrum Scholar luncheon, which is -- they're celebrating 25 years.
18 And I just so happen to be a Spectrum Scholar and was the keynote
19 speaker for the 25th Anniversary and also received during that
20 luncheon, the first Changemaker Award that the Spectrum Scholars
21 awarded to a previous Spectrum Scholar, so definitely a highlight,
22 along with receiving our third consecutive American Library
23 Association of Future award, which was also, you know, given.

24 I want to also say thank you personally to the individual
25 Trustees by name; Chair Waugh, Secretary Jiron, Trustee Ortiz and

1 Trustee Foyt who also attended and I know you attended many
2 sessions and talked to lots of vendors and other library colleagues
3 during the event.

4 I wanted to let the Trustees know, as well as the public, to
5 save the date for Tuesday, July 30th, where we will have our Town
6 Hall Kickoff Meeting. This, as you know, is something that we do
7 every year to reset for the Playbook. It's going to be held at the
8 Windmill Library and also a live stream broadcast from 10:00 a.m.
9 to 1:00 p.m.

10 This is where the public, Trustees, staff all come together
11 and learn about what the Library District is planning from every
12 department, who will give a report and update on different activities
13 that they will be pursuing throughout the year. Remember that this
14 is not an all-inclusive list because the Playbook is very flexible. So,
15 as we've listened to members of -- during this -- actually the public
16 comment, things kind of come at us and we take them on
17 throughout the year.

18 Also, I want to inform everyone that is familiar with
19 OverDrive. OverDrive is -- and the lots of our staff and the public
20 use the Libby Tool; OverDrive is the company behind Libby, the
21 Libby app that you read your downloadable eBooks and listen to
22 your audiobooks and there's Kanopy and there's also magazines
23 that they do a lot of -- we do a lot of work with them in providing
24 digital services to our community. But they will be launching their
25 "Check Out Your Library," which is a multiyear experiment that

1 they're doing and they're going to be launching it with the Las
2 Vegas-Clark County Library District. And so that's going to be
3 launching next Thursday; right?

4 No, not next Thursday, July 20th, rather; July 20th, in
5 partnership with Meow Wolf. So we're going to be launching that
6 with OverDrive. We will be the first library to do that. They've
7 taken their library vehicle, which was previously known as the
8 Digital Bookmobile. It's being reimagined and updated as it
9 embarks on a coast-to-coast fiction and film tour in collaboration
10 with local libraries to promote diverse offerings and life changing
11 power -- the life changing power of libraries. And so I'm proud to
12 be -- have us be the first partner with OverDrive to launch that.

13 And last I've been asked to represent the Library District to
14 join other entities such as UNLV, as well as the Clark County
15 Museum to discuss resources in the creation of a Cultural Center
16 within the Spring Mountain -- the redevelopment project. This
17 Cultural Center would include a special collection of library
18 materials of interest for our Asian community, along with the
19 Gallery of Historic Asian African -- of Asian American settlements
20 throughout early Nevada and Southern Nevada. This is just the
21 beginnings of a conversation.

22 And, again, I'm happy and proud to be asked to represent
23 the Library District as we move forward with our continued
24 collaboration with all of our communities that we serve here.

25 Chair, that's the end of my report. I'll entertain any

1 questions from yourself and Trustees at this time.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Director Watson.

3 And I'll just say for our audience, I know you guys are all
4 busy folks, so if you have to go feel free to get up and head out; we
5 won't be offended.

6 Trustees, are there any questions for Director Watson?

7 [No heard response.]

8 And if not for Director Watson, are there any reports that
9 anyone would like to pull forward?

10 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, just a real quick one.

11 CHAIR WAUGH: Trustee Ortiz.

12 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Floresto Cabias, Finance. Thank you.

13 MR. CABIAS: Good evening, Floresto Cabias, Chief
14 Financial Officer, for the record.

15 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Thank you very much; I'll be brief.

16 Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, through you, for
17 next meeting, I don't see where the Gift Fund is parked. I'd like a
18 full report on income and expenses on the Gift Fund because I don't
19 see it on any -- where it's listed.

20 MR. CABIAS: Okay. If you give me a moment, I believe
21 those reports are included in the Financial Services Reports.

22 The Gift Fund information begins on page 179, in the
23 Diligent reports.

24 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: No, I really would like a more detailed --
25 just at the next meeting just --

1 MR. CABIAS: Okay.

2 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: -- [indiscernible] back up. That's it.

3 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIR WAUGH: Are there any other questions for Mr.
5 Cabias?

6 [No heard response.]

7 Thank you, sir.

8 MR. CABIAS: Thank you.

9 CHAIR WAUGH: Are there any other reports that anyone
10 like to bring forward?

11 [No heard response.]

12 Seeing none, I will accept the reports and move on to
13 Agenda Item VIII, New Business. We have three items on the
14 consent agenda. Does -- if there are any item that anyone would
15 wish to pull for further discussion?

16 [No heard response.]

17 And if not, I'll accept a motion to accept the consent
18 agenda.

19 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Trustee Rogers; I had a comment.

20 CHAIR WAUGH: Yes, sir.

21 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Yeah. I just wanted to acknowledge
22 the work and the vision and all of those who were involved in the
23 Westside Project for the Veterans Entrepreneurship Library Project
24 that's going to be in the Westside Community Incubator Room of
25 the Nevada Partners. Being a veteran myself, I know that I have

1 received lots of interest and just acknowledgement about that work
2 and the anticipation of being able to use that space. So I just want
3 to acknowledge and thank all of those who were involved in that
4 vision and the partnership and execution.

5 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Vice Chair, Rogers.

6 Can I have a motion to pass the consent agenda, Trustees.

7 TRUSTEE FOYT: I do so move.

8 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion from Trustee Foyt.

9 Do I have a second?

10 TRUSTEE JIRON: I second.

11 CHAIR WAUGH: Second from Secretary Jiron.

12 Is there any discussion?

13 [No heard response.]

14 All those in favor, please say aye.

15 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

16 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

17 [No heard response.]

18 Motion carries; the consent agenda is passed.

19 Moving to Agenda No. VIII.B.1., Discussion and possible

20 Board action regarding the engagement of Kutak Rock LLP in

21 connection with unwinding the New Markets Tax Credit

22 transactions for the East Las Vegas Library and Mesquite Library

23 financing. Mr. Cabias.

24 MR. CABIAS: Good evening, Floresto Cabias, CFO once

25 again, for the record.

1 Seven years ago, the District participated in the New
2 Markets Tax Credit program to receive federal funds to help build
3 the libraries in the East Las Vegas and Mesquite areas. As part of
4 the program, the financial arrangement unwinds after the seven-
5 year compliance period and unwinding involves executing steps
6 that are outlined in Resolution 2024-03. That's going to be
7 discussed in the next agenda item; I'll provide more details there.

8 But as part of the unwinding, it's important to have special
9 legal representation to navigate the process and Kutak Rock
10 represented the Library District and its affiliates for the East Las
11 Vegas, Mesquite and West Las Vegas closings over the last seven
12 years. The firm is prominent in the industry field; they're well
13 regarded for their practical experience and knowledge of
14 structuring New Markets Transactions.

15 And in order to close out the unwinding of these financing
16 arrangements, staff is recommending engaging [indiscernible;
17 audio feedback].

18 Barry Burns is online. He's a partner with Kutak Rock.
19 He's the actual person who provided legal services during these
20 three transactions, and he can answer any questions along with
21 myself.

22 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you. Are there any questions for
23 Mr. Cabis or Mr. Burns?

24 [No heard response.]

25 Seeing none, I will accept a motion.

1 TRUSTEE ROGERS: So moved. Oh, let me read it.

2 Motion to declare fines and fees of approximately --

3 CHAIR WAUGH: Vice Chair Rogers, we're on VIII.B.1.

4 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Oh, I think my -- I may have went too
5 far.

6 CHAIR WAUGH: So the motion would be to authorize
7 staff to execute an agreement with Kutak Rock LLP to provide legal
8 services in connection with unwinding the New Market Tax Credit
9 transactions for the East Las Vegas Library and Mesquite Library
10 financing subject to final review of the engagement letter by
11 Counsel.

12 So do I have your so moved?

13 TRUSTEE ROGERS: So moved.

14 CHAIR WAUGH: Perfect.

15 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Second by Felipe.

16 CHAIR WAUGH: Second by Trustee Ortiz.

17 Is there any discussion on the motion?

18 [No heard response.]

19 All those in favor, please say I.

20 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

21 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

22 [No heard response.]

23 Motion carries.

24 Agenda Item No. VIII.B.2., Discussion and possible Board
25 action to approve Resolution No. 2024-03 related to unwinding of

1 the New Market Tax Credit transactions for the East Las Vegas
2 Library and Mesquite Library financing.

3 Mr. Cabias.

4 MR. CABIAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Resolution 2024-03
5 outlines the District's actions that must be taken in order to closeout
6 the financing arrangements for the East Las Vegas and Mesquite
7 New Markets transactions. These steps were outlined or
8 contemplated during the initial closing seven years ago, so this is a
9 well anticipated exit strategy. The resolutions are pretty clear, but
10 I'd like to just provide the Board with some context to identify all
11 the other parties that are involved, especially the Library District's
12 affiliates, the Library Foundation and the QALICBs.

13 At the center of the structure is an investment fund, which
14 originally gathered all of the resources that were used to construct
15 the East Las Vegas and Mesquite libraries. The beginning of the
16 unwind process starts with the tax credit investors, which is Capital
17 One, and Chase here, who will exercise a put, which means it will
18 transfer ownership of that investment fund to the Library District.

19 Subsequently, the Library District will redeem its interest
20 in an entity known as a Subcommunity Development Entity, which
21 holds loans in the investment fund that, again, finance all of these
22 transactions. Once that step is complete and all the agreements
23 executed, the tax credit investors and the CDEs, community
24 development entities would have fully exited the transactions; they
25 would have received the benefits, the return on their investment

1 that they were expecting over the seven-year period. So that will
2 leave the Library District, the Foundation and the QALICBs to take
3 actions to wrap up the rest of the New Market structure.

4 From the point of view of the Library Foundation, they
5 have a loan that was provided to the Investment Fund. These funds
6 were originally from the Library District. The Library District
7 contributed resources to the Foundation so that the Foundation can
8 make the loan to the Investment Fund and then the Investment
9 Fund made a loan to the QALICBs, who then use those funds to
10 build the libraries. And so, as far as the role of the Foundation, staff
11 will be bringing resolutions to the Foundation Board of Directors to
12 forgive the debt that exists between the Foundation and the
13 Investment Fund.

14 Another item that will have to be executed will be for the
15 Foundation to consent to the redemption of the Sub-CDE interest
16 that the Library District owns as a result of owning the Investment
17 Fund itself.

18 From there, the last step will be the QALICBs for East Las
19 Vegas and Mesquite. Those two nonprofit corporations actually
20 own the library branches and as part of wrapping up the structure,
21 the Board of the QALICBs will be authorizing resolutions of their
22 own in order to dissolve the QALICBs themselves and distribute
23 their assets, which are the library branches, back to the Library
24 District.

25 That's all I have, Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Mr. Cabias.

2 Are there any questions for Mr. Cabias?

3 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, just a very quick
4 comment.

5 CHAIR WAUGH: Trustee Ortiz.

6 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Thank you very much.

7 Mr. Chairman, through you, thank you very much for the
8 public's listening. Think back what was happening seven years
9 ago; there was a Great Recession, the economy was terrible; we
10 needed to build a couple of libraries. How do we do it? I'm proud
11 to say that this -- the Trustees today and the Trustees from before
12 put together a mechanism to pay for it in cash so there's no debt.

13 Now, having said that, we are creatures of the state; we
14 can only do what the state allows us to do, and so timing, timing
15 was good to this library. We were -- Trustee Shannon Bilbray-
16 Axelrod marshalled through the Legislature, giving permission for
17 the Foundation to act as -- and the Library District to be able to take
18 New Market Tax Credits; the cities were the only ones able to get
19 that money -- extra money. So everything worked in our favor. We
20 were able to build two libraries and also to use it again for the West
21 Las Vegas Library.

22 And so lot of minutiae. This is where the end comes
23 where, give us back our money. Thank you very much. Give us
24 back the library and here's the deed and we close down those
25 mechanisms. But that was the only way the government would

1 allow the money to flow through so that the individuals giving their
2 money get a tax break, the library gets their money to build the
3 library, we hold the trust and then we pay it back. That's the simple
4 way but a convoluted mechanism.

5 Thank you to Kutak and all the other people involved.
6 Thank you, Floresto because it's a lot of lot of minutiae of keeping
7 track. So that's a history, it's worked and we're doing it again with
8 the West Las Vegas library. And thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Trustee Ortiz.

10 Are there any other questions for Mr. Cabias or Mr.
11 Burns?

12 [No heard response.]

13 Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to approve Resolution
14 No. 2024-03 related to the unwinding of the New Market Tax Credit
15 transaction for the East Las Vegas Library and Mesquite Library
16 financings.

17 TRUSTEE JIRON: So moved.

18 TRUSTEE FOYT: I'll move.

19 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion from Secretary Jiron;
20 a second from Trustee Foyt.

21 Is there any discussion in the motion?

22 [No heard response.]

23 All those in favor, please say aye.

24 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

25 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

1 [No heard response.]

2 Motion carries.

3 Thank you, Mr. Cabias.

4 Agenda Item No. VIII.B.3., Possible Board discussion and
5 action regarding the Executive Director's performance evaluation
6 for the period of July 1, 2023, through July 30, 2024.

7 So the background is Kelvin Watson, Executive Director of
8 the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District began working for the
9 District on February 1st, 2021. This is his second performance
10 evaluation. The Board shall annually evaluate Executive Director's
11 job performance and, if the Board determines that Executive
12 Director's Job performance has been satisfactory within the
13 previous year, the Executive Director's pay may be increased to
14 such extent as the Board may determine that it is desirable to do so.

15 At this time, the Board Chair -- no, we're going to come
16 back to that. So at this time, Trustees, I would entertain a closed
17 session so that way we can discuss the feedback that all the
18 Trustees have as we grade his evaluation. Do I have a motion to
19 enter closed session?

20 TRUSTEE FOYT: I do so move.

21 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion from Trustee Foyt.
22 Do I have a second?

23 TRUSTEE JIRON: I second.

24 CHAIR WAUGH: Second from Secretary Jiron.

25 Is there any discussion on the motion?

1 [No heard response.]

2 All those in favor, please say aye.

3 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

4 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

5 [No heard response.]

6 Motion carries. We'll be entering closed session. You
7 don't have to go home, but you can't stay here for now. And then
8 we'll be back in a little bit. So thank you, everyone.

9 [IN EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 5:54 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.]

10 CHAIR WAUGH: We are all back together.

11 At this time, the Board Chair will present a summary of
12 Trustee feedback discussed in the Executive Session using the
13 attached LVCCLD Executive Director performance evaluation
14 summary form. After approval by the Board, the summary will be
15 attached to a copy of the Minutes of this meeting.

16 So the Board of Trustees has determined that we will -- or
17 the feed -- the summary of the feedback, because we need a motion
18 to actually make it -- the summary from the feedback is Trustees.
19 believe that Executive Director Watson has exceeded expectations
20 in: Review, assess and revise as needed the organizational
21 structure of authority which the administrative functions are
22 arranged.

23 He received exceeds: Enhance and expand on external
24 partnerships, local and national.

25 And exceeds: Develop, implement and execute the

1 District's strategic plan.

2 It would be an exceeds: Conduct comprehensive
3 compensation study and implement study recommendations.

4 And exceeds: Develop and monitor annual budget within
5 established parameters.

6 Some of the feedback that we received was just to request
7 that Mr. Watson continue to focus on resource development as we
8 look to expand library services into communities that currently are
9 lacking in library services. And then continue his work in helping
10 foster with the President of the Foundation a new agreement and
11 memorandum of understanding for us to operate under.

12 So at this time, I will give Executive Director Watson the
13 opportunity to say anything and then we'll move on to Trustees.

14 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Chair Waugh. Trustees,
15 thank you all for your continued support. Of course, I, as
16 mentioned earlier, though I'm the leader and I guess the face of the
17 organization, I don't do this alone. I want to thank the exceptional
18 staff, the administrative team. Sorry, guys. Everybody's calling me
19 right now. The exceptional staff, the administration team for their
20 support and leadership and just all the, you know, nearly 700
21 employees that come in and do what we do day in and day out;
22 providing the services to the community.

23 I'm here, I'm present, not only, you know, to and for the
24 community, but to and for the staff as well. Though we don't
25 always do everything, you know, all the time perfect, we certainly

1 strive for that perfection. And people look to the library for shelter
2 in this extreme heat; when it gets a little chilly, we're there as well.
3 We continue to push the envelope with the way that we meet the
4 needs of our community through our physical resources, through
5 our digital resources.

6 You know, we're serving up 63 percent of our resources
7 via digital; 37 percent, print and this is a challenge, you know, in
8 libraries where we have to be a little bit of both and so -- or in the
9 case of some of the staff that's shaking their head, I'm looking out,
10 we have to be more than just a little bit of both; we have to be
11 everything and that's certainly a challenge.

12 And I know and believe that we meet the challenges day
13 in and day out and I look forward to continuing to do so with the
14 support of the Board, with support of the Staff and with support of
15 the community, and I certainly appreciate all of the community
16 leaders that came out and spoke not only on my behalf but to
17 support the staff and to recognize the work and dedication that we
18 have for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District.

19 Thank you, Chair Waugh.

20 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Director Watson.

21 Do Trustees, do you have any comments on Executive
22 Director Watson's performance?

23 Trustee Ortiz.

24 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25 For the public watching, Tier I library, zero debt, I keep

1 harping on that because it's your money, staff, relevancy, being
2 equitable with all populations. Director Watson has knocked it out
3 of the park. He deserves every accolade that he can get and more
4 and of course money; you know, money always helps.

5 A lot of things to do still and I think he's up to the
6 challenge. His association with inside groups and outside groups
7 will help us marshal that in the next five or six years, so I'm proud
8 to be on the Board here and proud to have as our Director. Thank
9 you, Director Watson.

10 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Trustee Ortiz.

11 CHAIR WAUGH: Secretary Jiron.

12 TRUSTEE JIRON: Executive Director Watson has made it
13 repeatedly clear that he works above and beyond what would be
14 considered typical for an Executive Director. He's put us in a
15 position of authority not only locally, but nationally, where people
16 now look to the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District to see
17 what's what and how to do it. You know, the awards and accolades
18 are endless and, you know, it's all because of the things that he has
19 brought, the ideas and innovations that he's brought to the Library
20 District.

21 To me, a good leader leads his staff and helps them to rise
22 to the occasion and to me, he says the bar extremely high for
23 himself and extremely high for his staff and his staff has gotten
24 there; I mean, just attained that. Again, that, to me, is good
25 leadership. So congratulations to you, Executive Director Watson;

1 you're killing it.

2 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Trustee Jiron.

3 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Secretary Jiron.

4 Vice Chair Rogers.

5 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Yes, thank you, Chair.

6 And I would say, you know, I reflect back on when, you
7 know, we were talking about filling this position and what we
8 wanted in a new Executive Director of the libraries and how we
9 want the library to be perceived locally, regionally and nationally,
10 and I know when Kelvin came in, he impressed us so much during
11 his interview process by not writing down any questions that we
12 were asking, and he just spoke from experience and confidence and
13 you know, you convinced us, Kelvin, that you were clearly the best
14 candidate.

15 You gave us a lot of optimism in what we could become
16 and through your work over the years, you know, we have
17 exceeded the expectations that, you know, you laid out of what you
18 would do when you came here. And I think that's evidenced by
19 looking at -- what you just said, you know, just looking at how
20 we've converted to the percentage of digital access of our
21 materials, I think we've looked at -- you've increased overall access
22 and where we are represented throughout Southern Nevada.

23 I think you've also represented the diversity in those who
24 are accessing the library materials, you know, regardless of
25 whether it's in person or digitally. And then certainly it's clear in

1 terms of, I've visited the annual conference in Chicago with you and
2 you are Rockstar. You know, it was like I was in this awe of you as I
3 shadowed you and just hearing how the vendors and other Library
4 Directors and the Board sort of regarding you and respected you
5 and just your commitment and your career thus far. And just
6 reiterating to me, as a Board Trustee, how lucky we were to have
7 you -- or how lucky we are to have you in this role with us.

8 And we just want to continue to support you and I look
9 forward to this continued ascension in our journey that's going to
10 be something we haven't imagined. So I'm looking forward to the
11 next few years with you and what's to come.

12 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Trustee Rogers.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Vice Chair Rogers.
14 Trustee Foyt.

15 TRUSTEE FOYT: I have unmuted myself. Let's hope this
16 works. Can you hear me?

17 CHAIR WAUGH: Yes, ma'am.

18 TRUSTEE FOYT: Yes? Oh, good.

19 I believe that the report that I gave earlier or the
20 comments that I made earlier are reflective of my opinion of what
21 we have been fortunate to watch Kelvin achieve. I have full
22 confidence that as he goes forward, it'll just bloom even further.
23 And I'm very proud that he's our Executive Director and that I serve
24 on his Board. Thank you.

25 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Trustee Foyt.

1 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Trustee Foyt.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Trustee Dutkowski.

3 TRUSTEE DUTKOWSKI: Thank you.

4 Director Watson has exceeded in all of his goals and will
5 continue -- I believe will continue to serve us. I'm always amazed at
6 all the work that gets done by the Library District and especially in
7 areas that you wouldn't think about, but he knows; he's got his
8 hand on the pulse of it and he's always looking for the best of the
9 best. I am honored to be on the Trustees -- the Board of Trustees
10 and I look forward to the future. Thank you.

11 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Trustee Dutkowski.

12 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Trustee Dutkowski.

13 So my comments will -- I'll try to keep them brief. So my
14 thoughts on Executive Director Watson's performance is -- you
15 know, a lots been made, I've heard in various spaces, about the
16 awards that, you know, we're just kind of chasing hardware and
17 what's always stood out to me with these awards is that there's real
18 people with real stories behind these.

19 And with this latest one, with the Cox Wi-Fi, you know, I
20 had the opportunity to meet an individual at the kickoff who, you
21 know, and who's used it and I've spoken to since then, who was
22 able to use these Wi-Fi cards to be able to do a job interview at
23 home and was able to get a job and who had these resources and
24 get training at home and that otherwise wouldn't have been able to.

25 And so, you know, being -- it being the fact that the work

1 that Director Watson has done but also the library staff under his
2 leadership has done, has made real impacts in people's lives and
3 changed people's lives. And to me, that's -- you know, the awards
4 are nice, they look great on the wall, but beyond that is that
5 people's lives have been improved in this community because of
6 Executive Director Watson's leadership.

7 And the fact that, you know, staff, you know, feel
8 comfortable with -- you know, they see all the innovation going on
9 from branch managers, from Executive Director Watson, from
10 leadership and administration; that frontline employees feel they
11 can make suggestions and Director Watson will meet with anyone
12 who has an idea, an innovation, whatever it is.

13 And so the fact that, you know, he's instilled the -- a sense
14 of ownership in this District by employees that employees feel
15 they're not just working for the Library District, but that they own a
16 little piece of it; that the success of this Library District is dependent
17 on the work that they do and the ideas they have and that their
18 ideas are valued and that they are valued.

19 And so just that sense of leadership, I just want to
20 commend Executive Director Watson for his leadership and being
21 able to foster that, but also for changing people's lives.

22 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Chair Waugh.

23 CHAIR WAUGH: And so with that, Trustees, I will accept a
24 motion to award the Executive Director an overall performance
25 evaluation score of exceeds expectations.

1 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Moved by Felipe.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion by Trustee Ortiz.

3 Do I have a second.

4 TRUSTEE JIRON: I second.

5 CHAIR WAUGH: I have second by Trustee Jiron. Do I
6 have any discussion on the motion?

7 [No heard response.]

8 All those in favor, please say aye.

9 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

10 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

11 [No heard response.]

12 Motion carries.

13 So the second is to discuss the Executive Director's
14 compensation for the year forward. Trustee Foyt, you had some
15 thoughts on this?

16 TRUSTEE FOYT: Most definitely. Kelvin is at the top of
17 his scale. We're not in a position right now to change that but
18 based on his exemplary work and his -- the truly fine direction of
19 the Library District, I would like to propose a 10 percent bonus. And
20 I'm fully aware that, unfortunately, such a bonus would have to be
21 voted on at this time, but also would not feed into his PERS. But I
22 am confident and most assured that the 10 percent is appropriate in
23 this place and time.

24 And I am making a proposal that this would be a 10
25 percent one-time performance bonus to be given to him as soon as

1 the check could be cut. Thank you.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Thank you, Trustee Foyt.

3 And so to clarify, so I have the worksheet for Executive
4 Director's compensation adjustment, factoring in the 4 percent
5 covered -- adopted for -- in the CBA for non-covered staff of July of
6 last year, a four percent merit increase would be 10,698. Trustee
7 Foyt, is this a 6 percent on top of that for a total of 10,000? Or for a
8 total of 10 percent?

9 TRUSTEE FOYT: I want it to be the full 10 percent, yes.

10 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay. So the suggestion from -- the
11 recommendation from Trustee Foyt would be to approve a lump
12 sum payment to Director Watson in the amount of \$26,769.60.
13 Trustees, is there any thoughts or discussion on this? And if not,
14 Trustee Foyt, would you like to -- oh, Dr. Rogers.

15 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Just to clarify for my -- for me, the --
16 so the normal 4 percent COLA because of -- he's at the max in the
17 range and we're not able to move the range at this time, the 4
18 percent plus the additional 6 percent, would just all go in the form
19 of a bonus.

20 CHAIR WAUGH: It would be one lump sum payment.

21 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Okay. Understood. Thank you.

22 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay.

23 One moment.

24 *[Colloquy off-mic between Chair Waugh,*
25 *Director Watson, and Counsel Welt]*

1 CHAIR WAUGH: Director Serpico.

2 MR. SERPICO: Thank you. For the record, Jeffrey
3 Serpico, HR Director. With the COLA increases the pay ranges do
4 increase. So this year with the COLA, Kelvin's pay grade would
5 increase 4 percent, but it would be to the max based on that COLA,
6 which is shown in that worksheet.

7 CHAIR WAUGH: And so reading this. So his --

8 MR. SERPICO: His current max, I believe, is 257.

9 CHAIR WAUGH: It's 267,687.

10 MR. SERPICO: That's the new maximum, I think.

11 CHAIR WAUGH: And then with the 4 percent, it's 278,394.

12 And then that gets reduced to the maximum which is 267,696 --

13 MR. SERPICO: Correct.

14 CHAIR WAUGH: -- for the -- so he would receive -- instead
15 of having a base raise, he would get a 10,698 -- a four -- which is 4
16 percent lump sum.

17 MR. SERPICO: That would be his current merit. So his
18 current -- his COLA for this year would take him to the -- I believe
19 the 267.

20 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay.

21 MR. SERPICO: And then the merit would put him over the
22 top so that would get paid as a lump sum; that's the 10,000 that you
23 see there.

24 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay. So --

25 MR. SERPICO: That's an 8 percent right there between

1 COLA and merit.

2 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay. So now I know -- see, this is why I
3 should have talked this through you before this.

4 So Kelvin's current salary is 257,391.

5 MR. SERPICO: That's correct.

6 CHAIR WAUGH: With the 4 percent COLA --

7 MR. SERPICO: His original --

8 CHAIR WAUGH: -- that he's entitled to with the CBA --

9 MR. SERPICO: Right.

10 CHAIR WAUGH: -- that goes up to 267,687.

11 MR. SERPICO: Right. Because the COLAs will move the
12 range points.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: So then he's entitled to the 4 percent
14 from the merit.

15 MR. SERPICO: Correct.

16 CHAIR WAUGH: But that does not affect the base.

17 MR. SERPICO: Right.

18 CHAIR WAUGH: So --

19 MR. SERPICO: It would be paid as a lump sum because
20 he's the maximum -- as a lump sum because he's at the maximum
21 of his pay range.

22 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay. So then the question for Trustee
23 Foyt is -- so the 4 percent COLA is what it is. So the question for
24 Trustee Foyt is are you proposing the -- a 6 percent performance
25 bonus, in addition to his 4 percent merit? Or a 10 percent on top of

1 everything?

2 TRUSTEE FOYT: Okay. The COLA he is entitled to
3 regardless; that's cost of living.

4 CHAIR WAUGH: Yes. Yeah.

5 TRUSTEE FOYT: Okay. All right. So set that aside. I am
6 proposing at his current salary, not when he rolls to his higher
7 salary, a 10 percent cash bonus --

8 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay.

9 TRUSTEE FOYT: -- which I realize will not impact his
10 PERS.

11 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay. So based on his current salary,
12 not the new salary, what you're proposing is that he would get the
13 merit, he's entitled to, which is 10,698, and then a 10 percent
14 performance, which would be \$25,739.10; is that correct?

15 TRUSTEE FOYT: That is correct.

16 [Colloquy between Chair Waugh and Counsel Welt]

17 CHAIR WAUGH: So I'm going to try to do this in a motion.
18 So the motion will be to approve setting the Executive Director's
19 or -- this is probably worded bad.

20 Move to approve the Executive Director's salary to reflect
21 the 4 percent COLA and 4 percent merit covered in the CBA, which
22 would result in a new base salary of \$267,696; a one-time lump sum
23 merit pay of \$10,698; and a one-time performance bonus of
24 \$25,739.10. Could I get that as a motion, someone.

25 TRUSTEE FOYT: I do so move.

1 CHAIR WAUGH: Okay. We have a motion.

2 Do I have a second?

3 TRUSTEE JIRON: I second.

4 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion and a second. Any
5 discussion?

6 [No heard response.]

7 All those in favor, please say aye.

8 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

9 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

10 [No heard response.]

11 Motion carries.

12 Congratulations, Director Watson.

13 DIRECTOR WATSON: Thank you, Trustees.

14 CHAIR WAUGH: That concludes our business agenda.

15 Agenda Item No. X, Announcements.

16 July 27th at 10:00 a.m., at the East Las Vegas Library is the
17 Annual Teacher's Book Sale. All books are 23 cents, so please stop
18 by if you need to restock your kids' libraries.

19 July 30th at 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. is the Playbook Town
20 Hall. Trustees, if you will -- at Windmill Library. Trustees, if you are
21 not able to make it in person, Ms. Nance will make sure that we get
22 a link to view it.

23 And there is no August Board of Trustees meeting. So
24 enjoy the rest of your summer.

25 The September Board Meeting will be held on Thursday,

1 September 12th, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the East Las Vegas Library on
2 2851 E Bonanza Rd.

3 And the October Board Meeting will be held on Thursday,
4 October 10th, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Clark County Library at 1401
5 E Las Vegas Redundancy -- E Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, Nevada
6 89119.

7 Are there any announcements from Trustees?

8 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIR WAUGH: Trustee Ortiz.

10 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Felipe Ortiz for the record.

11 Real quick, so we can get everybody home. First of all, I
12 had the pleasure of attending the American Library Association
13 meeting and a lot of activity, but one that stood out is the I.M.L.S.,
14 which stands for the -- Kelvin, help me out, I.M.L.S.

15 DIRECTOR WATSON: Institute for Museum and Library
16 Services.

17 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: And the GSA, both arms of Congress.
18 Congress has authorized them to look at the infrastructure of
19 libraries. We are blessed, and I use that religious term, that we look
20 and plan for replacing and repairing our libraries, other Districts do
21 not. So they're doing a comprehensive study, two years. Hopefully
22 there's money out there for the smaller libraries that need the
23 shovel-ready money to redo their libraries. So that was a good
24 outcome.

25 I did ask them to define infrastructure because that means

1 a lot of things; could be IT, could be roofs, could be toilets, could be
2 all kinds of stuff. But there was a lot of good classes, so thank you.
3 I had the opportunity to be present when we got the third year in a
4 row for the award. Thank you very much.

5 And then the last announcement, Mr. Chairman and
6 Director Watson, today is going to be my last meeting. I got
7 transitioned to the Foundation Board and our attorney for the
8 Foundation Board said I couldn't serve as a Trustee and be the
9 Chair of the Foundation Board. I was already scheduled to
10 transition off in April, so the end was going to come regardless.
11 And so I'll be transitioning along to Foundation Board.

12 I did give notice to the appointed elected official, Olivia
13 Diaz, Councilwoman Olivia Diaz. It's actually effective Monday
14 because she's in the middle of getting sworn in on Wednesday as
15 a -- re-elected as a Councilwoman. But I'll continue on as the
16 Foundation Board Chair, so that I can help find money for all the
17 good things and good deeds that we're doing on behalf.

18 And I want to leave this thought. 12 years, 12 years, that's
19 how long I was on there -- almost 12 years -- and what I see is this,
20 we're at 2.3 million, going to hit 3.2 million in less than eight years.
21 So what is it that we're going to be prepared for? How is it that
22 we're going to see libraries? What's the expectation of our
23 community? That's the Director's job. My job as the Foundation
24 Chair is to help him find the money to meet those needs.

25 So that's what I'll be transitioning off to. I'll put it in

1 writing. It'll start Monday. I'm excited to go look for money and so
2 anybody listening, I'll be asking you for donations; 501(c)(3) tax
3 deductions so we can fund this great Library District.

4 And I know it's a surprise, but it was a surprise to me
5 when the attorney told me I had to choose one or the other. And so
6 obviously I'm ready to move on to help raise money for this great
7 Library District. Is there any questions, Chairman Waugh and
8 Director Watson?

9 CHAIR WAUGH: I mean, I would just say, Trustee Ortiz,
10 that we appreciate your service, your many years of service and
11 your contributions to this Board. We hope -- well, we know you'll
12 be back in September, so we'll be able to honor you more properly
13 with your years of service, but this is definitely a surprise to me, so.

14 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: It was to me when they told me that I
15 had to make a choice, so. But I'm really excited and -- so thank you.

16 DIRECTOR WATSON: I would say --

17 TRUSTEE ROGERS: So if I may clarify -- oh, I'm sorry. Go
18 ahead, Director Watson.

19 DIRECTOR WATSON: Go ahead, Trustee Rogers. Go
20 ahead.

21 TRUSTEE ROGERS: No, I was just going to ask for my
22 clarification, Trustee Ortiz, is this your last meeting?

23 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: This is my last meeting because the
24 Foundation has a lot of moving parts, signing checks, approving
25 motions, money that comes in. We're getting ready next week or

1 the following to close down the East Las Vegas New Market Tax
2 Credits to let the Mesquite Library New Market -- lots of meetings
3 for the Foundation, that's all I have to say.

4 TRUSTEE ROGERS: And then --

5 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Probably --

6 TRUSTEE ROGERS: And then so, Chair Waugh, are we
7 going to do something to recognize him at September meeting, is
8 that what I hear you saying? So I'll know whether to save my
9 remarks for then or I can do them now.

10 CHAIR WAUGH: Yes. So since the Foundation is on our
11 September agenda anyway, we will honor Trustee Ortiz properly --

12 TRUSTEE ROGERS: All right.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: -- with hardware and everything at that
14 meeting.

15 TRUSTEE ROGERS: All right. I'll embarrass him then.

16 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Thank you.

17 CHAIR WAUGH: Fantastic.

18 Trustee -- Executive Director Watson.

19 DIRECTOR WATSON: So I'll say ditto to Chair Waugh and
20 Trustee Rogers' comments. We will certainly -- again, first I'll say
21 thank you for your service, Trustee Ortiz, especially since you were
22 the Chair of the Trustees and the individual that I work with to come
23 on Board as the Library Director. And that we will certainly provide
24 you with the hardware and your lifetime library card a little earlier
25 than expected, but -- and then I would also say I look forward to

1 working with you as the as the President of the Foundation.

2 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Thank you.

3 CHAIR WAUGH: Are there any other announcements?

4 Hopefully less traumatic and jarring than Trustee Ortiz's.

5 TRUSTEE ORTIZ: Sorry.

6 CHAIR WAUGH: Seeing none, I'll move to Agenda Item
7 No. XI, Public Comment. Topics raised on this item cannot be acted
8 upon until the notice provisions of the open meeting law have been
9 met. If you wish to make public comment on this item, you must
10 sign up on the roster provided prior to the public comment period.
11 Is there anyone signed up for public comment?

12 MS. NANCE: No, there isn't.

13 CHAIR WAUGH: Given that I will close public comment
14 and move on to Agenda Item No. XII. Do I have a motion to
15 adjourn?

16 TRUSTEE FOYT: I do so move.

17 CHAIR WAUGH: We have a motion from Trustee Foyt.
18 Do I have a second?

19 TRUSTEE ROGERS: Second.

20 CHAIR WAUGH: Second from Trustee Rogers.

21 Is there any discussion on the motion?

22 [No heard response.]

23 Seeing none, all those in favor say aye.

24 [ALL BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT]

25 CHAIR WAUGH: Opposed, no.

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[No heard response.]

We're getting out of here before 7:00, just barely. So everyone, have a great rest of your day. Drive safe. Stay cool.

[Meeting concluded at 6:58 p.m.]

* * * Total Meeting Run Time - 1 hour and 57 Minutes* * *

ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the audio/video proceedings in the above-entitled meeting to the best of my ability.


Brittany Mangelson
Mangelson Transcribing

2024 ATTENDANCE

2024		January 11 Regular Board Mtg	February 12 Finance and Audit Comm. Mtg	February 15 Regular Board Mtg	February 28 Special Board Mtg	March 11 Naming Committee Mtg.	March 14 Regular Board Mtg	April Finance and Audit Comm. Mtg	April 11 Regular Board Mtg	May 6 Special Board Mtg	May 23 Regular Board Mtg	June 13 Nominations Comm. Mtg	June 13 Risk Management Comm. Mtg	June 13 Regular Board Mtg	July 11 Regular Board Mtg	AUGUST	September Finance and Audit Comm Mtg	September 12 Regular Board Mtg	October 10 Regular Board Mtg	November Finance and Audit Comm. Mtg	November 14 Regular Board Mtg	December 12 Regular Board Mtg	
Waugh	Nathaniel	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P								
Rogers	Keith	A	P	A-E	A-E	P	P	P	P	P	A-E	P		P	P								
Jiron	Jennifer	P	P	P	P		A-E		P	P	P	P	P	P	P								
Turner Whiteley	Kate	P	P	P	P		A-E	P	P	P	P	P		P	A-E								
Foyt	Elizabeth	A-E		P	P		P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P								
Ortiz (Term Ended 7/11/24)	Felipe	P		P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P								
Benavidez	Kelly	A-E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			A-E	A-E								
Sanchez	Elaine	P		P	P		P		P	A-E	P	P	P	P	A								
Dutkowski	Karen	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P								
White (Term Began 7/16/24)	Claytee																						
Shelton (Term Ended 4/9/24)	Chris	P		P	A-E	P	P		P														

P	Present
A-E	Excused Absence
A-U	Unexcused Absence
	attended Committee meeting but not a member
X	Term Ended/ New