

SKAGIT COUNTY LAW LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 8:30 AM

The Skagit County Law Library Board of Trustees held a Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2025. The meeting was available both in person at the Library and remotely via Zoom. Present at the library were, Board of Trustees Chair Melissa Simonsen, Board members Jeri Chavez, Andy Schuh, Judge Elizabeth Neidzowski, and Superior Court Administrator Rosanna Wadkins and Law Librarian Cindy Adams. County Commissioner Peter Browning was not present.

- I. **Call to Order:** A quorum being established, the Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 8:35 am.
- II. **Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes:**
December 12, 2024 Minutes – Minutes were not yet prepared so this was tabled until the next meeting.
- III. **Update from the Law Librarian:**

The Law Librarian reported that she presented upon invitation to the League of Women Voters where she shared information about the law library on a powerpoint. Specifically, she discussed the resources that we have, our hope to grow and the direction that we are heading. There is a possibility that she could also be invited to present to the Rotary. We discussed the benefit that this has because we can share the resources that we have and increase awareness of the law library. In the future Cindy will send us the PowerPoint presentations and notes and the Court can review and approve them.

We discussed more books that were ordered and why they were important to add to the collection. As we increase our collection of highly used books we again discussed whether it would be valuable to have a check out policy for Skagit Bar Members? We discussed creating a policy for the March meeting and Melissa indicated that she would work on preparing that.

We discussed the greater influence that A.I. is having and the implication for the legal community. For the law library particular we discussed having a "How to Shepardize" guide near the computers so that people can check the authority of the case. Melissa offered that perhaps we have a pro-se self-help clinic one time a week or one time a month where an attorney can volunteer to help assist with these relatively straightforward tasks. Melissa will bring this idea to the Skagit Bar Association.

We discussed the public library that is located across the street and what it's collection of law resources is like. There are approximately three sections of books that include NOLO. We discussed that it is useful that they have resources and also cautioned that the library is under no duty to update their resources and there is not westlaw access.

We discussed that the water cooler was approved and it was able to be purchased.

We discussed that we consistently have pro se litigants who need forms, including eviction forms. We discussed the possibility of Northwest Justice being able to assist us with this project. We also discussed the idea of the Skagit Bar Association creating a form packet for us. Melissa will discuss this with them as well.

The Washington Practice Manual and the King County Young Lawyers publication has forms but they are out of date and not set up as pleadings. The cost for the thumb drive is \$350 which is in our budget. We would like to have someone with legal training update the forms for our jurisdiction and have them in proper format for the Skagit County court. Melissa will discuss this with the Skagit bar association.

We discussed donations and after a lengthy heartfelt discussion we concluded that it was best to not accept monetary donations and instead to encourage the patrons to write thank you notes to the County Commissioners for continuing to support the law library.

IV. Old Business:

V. New Business:

VI. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately _____.