

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF LAW LIBRARY TRUSTEES OF  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

**A California Independent Public Agency Under  
Business & Professions Code Section 6300 et seq.**

**February 26, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Law Library Trustees of Los Angeles County was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 12:15 p.m., at the Los Angeles County Law Library Mildred L. Lillie Main Library Building at 301 West First Street, Los Angeles, California 90012 for the purposes of considering reports of the affairs to the Library, and transacting such other business as might properly come before the Board of Trustees.

**ROLL  
CALL/QUORUM**

**Trustees Present:** Judge Mark Juhas  
Judge Laura Seigle  
Kenneth Klein, Esquire  
Judge Rosa Fregoso  
Judge Susan DeWitt  
Judge Cherol Nellon

**Trustees Absent:** Susan Steinhauer, Esquire

**Senior Staff Present:** Katherine Chew, Executive Director

**Also Present:** Marcelino Juarez, Finance Director

President Juhas determined a quorum to be present, convened the meeting at 12:20 pm and thereafter presided. Executive Director, Katherine Chew, recorded the Minutes.

**1.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

Frank Zález addressed the Board. Mr. Zález brought up the Land Acknowledgment section from the Meeting Agenda. He stated that there were also Spaniards here 300 years ago on these very streets. The Natives here, they were not forced to be Christian. They chose to be Christian. He then stated that he had been threatened by these groups and had been the victim of anti-Christian hate speech when he would remove their posters.

He then went on to state that President Trump and Elon Musk are investigating waste, fraud, and abuse. He stated that in California, by law, you get three sick days and that we do not want anyone taking advantage of that. He then stated that the library material, to him, seemed satisfactory. He then stated that the library has a racially motivated portrait which contains racial profanity, and is unconstitutional.

He then moved on to the library's budget and mentioned a bill for \$16,000 for Lexis Nexis. He suggested that we should audit the library's expenses.

President Juhas thanked Mr. Zález and continued the meeting.

**2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### **3.1 Approval of Minutes of the January 29, 2025 Regular Board Meeting**

#### **3.2 Review of December Financials and List of January Checks and Warrants**

President Juhas asked the Board if anyone would like an item removed from the Consent Calendar. No items were requested. President Juhas requested a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. So moved by Vice President Seigle, seconded by Judge DeWitt. The motion was approved unanimously 6 – 0.

### **4.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **4.1 Review and Approval of FY2024-25 Mid-Year Budget and Financials**

Finance Director Marcelino Juarez addressed the Board. He discussed how this item was an opportunity to go over the first half of the fiscal year, and to try to predict budget needs for the second half. He discussed how revenues of court fees are up, and that expenses and salaries were lower than budgeted. E.D. Chew commented that it seemed like the majority of filing fees have increased due to unlimited civil filings and unlawful detainers. More people are filing lawsuits. Vice President Seigle asked what the timeline is for next year's budget. Marcelino stated that this was the starting point. In May we will present a conceptual budget, with the final budget being delivered in June. Vice President Seigle then inquired why an amended budget was necessary. Marcelino stated that this has historically been the Board's practice, and that these mid-year reviews help to correct expectations. Trustee Klein then discussed how filing fees have sometimes changed radically in the past. Marcelino then mentioned that capital projects have sometimes changed historically as well. President Juhas requested a motion to approve Item 4.1. So moved by Trustee DeWitt, seconded by Trustee Klein. The motion was approved unanimously 6 – 0.

#### **4.2 Review and Approval of Request for Bid Proposals-Elevator Upgrade Project**

E.D. Chew stated that we are at the stage to move forward with Mountain Cross completing specs and a bid package for this project. She discussed how we are hoping to break the project up into phases, and to use carried over funds to fix the two most used elevators. Those located in the 70's Section of the Library. The conservative estimates are \$200,000 for each mechanical upgrade, and \$28,000 for each cosmetic upgrade, for a total of \$456,000. Vice President Seigle inquired how often the elevators get stuck. E.D. Chew stated that none of the elevators had been stuck so far in 2025, but in 2024, they got stuck 2-3 times. President Juhas requested a motion to approve Item 4.2, minus part three of the proposal. So moved by Trustee Fregoso, seconded by Trustee Nellon. The motion was approved unanimously 6 – 0.

#### **4.3 Presentation by Ryan Metheny and Spencer Gales: AI Hallucinations in Legal Research**

Ryan Metheny and Spencer Gales presented a PowerPoint to the Board entitled "Risks and Responsibilities in Legal Artificial Intelligence Tools." The presentation explained the growth of AI in legal research. The presentation highlighted how "AI Hallucinations" generate false, misleading, or made up information which is a serious issue in high-stakes legal contexts where accuracy is critical. The implications for legal professionals could result in inaccurate information and the need for legal professionals to supervise the use of AI generated information. As this trend presents serious risks to pro se and other untrained researchers, they pointed out that the role of public law librarians will need to address how to help patrons understand and mitigate the risks presented when depending on AI in legal research.



**5.0 CLOSED SESSION**

**5.1 PERSONNEL: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
(G.C. 54957) Title: Executive Director**

The Board went into Closed Session at 12:55pm.

**6.0 RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION/ CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT  
(Pursuant to Government Code §54957.1)-Judge Mark Juhas**

The meeting was reconvened at 1:11pm. The Board voted to make an adjustment to E.D. Katherine Chew's vacation schedule. E.D. Chew was awarded one additional week of vacation time by the Board.

**7.0 AGENDA BUILDING**

Items not on the posted agenda may be presented by a Trustee and, if requested, may be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for consideration at a future meeting of the Board.

Trustee Fregoso requested an update on the Library's parking structure. E.D. Chew let her know that the Library has hired a civil engineer who has performed testing of the concrete. Once the testing is complete, the engineer will make recommendations concerning the cost effectiveness of repairing the structure with external supports or alternative methods. Once we ascertain which method of repair will be more cost effective, we will bring those findings before the Board.

**8.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

E.D. Chew let the Board know that there will be a volunteer recognition luncheon on March 21, 2025. Trustee Klein will be retiring from the Board on March 26, 2025. Kim Thach will be retiring on March 28, 2025. The Annual Friends Gala will take place on April 9, 2025.

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:18pm. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Law Library Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 12:15pm.



Katherine Chew, Executive Director and Secretary  
Los Angeles County Law Library Board of Trustees

