



Location

This meeting was held in a hybrid manner, with remote attendance via Microsoft Teams and in-person attendance at the Deming Library, 5044 Mt. Baker Highway, Deming, WA 98244.

In Attendance

Trustees: Rodney Lofdahl, Chair; Matthew Santos, Vice Chair; Holly Robinson, Secretary; John Miller and Danielle Gaughen. Absent: None.

Staff: Christine Perkins, Executive Director; Jackie Saul, Director of Finance and Administration; Thom Barthelmess, Youth Services Manager; Mary Vermillion, Community Relations Manager; Geoff Fitzpatrick, IT Services Manager; Ryan Cullup, Facilities Services Manager; Beth Andrews, Human Resources Manager

Guests: None.

Call to Order

Matthew determined quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m., followed by a reading of the WCLS Land Acknowledgement by Christine. Rod joined the meeting shortly after the call to order.

Review Agenda and Meeting Objectives

Christine reviewed the agenda, and Jackie reminded trustees that today's meeting is for information sharing and discussion only, and no formal action will be taken. Jackie also noted that we will discuss the 2025 budget in more detail at the regular October meeting. Union negotiations will have taken place by then so more accurate budget projections can be made. Today's meeting is for context and background to prepare for budget approval.

Budget Basics

Christine shared a Budget 101 presentation that she has been reviewing with staff. She is visiting branches, attending staff meetings, etc. to ensure that all staff see this presentation. It provides background on our budget and the implications if we continue to operate at a deficit. Christine wants staff to be aware that furloughs and possibly even layoffs are possible. The intention is not to alarm staff but rather to be transparent about the budget cuts that could happen if WCLS does not receive additional revenue in the future.

Ryan asked about unemployment during a furlough. Jackie noted that staff would be eligible for unemployment after a one-week waiting period. John clarified that there is only one waiting period per year. Christine reminded trustees that WCLS is set up as self-funded employer for unemployment; we may want to consider changing this status.

Break

Rod adjourned for a break from 3:27-3:37 p.m.

