

**Kitchigami Regional Library System
Special Board Meeting December 15, 2021 6:00 p.m.
Kitchigami Headquarters Building, Pine River, MN**

Board members present: Reed Olson, Neal Gaalswyk, Bill Brekken, Tom Krueger, Murlyn Kreklau, Mary Koep, Tom Conway

Board members present virtually: Jorge Prince, George Deiss

Board members absent: Laurie Hamilton, Carla Jones-Leecy, Phyllis Eck, Brent Norman, Mary Beth Hansen

Others present non-voting: Staff members: Megan Lysford, Carol Christensen, Tami Beto, Terria Rohloff, Renee Frethem, Carrie Huston
Public: Pat Melvin of David Drown Associates (DDA), Melissa Whatley

Chair Neal Gaalswyk called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and requested participation in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

KRLS Director Search:

Chair Gaalswyk read the summation of the KRLS Director Search as prepared by Pat Melvin of David Drown Associates (DDA). The Hiring Committee ultimately determined they would recommend offering the position to Ms. Melissa Whatley.

The KRLS Board reviewed Melissa Whatley's cover letter and resume for the position of KRLS Director. Chair Gaalswyk opened the discussion to the Hiring Committee, which consisted of Tom Krueger, Tom Conway, Mary Koep, and himself. The Committee was pleased the region attracted high-level candidates. Discussion.

Chair Gaalswyk invited Melissa Whatley to introduce herself to the KRLS Board at 6:15 p.m. She spoke about her management and leadership professional experience, including over 12 years working in libraries in various positions. She noted the value she places on people and connecting with communities. She described herself as a manager, a people person, and a creative problem solver. Ms. Whatley left the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Pat Melvin presented Melissa Whatley's video interview, which was used by the Hiring Committee to choose finalists. Chair Gaalswyk read the KRLS Staff Summary of KRLS Branch Managers' interview with Melissa Whatley which was compiled by DDA and submitted to the Hiring Committee. Discussion.

Motion by Tom Krueger, seconded by Mary Koep, to accept the recommendation by the KRLS Hiring Committee to offer the position of KRLS Director to Melissa Whatley; and authorize the KRLS Personnel Committee to negotiate the offer. Motion carried unanimously.

Pat Melvin thanked the KRLS Hiring Committee, Branch Managers, and other KRLS staff for their help during the final interview process.

Motion by Tom Conway, seconded by Murlyn Kreklau, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by Administrative Assistant Carol Elizabeth Christensen.

Minutes signed by Board Secretary, Mary Koep

Date




