1. Call to Order (10 a.m.)  Sandra Melcher, Chair

2. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum  Roslyn Wise

3. Welcome to Fitchburg Public Library  Wendy Rawson, Director, Fitchburg Public Library

4. Adoption of Agenda  All  Action

5. Approval of Minutes for January 13, 2012 meeting  All  Action

6. Report of the Chair (10:10 a.m.)  Sandra Melcher  Information, discussion, action
   a) Correspondence:
      -- Letter to Wisconsin congressional delegation regarding school libraries in the reauthorization of ESEA
      b) Memo to legislative committee in support of WiscNet
      -- Other correspondence
      b) Update on Wisconsin Prison Literacy Project  Sandra Melcher, Bob Koechley

7. Visioning Summit Beginnings Report recommendations progress update (10:20 a.m.)  John DeBacher  Information, discussion
   a) Report on St. Norbert’s statewide access survey

8. Common School Fund update and discussion  Tom German, Deputy Secretary, Board of Commissioners of Public Lands  Discussion
   (10:30 a.m.)

9. Presentation and tour, Fitchburg Public Library  Wendy Rawson  Information, discussion
   (11:15 a.m.)
Lunch (Noon)

10. Update on WiscNet legislation  
    Bob Bocher  
    Information, discussion

11. Library Legislation Update (1 p.m.)  
    a) state  
    Kurt Kiefer, John DeBacher, Steve Sanders, Martha Berninger  
    b) federal

12. Update on COLAND appointments for terms ending July 1, 2012  
    Sandra Melcher  
    Discussion

13. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items and locations (carried forward from previous agendas)  
    Sandra Melcher/All  
    Information, discussion, action
    a. UW Whitewater (Barbara Arnold)  
    c. New Hartford library (Mike Bahr);  
    d. UW Oshkosh, UW Fox Valley, UW Stout (Catherine Hansen);  
    e. UW-LaCrosse and the LaCrosse Public Library (Bob K.)  
    f. Black River Falls library (Kristi)

14. Future Meeting Dates  
    Sandra Melcher, all  
    Discussion, action
    a) May 18, 2012 – UW Whitewater  
    b) July 13, 2012 – Hartford Public Library  
    c) September 14, 2012 – UW Oshkosh

15. Review follow-up items  
    Sandra Melcher  
    Discussion

16. Announcements  
    All

17. Leave for tour of Promega library (1:45 p.m. -- adjourn meeting after tour)  
    Bob Koechley  
    Information, discussion

18. Adjournment (3 p.m.)  
    Sandra Melcher  
    Action
1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sandra Melcher called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roslyn Wise called the roll; thirteen members were in attendance at roll call so a quorum was present.
3. WELCOME TO FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wendy Rawson, director of the Fitchburg Public Library, welcomed the group to the new library, which opened on June 29, 2011. She will return later in the meeting to give a presentation and tour of the facility.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR TODAY’S MEETING

Sandra asked to add a report by Jessica MacPhail on the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) and SRLAAW meetings. This would be added following agenda item 12. Miriam Erickson moved to approve the revised agenda; Kristi Williams seconded the motion, and the agenda was adopted.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 13, 2012, MEETING

Barbara Arnold noted a couple of typo in the minutes; on page 3, add the word “get” in the fourth line of 6b and on page seven, near the end of the second paragraph, change 501C3 to 501(c) (3) in three places. Nita Burke noted that on page 6, there is a question mark following the name “Michael Strand.” The correct last name is “Strahan” and he is with Northern Michigan University. Nita also noted that she serves as the only librarian from Region 7 on the Wisconsin Public Service Commission Board; there is another public librarian serving on the commission from another region. Also, on page 9, she added that “Meg ??” should be Meg Knodl. Barbara Arnold moved to approve the minutes as corrected; Jessica seconded the motion. The motion passed.

6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

a) Correspondence – Two letters were included in the meeting packets: the letter from COLAND to the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation regarding the importance of school libraries and their inclusion in the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and the letter to the Assembly Committees on Colleges and Universities regarding Assembly Bill 473, which would extend the WiscNet deadline to July 1, 2014. There was no other correspondence.

b) Update on Wisconsin Prison Literacy Project: Sandra gave an update on the project. She noted the project is included in the COLAND goals for 2011-12. She reported that an article (internal memo) was included in the newsletter to all Department of
Corrections (DOC) staff, so now the project is receiving donations from DOC staff. She also reported on a press release regarding Little Free Libraries partnering with DOC; she is still waiting for an update on the status of a DOC news release on the collaboration with COLAND. WEMTA will also be asking for donations to support the project at their upcoming conference. Rick Brooks who spoke to COLAND about Little Free Libraries at the September meeting is also interested in collaborating on the project (but he has been inundated with people wanting to donate books for the Little Libraries). She also reported that Bob Koechley is still working with the Wisconsin Council of Churches and he is looking for someone from COLAND to work with him. She turned the floor over to Bob, who distributed copies of a report from a March 7 meeting with individuals representing the churches. The Wisconsin Council of Churches (WI COC) will send a mailing to all 2200 member churches requesting that church book clubs purchase specific titles. Joanne Lundberg, a retired Madison School District librarian, has also volunteered to help. Bob has also communicated with South Central Delivery Services and they will help with transportation of books. The project will also be added to the WI COC website.

Bob brought up the question of how COLAND wants to structure this effort. Will it be a one-time project or ongoing? Write out and FAQ to go on websites of sponsors? The site could include shipping info from South Central. He noted that the church group members are powerful allies; they have people who visit prisons, but have not been able to get books into the prisons. They thanked COLAND for getting access to the DOC in order to donate books. Additionally, they ask that we try to address the issue of interlibrary loan for ALL prisons in our state. What is the policy? Bob suggested that COLAND should ask the state superintendent to write a letter to the DOC secretary about inmate access to interlibrary loan (ILL) to find out how many of the 22 prison libraries have interlibrary loan? Martha Berninger commented there is a belief that the staff at the prison is so minimal that they cannot manage ILL. Prisoners must be escorted to work in the library so not all prisons provide staff to provide ILL. She also noted RL&LL has information on ILL service to prison libraries. Bob commented that Bruce Smith, Delivery System director, said they also have done large-scale book exchanges to change the collections in prisons. Nita Burke noted that small libraries might have to pay postage when sending books to prisons and they can’t always afford it. Sandra said that COLAND needs to make a decision on how to move forward. Kurt Kiefer suggested DPI staff can gather information that Martha noted was available and make an inquiry with
DOC on behalf of COLAND related to gaps in the system, etc. Cal Potter commented that when he was in the legislature he used to get staff inquiries asking for intervention to make wardens more cooperative. He doesn’t think COLAND should be contacting the DOC secretary on this. He said the group needs to be careful not to make prison staff feel even more overwhelmed and to be sensitive to not making books just another new project that they cannot staff. Wardens’ individual reactions depend on situations specific to their respective institutions. It’s not a good idea to ask them what are they doing to address interlibrary loan. Mike Bahr stressed the importance of building relationships and being careful to keep the relationships positive. The best approach might be to ingratiate selves and provide help to resolve issues.

Sandra suggested moving ahead to Agenda Item 8 since Tom German has arrived; the group will go back to Item 7 later in the meeting.

7. VISIONING SUMMIT BEGINNINGS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS PROGRESS UPDATE

Moved to later in the meeting

8. COMMON SCHOOL FUND UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Kurt introduced Tom German, deputy secretary of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL). Kurt spoke briefly about the Common School Fund and the loan program that is managed by the BCPL. The interest for this loan program goes back to the CSF. He mentioned the Digital Learn Plan and the importance of technology infrastructure to the role of the school library media specialist role. Tom began his presentation by showing the BCPL biennial report; he brought a few copies and a few copies of an information packet for those who got to them first. He gave a history of the formation of the Common School Fund, which was included in Wisconsin’s constitution when it was created 164 years ago. The federal government did not have much money, but it did have a lot of land so states were given the use of land to fund schools and libraries. The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands was formed to manage land grants.

Today CSF has more than $850 million in financial investments. Less than 1 percent of the money now comes from land sales. The board manages four different trust funds:
1. Principle: Fines, Fees and Forfeitures; 2. Investment: Loans, Bonds; 3. Income from Investments goes to agency and CSF; 4. Individual investments. Goal is to sustain strong earnings while limiting risk. Rates are comparative with market rates. No defaults on loans thus far. Fitchburg borrowed the money for its new library from the loan fund. Library aid distribution has been stable, but it is now facing challenges. Interest rates are low; loans are being paid back early. Not many new loans are being issued and additions to the CSF are slowing. The market will change, but the issue of additions will not. Also, the legislature has been redefining “clear” proceeds which continues to take money away from fines and forfeitures. The new changes to legislation related to nursing home fines, which dictates nursing homes can be fined under state or federal law but not both, will cost the CSF about $1.8 million a year.

Sandra asked Tom how best to communicate with the legislature on the changes that are hurting the CSF. Tom responded that communication needs to be short and simple and they need to speak in a coherent and consistent language.

Tom also reported the BCPL offices, which have been located on the second floor of the GEF 3 building for many years, will be moving to the DOA building at 101 E. Wilson St., Madison. The location is the old DOA server room which is much better for storing records. Annette thanked Tom German for the work he does for and with schools to support the CSF. Barbara Arnold suggested the BCPL should submit their report for consideration for the annual state documents award. Martha Berninger will provide Tom with additional information on the awards.

9. PRESENTATION AND TOUR, FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wendy Rawson, director of the Fitchburg Public Library, gave a brief presentation on the newly-established Fitchburg library and its new facility, which opened last year. She actually began working for the library-to-be in 2009. Prior to the opening of the library the Fitchburg community was served by a bookmobile which came through five times a week. There were 60,000 items in the collection when the library opened; they hope to have at least 90,000 titles by the end of next year. She then led the group through a tour of the library building.
LUNCH BREAK – during lunch Kurt announced that John DeBacher is the new director of the Library Development team. He thanked Bob Bocher for his providing leadership for the team during the interim period. Kurt also introduced Tessa Michaelson Schmidt, who is the new Youth and Special Services Library Consultant for DPI.

7. VISIONING SUMMIT BEGINNINGS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS PROGRESS UPDATE (return to Agenda Item 7)

a) Report on St. Norbert’s statewide access survey (Statewide Library Card Survey) -- John DeBacher distributed copies of the draft summary report from Nicolet Federated Library System on the St. Norbert’s survey. DPI is still waiting on the final report. John noted the draft report does highlight the survey’s methodology and its results. He also talked about some other studies which looked at similar data on library users and non-users. Mike B. asked if the survey responses are based on library users; John said he assumed they were. John responded that the scope of the project was not as broad as was originally intended when the LSTA funding was approved in 2011, possibly because it so long to get the project started; the LSTA funding for the portion not completed was returned. Jessica MacPhail asked if the project is now complete; John said he assumes that it is.

10. UPDATE ON WISCNET LEGISLATION

Bob Bocher gave a quick review of WiscNet, which is a 501(c)(3) organization, under the broad umbrella of UW Madison; its income comes from its membership. The private telecommunications companies in Wisconsin see WiscNet as a competitor. With the recent change in the political climate, the telcos were able to get legislation pushed through to remove WiscNet as an Internet service provider. A lobbying effort was put forth to push off the legislation for two years. The effort was successful, but it includes a required audit, which is due January 2013. Legislation was written to change this end date from June 30, 2013 to June 30, 2014 because the current end date does not allow enough time for schools to submit their e-rate applications; it also does not allow time to implement the recommendations from the audits. COLAND did send a letter in support of the legislation. The legislation has now gone through the process and it appears the legislation will not get a floor vote. In a last push to get a floor vote, the Wisconsin Library Association and WEMTA have put out calls to their members to contact
legislators in support of a floor vote. WiscNet is moving forward to look at new governance models to carry out the legislation. Bob does believe WiscNet will continue, but there may be a rough transition to a new model. Legislation says UW specifically cannot be a member of WiscNet because the telecommunications companies believe UW is subsidizing WiscNet. This is not true, but it is a perception; Bob believes the audit will show this. Cal Potter made a motion that COLAND send another letter to support legislation. Kristi Williams seconded. The motion passed. Miriam asked how he sees WiscNet function in the future; Bob said it will still be a 501(c) 3 organization, but there will need to be a change in its structure to allow UW to receive services without being a member. Kurt reminded the group that the digital learning plan ties into these service delivery models. Utah has a model that Kurt has been learning more about; it is a statutorily-legislated, non-profit entity that provides their version of a WiscNet, something like the BadgerNet public private partnership model. Annette commented the letter needs to place the emphasis on having time to plan; the one-year extension is needed to do a good job. Jessica asked about the fiber grant. Bob responded that about 30% of libraries have additional service from the local telco. There was a discussion of the increased costs to purchase service from the private telecommunications companies, which is particularly true in remote parts of the state. Companies don’t want to go into these remote areas, creating an equity of access issue for schools in these areas.

11. LIBRARY LEGISLATION UPDATE

John DeBacher gave an update on bills he discussed at the January meeting. The bill related to Alternative library certification legislation does not appear to be going forward for a vote this session. The bill related to donations to public libraries being transferred to community foundations went through several revisions and is now waiting for governor’s signature. The “Mequon Bill” related to joint libraries being exempt from the county library tax was the subject of an Assembly hearing yesterday; there is also a similar bill going through the Senate. These appear to be on the road to passage. Also SB 348, the “renaming” bill passed and is waiting for the governor to sign. This bill changes the name of the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning to Division for Libraries and Technology; it also covers the renaming of the Reference and Loan Library to Resources for Libraries and Lifelong Learning. The bill also addresses
the “same services” issue; when the language was changed in 2006 to allow libraries to have information database that is only accessible to their library members, the change was not made to the language to the system administration language. Now the language will be parallel. John also reported that Library Administration Consultant position has been posted.

12. UPDATE ON COLAND APPOINTMENTS AND TERMS ENDING JULY 2011

Roslyn reported she had heard from the governor’s appointments assistant about three weeks ago and was told there had been no action on COLAND appointments because they have only one application. Several COLAND members claimed to know of individuals who had applied to be appointed to COLAND; Roslyn asked that the names of these individuals be forwarded to her, along with the date of application, and she will follow up with the governor’s office.

13. WISCONSIN PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION (WPLC) UPDATE (addition to agenda)

Jessica reported on the WPLC and statewide access to interlibrary loan. Kurt said the information from the 2005 survey needs to be updated to show where things are today. Bob B. commented that the survey applied to public libraries and what they are spending on system. Bob reiterated that the information needs to be updated. Once the information is updated, informed decisions can be made. Kurt added that DPI is moving ahead with the legislative review task force; it is important for the library community to be proactive and shape its own future, rather than having the future shaped for them. Jessica emphasized there is no specific agenda, but things are changing so fast that a plan needs to be put in place.

14. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (and locations)

May 18 -- UW Whitewater – Barbara Arnold said Nancy Anderson will confirm

July 13, 2012 – Mike Bahr has contacted Mike Gelhausen at the Hartford Library to confirm; Roslyn will follow up on arrangements.

September 14 – Catherine Hansen is supposed to confirm with UW Oshkosh and send Roslyn the name of the point of contact.
November 9 – UW La Crosse and La Crosse Public Library was suggested by someone at a previous meeting. Black River Fall library was also suggested.

Martha suggested a future agenda item of a statewide library group that is working to review and update resource sharing guidelines. They will be ready for review in time for the May meeting and she would like to share with COLAND for their feedback.

15. FUTURE MEETING DATES

May 18, 2012 – UW Whitewater – Nancy Anderson
July 13, 2012 – New Hartford (Roslyn will confirm)
Sept. 14, 2012 – UW Oshkosh

16. REVIEW FOLLOW UP ITEMS

Sandra will draft thank you letters to Wendy for tour and to Tom German for the CSF presentation
Sandra will work with Bob B. on the letter to legislature to support deadline for WISNET change to 2014.

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara Arnold announced that the Dictionary for American Regional English has published its last volume and will have a “shindig” on Friday May 4, 2012 at the Madison Club. Barbara also reported that UW-Madison graduate Betsy Didrickson has published the Little Book of Crane Lore, available at the Crane Foundation bookstore. Also, the Baseball Hall of Shame book has been revised. Nita Burke announced that an LSTA grant has been awarded to Southwest Library system for a project related to connecting seniors to online services. John announced an opportunity to nominate librarians from high poverty counties to attend a follow up conference on job resources training. There is also a WebJunction digital inclusion project through the IMLS, Building Digitally Inclusive Communities; they are looking for a group that has a group consisting of a librarian, city manager and community group working together related to digital inclusion. The meeting will be in St. Paul in June. He also announced some other Gates Foundation travel grants.
Mike Bahr reported that the Anchor store concept group has two papers ready for review among the group. He asked committee to stay behind to coordinate. Nita added they should have something ready for the May meeting.

Barbara said there will be an embedded librarian special libraries conference in Chicago in July at the convention center.

Sandra has some information from Rick Brooks work on collaboration; she will share via email with the group.

Kurt reported that DPI is behind the Read Wisconsin initiative. There are numerous opportunities for libraries to engage and be involved.

18. TOUR OF PROMEGA LIBRARY

Bob Koechley gave a brief previous of what folks will see on the tour, along with directions to parking. The library is in the Research and Development building. He also briefly described the type of work that goes on at Promega.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Catherine moved to adjourn the meeting; Nita seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Smith, Secretary