

**LWV Upper Mississippi River Region ILO
2020-2021 Budget Committee
Conference Call Minutes
Monday, March 16, 2020**

Present: Lee Ekstrom, Carolyn Mahlum-Jenkins, Lonni McCauley, Jeri McGinley, Tam Prenosil

The meeting convened at 11:00 am. Motion made by Tam Prenosil to elect Lee Ekstrom to serve as chair. Seconded by Carolyn Mahlum-Jenkins. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Budgeted revenues were reviewed.

We currently have 45 members and our budgeted amount for membership dues is based on 60. Gretchen Sabel has recently sent out renewal reminders to 21 local Leagues. Total donations are projected to return to approximately \$500. Lonni offered to send out a reminder to UMRR board and committee members to report their in-kind travel contributions. Fundraising was tabled until later in the meeting.

Budgeted expenses were discussed in detail. Underlying the budget discussion was the understanding that budgets are reflections of priorities, and UMRR's major focus is on education/advocacy.

Administrative expenses were reviewed. Tam suggested adding funding for meeting conferencing (i.e. Zoom) for \$180. Money for delegate travel was reviewed, including travel to the Mississippi River Network (MRN) annual meeting. While MRN has covered travel costs the past 2 years, it was agreed to budget \$250. All four states will have annual meetings in 2021, so \$125/meeting was budgeted for table fees and registration. Money was budgeted for printing brochures – brochure design can be done by UMRR.

Program expenses were reviewed. Since it is unlikely the Watershed Game will be updated anytime soon, and formal training isn't currently taking place, it was agreed UMRR would make use of available copies and trainers when using the current version of the game. Funding for the Watershed Game was removed from the draft budget. Funding remains for educational events associated with board meetings. Lonni noted the importance of advocacy in carrying out our mission and raising our profile. Advocacy can include co-sponsorships with other organizations and supporting state water days, as well as other activities. The amount for advocacy was increased by \$75 for this coming year (to \$575).

Fundraising was discussed. Those present did not recommend the formation of a fundraising committee, preferring instead to focus available energy on education/advocacy; however, it was acknowledged that fundraising can also help raise our profile and engage members. Gretchen Sabel is reaching out to Kay Slama regarding a possible photo calendar. Gretchen can help us understand ways we can solicit member involvement in the development and sale of promotional items, such as a calendar, bumper sticker, or license plate holder. Funds were included in the budget for fundraising.

Motion made by Tam to recommend to the UMRR board the draft 2020-2021 operating budget (attached). Seconded by Lonni. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

The committee expressed a desire to see two discussions take place at the board level related to spending:

1. Brainstorm effective ways to spend advocacy funds.
2. Find ways to "deliberately" spend budgeted funds in order to not miss deadlines/opportunities to advance our mission and raise our profile. Examples: include an agenda item on the April agenda to discuss how/if UMRR will be represented at state annual meetings in June; include an agenda item to track upcoming sponsorship opportunities.

Motion made by Tam to adjourn. Seconded by Carolyn. Unanimously approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeri McGinley
Treasurer

**League of Women Voters Upper Mississippi River Region Inter-League Organization, Inc.
Draft 2020-2021 Operating Budget**

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

	2020-21 Proposed	NOTES
Revenue		
4100 Memberships	1,500.00	60 members @ \$25
4200 Donations	500.00	
4400 In-Kind Contributions	1,500.00	relies on board/committee member reporting
4500 Fundraisers	500.00	photo calendar?
4600 Miscellaneous Income		
4610 Annual Meeting Registrations	1,500.00	annual meeting expenses cannot exceed
4700 Other Income		
4710 Interest Income	2.00	
Total Revenue	5,502.00	
Expenditures		
6100 ADMINISTRATIVE		
6110 Board and Committees		
6111 Board Meetings	280.00	room fees, meeting teleconferencing (Zoom \$180)
6112 Membership Brochures, etc.	150.00	
6120 Delegate Travel		
6125 Mississippi River Network Annual Meeting	250.00	2019-20: costs covered by MRN
6126 State League Annual Meetings	500.00	tables, registrations, etc.
6130 Operating		
6131 Annual Financial Review/Audit	50.00	
6134 PO Box Rental	160.00	Madison PO box
6135 Software	50.00	Online QuickBooks
6136 State Registration Fees	10.00	Nonstock Corp Annual Report
6137 Supplies/Copying	50.00	
6138 Website	12.00	\$12 Domain (Weebly Pro pd thru 4/2022)
6139 PayPal Fees - Membership Dues	5.00	2.2% plus \$.30/transaction
Total 6100 ADMINISTRATIVE	1,517.00	
6200 PROGRAMS		
6210 Education		
6212 Watershed Game	0.00	see minutes
6213 Educational Events	200.00	associated with board meetings
6220 Advocacy	575.00	ex. State Water Day sponsorships
Total 6200 PROGRAMS	775.00	
6300 FUNDRAISING		
6310 Fundraising Activities	200.00	
6320 PayPal Fees - Online Donations	10.00	2.2% plus \$.30/transaction
Total 6300 FUNDRAISING	210.00	
6400 MISCELLANEOUS		
6410 Annual Meeting	1,500.00	room rental, food, printing costs
6500 Donated Travel/Supplies	1,500.00	relies on board/committee member reporting
Total Expenditures	5,502.00	
Net Operating Revenue	0.00	