

Mexico-Audrain County Library District
Minutes for Board of Trustee's Monthly Meeting
March 20, 2024

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Sims at 10:30 a.m.

Board members present: Amy Childs, Kay Dubbert, Karen Mossman, Kathleen Robnett, Steve Sims, Sue Waechter, John Walker, Glenda Williams, and Ruth Etta Williams.

Members absent: None

Also present: Library Director, Christal Bruner and Secretary to the Board, Monica Taylor.

Patron concerns/Public comments: None.

Approval of bills and minutes:

Approval of February bills with a motion by Waechter, second by R. Williams; motion passed 8-0 by roll call vote. Yes votes from Childs, Dubbert, Mossman, Robnett, Waechter, Walker, G. Williams and R. Williams. Abstain: President Sims

Approval of February minutes with a motion by Robnett, second by Childs; motion passed 8-0 by roll call vote. Yes votes from Childs, Dubbert, Mossman, Robnett, Waechter, Walker, G. Williams and R. Williams. Abstain: President Sims

Monthly Reports:

Director's Report

The Laddonia open house will be Tuesday, April 23rd from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Blood pressure cuffs will be available at all library locations in May. This will be a collaboration with CMCA and the American Heart Association. Some units will stay in the library and some units will be available for checkout.

Director Bruner and Mare Proso recently met with State Representative Kent Haden. They discussed the district's guidelines for the protection of minors, and Representative Haden was pleased with the library's policies and procedures. The proposed legislation that would require Library Board members to be elected rather than appointed was also discussed.

Statistical Report – sent in packet

Committee reports:

Finance/Endowment/Investment Fund Committee

Robnett and Walker

The annual audit is moving forward with no issues. Fieldwork has been completed.

Property/Equipment/Building Committee

Childs, Dubbert, Waechter

There was a general discussion of doing some work on the Mexico parking lot in the near future. No motions were made.

Personnel Committee**Mossman, G. Williams, R. Williams**

The committee will be evaluating the Director this month.

Unfinished business:

Allocation of funds for future Mexico elevator upgrades/repairs were discussed. A current price estimate for an upgrade is around \$125,000. Dubbert moved to allocate \$95,000 (a portion of our 2023 surplus) to the Capital Fund to be used as needed for any capital project, possibly for future elevator upgrades/repairs. Mossman seconded. Motion passed 8-0 by roll call vote. Yes votes from Childs, Dubbert, Mossman, Robnett, Waechter, Walker, G. Williams and R. Williams. Abstain: President Sims

There was discussion regarding the benefits of forming a 501(c)(3) Foundation to help support the Library. Recommendations from other libraries were discussed. Public funds from the library cannot be converted to private funds to use for the Foundation. It was suggested that we ask our CPA firm for a cost estimate to do the initial paperwork, and schedule a meeting with someone experienced in forming a foundation for more in-depth information.

The Foundation discussion led to discussion of the Mexico Friends of the Library group as they are a 501(c)(3). The Friends are a separate entity from the Library District. There are plans to try to revitalize this organization and make more people aware of it. The Board requested more information about who runs this organization and when meetings are held.

New business:

A wind/hail buy back quote from Cincinnati insurance was presented. Currently this is a 1% deductible based on the value of the building and contents at Mexico and Vandalia. The proposed coverage would lower the deductible to \$10,000 which is a significant reduction. Dubbert made a motion to accept this coverage for both Mexico and Vandalia, Waechter seconded; motion passed 8-0 by roll call vote. Yes votes from Childs, Dubbert, Mossman, Robnett, Waechter, Walker, G. Williams and R. Williams. Abstain: President Sims

A minor update to the Public Participation at Board Meetings Policy was discussed. This change gives first priority to Mexico-Audrain County Library District cardholders. Dubbert moved to accept the updated policy, second by Robnett; motion passed 8-0 by roll call vote. Yes votes from Childs, Dubbert, Mossman, Robnett, Waechter, Walker, G. Williams and R. Williams. Abstain: President Sims

The Board recommended adding brief guidelines for public participation at Board meetings to the monthly agenda.

Staff concerns: None.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m. with a motion by Childs, second by R. Williams; motion passed 9-0 by roll call vote. Yes votes from Childs, Dubbert, Mossman, Sims, Waechter, Walker, G. Williams and R. Williams.

Next meeting:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., April 17th, 2024 at the Laddonia Library.