

**MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY**

Board of Trustees Meeting  
@ the Osage County Library  
22 Library Lane, Linn, Missouri  
July 16, 2024

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

The regular Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Bob Priddy.

**1. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Members present: President Bob Priddy, Vice President John Gulick, Treasurer Kay Kasiske, Secretary Jessica Davis and members: Lori Bruce, Ithaca Bryant, Samantha Mebruer, Becky Layton, Rodney Mulvania,

Member(s) absent: Jeff Briggs, Anne Rottmann, Bob Swift and Anne Steele

Also present: Claudia Young, Library Director; Angie Bayne, Assistant Director of Public Services; Debra Winter, Business Manager and Accountant; and Robin Coffman, Administrative Assistant

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**3. STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

As Osage County Branch Manager Sarah Falter was unable to attend the Board meeting, John Gulick provided an overview of the activities in which the Osage Branch is engaged. John stated there are 130 paid "Friends of the Osage County Library" (FOCL) memberships. Members of FOCL volunteer at the library every Saturday; they also assist with the FOCL used book sales in April and October in Linn; and they contribute funds toward programs and equipment utilized at the Osage Branch. Examples include purchasing tables appropriate in size and height for younger patrons; and assisting with costs associated with Reading Heroes, the summer reading programs, and a magic show, etc. Osage Branch staff have also participated in local food distributions and handing out books at the Osage County Fair.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Rodney Mulvania made a motion, seconded by Kay Kasiske, to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF MONTHLY EXPENDITURES**

Kay Kasiske presented the monthly financial report (Attachments A & B). A question was asked related to the purchasing of new computers. Claudia Young explained that this project is in process. Grant dollars are helping to defray the cost, and the budgeted funding for new computers falls under Capital Expenditures in the budget. Kay Kasiske

made a motion, seconded by John Gulick, to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Expenditures, as presented. Motion carried.

## **6. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Claudia Young made mention of the new paved parking lot at the Osage County Library and how pleased patrons and staff are. She explained that the actual cost came in over the estimated amount due to greater square footage of the actual parking lot. She also informed the Board that the Foundation contributed \$10,000, and the Friends of the Osage County Library contributed \$5,000 to help defray the cost. The remaining balance was paid using Osage County Library reserves.

Claudia reported that the Missouri Public Library Directors (MPLD) meeting was held in Jefferson City and she acted as the local host. She indicated that it went very smoothly and participants said that they enjoyed the meeting being in Jefferson City.

Claudia reported that the Marketing Committee met earlier in the month and that she had shared materials, especially the results of a marketing survey to which 700 patrons had responded. The survey's main purpose was to determine how library patrons get their information and to ask what else the library can do to get information out to others. The results indicated that radio advertising is the least means of getting information. MRRL's contract with Zimmer Radio/Communications was terminated.

Claudia indicated that a Marketing Specialist position was posted and interviews were underway. Until the time this position is filled, Claudia has picked up the social media tasks.

Claudia reported the library's main branch is scheduled to be closed on August 7, 8 and 9 in order for service desks to be consolidated and for the installation of the electrical upgrades and new flooring. However, services will still be available as the Bookmobile will be parked on Adams Street in front of the library with staff scheduled to maintain, somewhat, normal operations.

Claudia also presented a program to the local chapter of the AARP. A good write-up of the presentation was published in the newspaper; and as a result, Claudia has been invited to speak about the library to three other organizations.

Claudia provided more information regarding the library's cast iron pipes that failed causing a water service outage that impacted a couple of downtown buildings in addition to the library at the end of June and the first few days of July. Part of this pipe was replaced in 2016, and now the rest of the line has been replaced.

Claudia reported that MOBIUS, an open source platform for resource sharing, has changed and is causing frustration for not only patrons, but also for staff. It continues to be an issue.

Finally, as a follow up to the Board’s request regarding behavioral incidents and the unhoused, Claudia provided a listing and bar graph for years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 illustrating the number of reported incidents, the types of inappropriate behavior and consequences that led to a patron being banned and/or trespassed. Not all reported incidents involved unhoused patrons. Claudia also reported that she has been asked to serve on the Mayor’s task force on the unhoused.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Capital Facilities Committee** (Kay Kasiske) No Report

**B. Executive Committee** (Bob Priddy) No Report

**C. Finance Committee** (Kay Kasiske)

No Report. However, the committee will meet on July 23 to receive the 2023 audit from Evers & Company, CPA’s, LLC.

**D. Foundation Liaison** (Lori Bruce)

Claudia Young reported that the Foundation is donating \$10,000 instead of \$5,000 toward the paving of the parking lot at the Osage County Library since the overall cost came in slightly higher than the estimate. The Foundation has scheduled its fall trivia night for October 5, 2024.

**E. Marketing/Communications Committee** (Jeff Briggs) *see information under Library Director’s Report*

**F. Planning Committee** (Ithaca Bryant) No Report

**G. Bylaws Committee** (Bob Priddy) No Report

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Planning for the Future**

**1. Update on the Development of a Strategic Plan**

Claudia reported that she is in the process of scheduling three different meetings for Board committee members to work with the strategic plan facilitator, Kit Freudenberg, and provide input and feedback related to identifying goals and action steps. Claudia and staff will soon be sending more information out on the date, time and location of each meeting.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. 2024 Legislation Update**

Claudia Young shared information she received from the Missouri Public Library Directors legal session in the effort to keep Board members updated on potential Missouri legislation that would have impacted public libraries, but none of these bills passed in 2024. This document also contains a list of First Amendment issues that have been addressed through the courts.

**B. Closed Session**

Lori Bruce made a motion, seconded by Jessica Davis, to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (1) legal actions, or litigation involving a public governmental body; RSMo 610.021 (2) leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public body; and RSMo 610.021 (3) hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body; as stipulated on the agenda.

Roll Call Vote:

Lori Bruce - Yes  
Ithaca Bryant - Yes  
Jessica Davis - Yes  
John Gulick - Yes  
Kay Kasiske - Yes  
Becky Layton - Yes  
Samantha Mebruer - Yes  
Rodney Muvania - Yes  
Bob Priddy - Yes

Motion carried.

Kay Kasiske made a motion, seconded by Lori Bruce, to return to open session.

Roll Call Vote:

Lori Bruce - Yes  
Ithaca Bryant - Yes  
Jessica Davis - Yes  
John Gulick - Yes  
Kay Kasiske - Yes  
Becky Layton - Yes  
Samantha Mebruer - Yes  
Rodney Muvania - Yes  
Bob Priddy - Yes

Motion carried. The Board returned to open session.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

**Meeting minutes approved August 20, 2024.**