

April 14, 2023, 10:00 a.m.  
Central Plains Library System  
Hybrid Board Meeting

**Call to order and roll call:** President Terri Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Secretary Terri Eberly took roll call.

**Present:** Sharon Bohlin, Jody Crocker, Jamie Dennis, Sherri Dux-Ideus, Terri Eberly, Janene Hill, Terri Johnson, Kina Stefka, James Tidei. **Absent:** Doris Brandon, Stephanie Branham, Lisa Mount. **Others in attendance:** Denise Harders, Autumn Carlson, Christa Porter, Tim Johnson.

**Approval of the minutes:** Spelling corrections to the minutes, rae/Rate, Krista/Christa. It was moved by Jamie Dennis and seconded by James Tidei to approve the minutes with the spelling corrections. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Financial Report:** Denise reviewed the financial report and clarified spending in some of the categories. It was recommended to change the title of other expenses to reimbursable expenses for clarification. It was moved by Jamie Dennis and seconded by Sherri Dux-Ideus to approve the financial report. The financial report was approved as circulated.

**Correspondence:** Denise read correspondence

- Tim Schirmer, Edward Jones, Thank you for the business,
- McCook High School: Thank you for participating in Bison Days
- Stephanie Malcolm and Board, Palisade Public Library: Thank you for sending SRP materials when she was unable to attend the workshop.
- Cathy Rupe, Eustis Public Library: Thank you for SRP workshop.
- Terri Shearer, Atkinson Public Library: Thank you for the scholarship to attend the SRP workshop.
- Jodi Storer, Paxton Consolidated Schools

**Director's Report:** Denise reported on the activities of the CPLS office.

- Busy with the SRP distributed 445 Craft kits/380 die cut shapes.
- Several workshops were held, along with the Thursday morning meetings with 13-22 attending each session, visits to libraries within the system.
- Denise informed the board of censorship in Fremont, NE. City Council passed an amendment allowing parents or legal guardians to relocate any book from the children's section of the library to the adult section, if their child is eleven years old or younger and they feel the content is not age appropriate. This comes on the heels of one Fremont citizen's continued attempts to ban sex education and LGBTQ+ books from the public library. The NLA firmly stands in opposition to this amendment. Be aware of the attempts to censor books in our communities, keep your library boards aware of issues as they arise.

#### **Old Business**

- CPLS invested funds in a CD with Edward Jones as directed at the January meeting. 4.75 annual rate.
- CPLS Biennial Conference- "Tools of the Trade", will be held October 19, 2023, at the Kearney Public Library. The system has put out a call for presenter proposals. Commission presentations to consider include ILL program/Tech Kits/Intellectual Freedom.

Three areas of programming: 1. Director oriented 2. Library Programs 3. Areas of interest for school librarians. Lightning rounds will be held during lunch and Keynote speaker. There is a lot of excitement surrounding the conference.

- 2023-24 Nonprofit Corporation Biennial Report was completed.
- Summer Reading Performer, David Marsh, is being made available to the libraries in the system. The \$50.00 fee will be paid for the program. Libraries request the performer through Humanities Nebraska. So far 17 libraries have booked the performance.
- CPLS put out a System Services Survey asking for input from any worker in the library. Includes services used, program recommendations and rate service provided by the CPLS staff.

## **New Business**

- CD at Lincoln Federal is coming due in August. The current rate is very low. Board discussed whether to cash before maturity and take penalty and invest the funds at the higher rate at Edward Jones. A motion was made by Terri Eberly and seconded by James Tidei to cash CD 03 216706 07 in the principle amount of \$10,462.87 before the maturity date of 8/21/23, knowing there is a penalty for early withdrawal, putting the proceeds in a Cashier's Check or Money Order payable to CPLS and reinvesting \$10,000.00 of the funds with Edward Jones. Motion carried. Another motion was made by Kina Stefka and seconded by Jamie Dennis that if the penalty for early withdrawal is greater than explained or the penalty would decrease the principle balance that Denise Harders would contact board members before acting. Motion carried.
- Doris Brandon resignation. Denise received a letter from Doris on 2/2 stating that for personal reasons she was submitting her letter of resignation from the CPLS board. The resignation was accepted. The by-laws indicate that we can operate as normal with the number of board members remaining. The position will be put on the ballot at the annual meeting.
- April is the CPLS Month of Weeding: To enter, the week of weeding participation form must be completed and submitted to the office by May 5<sup>th</sup>. Those submitting forms will be entered into a drawing for a \$100.00 Amazon gift card. The winner will be selected in a random drawing on Friday, May 12, 2023. Denise is available to assist with the process in person or by phone. It was also noted this would be a good time to weed patron cards (moved/deceased/etc.)
- Book Club Kit Shelving: The staff are reorganizing the office. New shelving was purchased for the book club kits, and shelving changed out for the audiobooks.
- Mental Health Mondays will take place in May. The mental health tips and suggestions will be sent out by email.
- CPLS Annual Meeting will be held in Cozad, NE on July 14, 2023. 1 CE will be available to participants. The theme is Barn Quilts. Registration forms will be available online.
- Board Retirements. There are no retirements this year. The vacancy on the board will be put on the ballot.

**Other Business:** Christa Porter gave the Library Commission Report.

## **Highlights:**

- Biennium Budget Request: NLC requested a 5% budget increase, the Governor's budget recommendation was for a 3% budget increase.
- Legislative Bills: Bills of special interest related to libraries and other advocacy resources: [https://nebraskalibraries.org/Advocacy\\_\\_Engage\\_\\_page](https://nebraskalibraries.org/Advocacy__Engage__page). LB635 and LB441 will likely carry over to the 2024 session.
- NLC Grants for 2023-CE Training Grants Second Round: Second round of CE and Training grants opened earlier this month. The application deadline is May 28. NLC is offering a special \$500.00 grant to attend ARSL in Wichita, KS
- Public Library Accreditation 2023: Accreditation process will open on July 1. Online workshops have been scheduled. See NLC for more information.
- Big Talk From Small Libraries 2023: Big Talk from Small Libraries was held on February 24 and was a huge success. 482 pre-registrations from 41 states, with 12 registrations from 5 Canadian provinces. Next conference is scheduled for 2/23/24 see website for details.

**Next board meeting:** July 14, 2023, at Wilson Public Library, Cozad, NE

**Adjourn:** There being no further business, it was moved by James Tidei to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri C Eberly, Secretary