

Holdrege Area Library Board Meeting November 7, 2023

The regularly scheduled board meeting of the Holdrege Area Public Library was called to order by President John Sauder in the conference room on November 7, 2023 at 4:02 pm. The meeting was conducted in compliance with the Nebraska Public/Open Meetings act posted on the bulletin board in the conference room. The following members were present: John Sauder, Sandi Ericson, Bill Yochum, Annette Sindt, Sue Christensen, Julie Johnson, Maureen Epping, and director Mike Burris. Absent were Rosanna Meyer, Jennifer Sand, and Shirley Butz.

Minutes: The minutes from the October 7, 2023 meeting were reviewed. One correction was made. It was moved by Sandi Ericson and seconded by Sue Christensen to approve the minutes with this correction. Sandi Ericson, John Sauder, Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Sue Christensen, Bill Yochum, and Julie Johnson all voted to approve the minutes.

Public forum: Lola Tiller and Cassie Ehrenberg were present with no public comments at this time.

Financial report: The financial report was reviewed as printed in the agenda. It was moved by Sue Christensen and seconded by Bill Yochum to approve the financial report. Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Sandi Ericson, John Sauder, Julie Johnson, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen all voted to approve the financial report.

Approval of Bills: The monthly bills listed on the balance sheet and expenses by vendor were reviewed by the board. Annette Sindt made a motion to approve the bills and Sandi Ericson seconded it. Bill Yochum, Sue Christensen, Julie Johnson, Annette Sindt, Sandi Ericson, Maureen Epping, and John Sauder all voted to approve the bills.

Business: Sue Christensen gave a report of her meeting with Chris Rector to discuss the future of a new library. A committee was established with Sandi Ericson, county representative, Sue Christensen, city representative, and John Sauder, president of the board to meet with the mayor regarding this.

Because the January library board meeting falls on January 2 when the library will be closed, the January meeting will be held on January 9 instead.

The library closing policy regarding short staffing was discussed and the library director will put the current policy in writing so the board can evaluate and recommend possible changes at the next meeting in December.

A complaint was submitted by an anonymous patron and was reviewed by the library board. No action was taken at this time.

Shirley Butz has resigned from the library board and a replacement for her position has been found pending approval. With her resignation, a new board member will need to be the co-signer for checks effective as soon as possible. Bill Yochum volunteered to fulfill this duty for the board.

Staff Christmas bonuses were discussed and Sandi Ericson made a motion to approve Christmas bonuses for the eleven employees of the library. Annette Sindt seconded. Julie Johnson, Sue Christensen, Bill Yochum, Sandi Ericson, Maureen Epping, John Sauder, and Annette Sindt voted to approve this.

Director report:

1. The pumpkin putt-putt golf put on by the Friends of the Library was a success.
2. The air conditioning system again led to further closures due to heat and we are still waiting for this to be looked into.
3. The library will be closed on November 23 and 24 in observance of Thanksgiving. It will also be closed December 25 and 26 and January 1 and 2 in observance of these holidays.
4. Monday, December 18, is a scheduled Goodie Day for patrons to stop by and enjoy some goodies made by the staff.

Julie Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Sue Christensen seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Epping, secretary