

HOLDREGE AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY MARCH 4, 2025 BOARD MEETING

The regularly scheduled board meeting of the Holdrege Area Public Library was called to order in the library conference room at 4:00 pm. The meeting was conducted with the Nebraska Public/Open Meetings Act posted on the bulletin board in the conference room. Members present were Cassie Ehrenberg, Lori Larson, Annette Sindt, Bill Yochum, and Julie Johnson and Library Director Sierra Burrows. Due to a winter weather event, Sue Christensen and Anna Sertich used Google Meet to be present and Maureen Epping was present by telephone. Rosanna Meyer was absent.

Consent Agenda: The minutes from February 4, 2025, library board meeting, and financial report were reviewed. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Lori Larson and seconded by Sue Christensen. Approved affirmative votes from Sue Christensen, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, and Cassie Ehrenberg, Maureen Epping and Julie Johnson.

Public forum: No public appearance.

New Business: President, Cassie Ehrenberg signed a funds request to the Phelps County Community Foundation from the give2GROW campaign for additional book carts.

Motion was made Julie Johnson and seconded by Lori Larson to approve revision to Policy 1.3.18, addressing updates to transportation and travel time. Approved affirmative votes by Cassie Ehrenberg, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Sue Christensen, Anna Sertich and Maureen Epping.

Old Business: Annual Reports were given to City Council and County Commissioners.

President, Cassie Ehrenberg was given names of potential County Board Trustees and will reach out to them.

Discussion was held on new building initiatives.

Building smell update, nothing new to report.

Due to the winter weather event, CE hours were postponed.

Director's report:

1. Director Sierra Burrows and Cindy Gitt, (Youth Services Librarian) attended the Central Plains Public Library Summer Reading Conference and active plans are being made for the upcoming Summer Library Program.
2. In preparation for next fiscal year's budget, information on library salaries and budget comparison was given to board trustees.
3. Approval was requested to hire a Library Assistant II, to directly assist the Library Director with program planning and execution for Teen and Adult services, grant writing, daily operations and as a back up to the front desk.
4. Director Sierra Burrows will be attending the Innovation for Beyond School Bells in Lincoln, March 10-12, where she will be co-hosting with the Director of the Teen Science Café Network. Director Burrows will also be attending the Nebraska Library Association's Advocacy Day in Lincoln on March 17.

5. Director Burrows met with a program leader from the Biodiversity Education Models for Rural and Tribal Youth initiative, the Library was presented with Raspberry Pi and Micro Bit kits, along with monitors and keyboards which was from a grant awarded to the Library through UNL.
6. The City hired a plumber to fix several issues in the basement. The work will require the closure of the Library for a day, due to the water being shut off. A keypad for entry through garage is being used for mail delivery.
7. No current updates on cabling and room projects.
8. Law enforcement had to be called for intervention with a patron. Director Burrows will reach out to local organizations to establish partnerships and create a readily available resource guide for patrons in need of mental health and general support and training initiatives to better equip staff to handle similar situations.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Yochum and seconded by Julie Johnson.
Meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Annette Sindt