

Holdrege Area Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting November 6, 2025

The regularly scheduled board meeting of the Holdrege Area Public Library was called to order at 4:01 in the community meeting room in compliance with the Nebraska Public/Open Meetings Act, posted on the north wall of the room. Board members Cassie Ehrenberg, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Maureen Epping, Bill Yochum, Cindy Woollen, and Sue Christensen, and Library Director Sierra Burrows were present. Board members Rosanna Meyer, Julie Johnson, and Anna Sertich was absent.

Consent Agenda: The minutes from the October 7th meeting, the financial report, and the accounts payable report were reviewed. A motion made by Annette Sindt to approve the consent agenda was seconded by Lori Larson. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Lori Larson, Cindy Woollen, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen.

Public Forum: There were no members of the public present.

New Business: The Board reviewed the printed copies of the audit from AMGL. Following discussion a motion was made by Lori Larson to open another bank account to comply with FDIC protection for the unsecured deposits at 1st State Bank. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Lori Larson, Cindy Woollen, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen. Jaimie from AMGL was contacted via phone conference to provide an overview of the report and answer questions. Allowing more time for an in depth review of the report by board members, she agreed to be available for additional questions via phone conference at our December meeting.

Sue Christensen made a motion to approve Policy 1.6.4 dealing with sick leave that was revised to be in compliance with changes in the law. Seconded by Annette Sindt, the motion passed with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Lori Larson, Cindy Woollen, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen.

The Board reviewed proposed updates to policies 1.6.2 Holidays and 1.6.3 Vacation Leave to stay in compliance with state laws. These policy revisions will be voted on at the December meeting.

A motion to approve the annual holiday gift authorization to purchase a \$100 Chamber Spark Gift Card for each employee was made by Annette Sindt and seconded by Lori Larson. All members present voted in the affirmative: Cassie Ehrenberg, Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Lori Larson, Cindy Woollen, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen.

There was no update from CMBA, though Sierra is awaiting an email from them that should include updated renditions of proposed interior layouts.

Strawhecker's last invoice for the 3rd of three payments included an additional mileage fee that will be paid from library funds held at PCCF.

A motion was made by Lori Larson and seconded by Annette Sindt to approve Strawhecker's additional fee (\$83/hr up to 10 hrs/mo) to begin grant writing for 2025 grant opportunities that are due now through the

end of the year and to use library funds at PCCF to pay that fee. The motion was passed by affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Lori Larson, Cindy Woollen, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen.

Neither Sierra Burrows or Lori Larson was available to confer with Strawhecker on Tuesday, November 4th at 9:30. Board members are encouraged to join those meetings as they are able. Scott Larson will be in Holdrege November 11-14th to conduct confidential community interviews.

A motion to accept Ryan Ehrenberg's proposal to create a new logo for the library and to pay his fee from PCCF Library funds was made by Annette Sindt and seconded by Bill Yochum. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Annette Sindt, Maureen Epping, Lori Larson, Cindy Woollen, Bill Yochum, and Sue Christensen. Cassie Ehrenberg abstained.

Director's Report: Sierra presented the director's report. The library received a \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation. Friends of the Library donated a 3D printer to the library. The Nebraska Library Commission will be discontinuing Bibliostat Collect after December 16th. A new data collection tool is in development and libraries will be notified when it becomes active. The draft version of an updated strategic plan is still in progress. There are staffing changes being considered as another staff member has opted for retirement. Glenwood had completed installation of the new phone system.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 following a motion by Annette and seconded by Maureen. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Tuesday, December 2nd at 4:00 pm in the library board meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Christensen, secretary