

Neosho Newton County Library Board Meeting

February 15, 2022

Board Members Present: Jann Burnett, Keri Collinsworth, Beth Styron, Chris Yaudas, Tamie Williams, Phyllis Blackwood, Rick Keeling, Jake Heisten

Board Members Absent: Karina Cole

Library Staff Present: Carrie Cline

President Beth Styron called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Correspondence: None

Consent Agenda: Minutes, Budgeted Expenses, Financial Report

Chris Yaudas moved to accept the consent agenda, Tamie seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report:

- Statistics were reviewed.
- Kurt with the CPA group in Monett will be doing our audit this year.
- Twin Oaks has installed new cabinetry in the annex. There is also some loose siding that needs repaired.
- Grant Update: Our library lockers are somewhere in transit. The 3 book drops have arrived. Our SRP grant was reduced this year to \$10,000. The theme will be "Oceans of Possibilities."
- We discussed a staff appreciation meal. It will be scheduled in March and catered by a local restaurant.
- The Neosho Business Expo will be March 18-19. The library will have a booth.

Old Business

New Business

- A.** Tax update: Despite 95% of the Newton county property tax monies being collected, our income is drastically lower than expected. In 2019 the whole county assessed valuation was 809 million. In 2020 it was 723 million, a drastic decrease without any correlating factors. In 2021 it was increased to 870 million, which reflected an enormous amount of growth from 20-21, causing our tax rate to be significantly rolled back. In 2020 we received \$723,000 in property tax income. This year we are supposed to receive \$734,000. When Carrie went to the Newton County courthouse to inquire as to why our income was lower than expected, no adequate answers were provided. We decided as a

board to contact Nicole Galloway, the state auditor, to request an audit of the county finances as they pertain to our property tax income.

The motion to adjourn open session was made by Rick and seconded by Phyllis. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Collinsworth, Secretary