

**Neosho/Newton County Library Board Meeting  
May 17, 2016 – 4 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:** Phyllis Blackwood, Jann Burnett, Keri Collinsworth, Melanie Cox,  
, Jonathan Russell, Beth Styron, Chris Yaudas and Mark Young

**Board Members Absent:** Margaret Crook

**Library Staff Present:** Carrie Cline, Library Director and Sharon Meredith, Collections  
Manager

President Jonathan Russell called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

**Introduction of Guests:**

Brad Taylor of Taylor Green PC, our accounting firm, reviewed the various financial statements with the board, answered questions about some minor adjustments that need to be made as a result of past audits and provided guidance on issues to review when pursuing a construction loan for the upcoming building expansion.

**Correspondence/Public Comment:**

None

**Consent Agenda: Minutes, Budgeted Expenses, Financial Report:**

Keri Collinsworth moved to accept the consent agenda; Beth Styron seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Director's Report**

- The library usage statistics look really good for both branches.
- The legislature passed HB12, which restored library funding, and it was signed by the Governor, putting funding back into the REAL grants for connectivity and brought back the state equalization aid.
- The last of the school visits will be held today.
- Carrie attended the Safe Kids Fair, spoke to the staff meeting at the county Health Department, represented the library at the Jefferson Street Campus cookout, did an online presentation on the library's homeschool programs to the Amigos Conference; and recruited two new employees for the library at a local job fair.
- The summer reading program will kick off at the Neosho branch on Saturday with lots of activities, snacks and book giveaways.
- The "ready to read" program, which provides books and bibs to newborns through Keri Collinsworth's office, is proving very popular.
- The Seneca fiber upgrade, which will speed up the wi-fi access, is finally underway now that the bid has been received and approved.
- The library received a "Racing to Read" grant of a little more than \$6,000 to purchase collections, manipulatives, etc.
- The new web site design is almost ready to roll out.
- The library will be recognized by the Chamber of Commerce as the Business of the Month on June 9, at 10:30 a.m. at the Neosho branch.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

The policy manual calls for the June meeting to be held at the Seneca branch. However, because the building expansion presentations will be held that day, Carrie proposed moving the date of the Seneca meeting to July this year. Phyllis Blackburn moved to accept the change, which was seconded by Melanie Cox, and passed unanimously. The July 19 meeting will be held at the Seneca branch.

In accordance with the policy manual, Carrie appointed a budget committee of Jonathan Russell, Chris Yaudas, Beth Styron and Melanie Cox to bring meeting with her in July to prepare the 2017 budget.

Discussion took place on the need to appoint a bylaws review committee to take a close look at the bylaws and resolve inconsistencies in the policies. This was tabled until a future date.

First reading took place on two changes to the policy manual: 1.) to insert language that solicitation of signatures for petitions must take place at least 15 feet from the OUTSIDE of any entrance and must include the library director's permission; and 2.) to remove point No. 4 under the travel and training section, which disallows meal reimbursements for a day-long trip.

Jonathan Russell moved that the meeting go into closed session to conduct a six-month review of the library director's performance. Melanie Cox seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken with all in attendance voting in the affirmative.

**Closed Session**

A positive review of the director's performance resulted in a motion by Keri Collinsworth to provide a 2-1/2 percent salary bump at this time and to conduct a one-year performance review at year end and to evaluate additional salary adjustments at that time. Beth Styron seconded the motion, and a roll-call vote resulted in an affirmative vote from all in attendance.

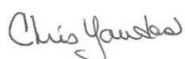
Beth Styron moved to adjourn the closed session, which was seconded by Melanie Cox. A roll-call vote resulted in affirmative votes from all in attendance.

Follow the adjournment of the closed session, President Jonathan Russell informed Carrie of the results of the board review and the salary increase. The board thanked her for performing all of her expected responsibilities with a high degree of energy and professionalism.

**Adjournment:**

Phyllis Blackburn moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mark Young. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Yaudas, Secretary