



LIBRARIES

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, May 27, 2021
Montana West Economic Development Building
MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance: Connie Leistiko, Heidi Roedel, Doug Adams, Al Logan, Marsha Sultz (Board); Connie Behe, Martha Furman, Teri Dugan (Staff); Charlotte Housel, (Library Foundation); Margaret Davis, David Ingram; (members of the public)

A. Call to Order: Leistiko called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

B. Open time for persons to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction.

Davis shared history and information regarding the establishment and authority of library depreciation funds for libraries in Montana from 1975 to present day. Davis would like to see the library CIP and depreciation fund remain in the same fund. Davis thanked the board for their time.

C. Approval of Minutes Board Meeting, Thursday, April 29, 2021
Moved by H. Roedel "to approve the April 29, 2021 board minutes as presented."

Seconded by A. Logan
Motion passed unanimously

Approval of Minutes Special Board Meeting, Friday, May 21, 2021
Moved by A. Logan "to approve the May 21, 2021 board minutes as presented."

Seconded by M. Sultz
Motion passed unanimously

D. Reports

Financial Report- Behe, Dugan

Moved by M. Sultz "to accept the April 2021 Financial report as presented."

Seconded by A. Logan
Motion passed unanimously

Director and Staff Reports-Behe

- Behe shared information about the staff recognition program. The staff recognition program is a well-researched project that was established in 2012 to help retain employees. The Friends of the Library fund the

project which costs \$1,500 annually. Decreasing the financial impact of employee turnover was the goal of this program.

- Behe shared information regarding the library donated used book policy. Behe led a library operation streamlining initiative in 2011. The goal of the initiative was to locate areas of waste in library operations. The results of the initiative revealed large amounts of staff time and resources spent handling donated books. It was decided at this time to manage all donated books at an offsite location handled by the Friends of the Library.

Meeting with John Chrastka from EveryLibrary

- The Exploratory Mill Levy Committee met with John Chrastka, Founder and Executive Director of EveryLibrary.
- Logan suggested adopting a resolution to formally ask the county commissioners for a meeting with the library board to discuss library facilities. Behe asked for help from the library board with this request. Sultz commented that we need to do some homework before meeting with the commissioners and formulate an agenda.
- Behe reminded the board that in 2018, at a Library board retreat, the library board decided to explore the mill levy option and declined the formation of a library district. The approval to begin the capital campaign for the Bigfork library was approved.
- Leistiko will form a committee to explore forming a library district that will consist of 2 board members, the library director and library foundation executive director.

Approval of Minutes Meeting with EveryLibrary, Monday, May 10, 2021
Moved by M. Sultz "to accept the May 10, 2021 meeting notes as presented."
Seconded by H. Roedel
Motion passed unanimously

Tamarack Federation Meeting-Logan

- Logan and Behe attended the Tamarack Federation Spring meeting in Missoula on May 14 and 15th, 2021. Logan enjoyed a session on providing services through the pandemic given by Montana State University. Logan also attended a training from Jo Flick about the risk of libraries in natural disasters.
- Logan reminded the board chair that a new Tamarack representative appointment will be needed when Logan retires from the board on June 30th.

Foundation Report-Housel

- The library foundation is currently discussing whether they would be willing to own the new BF facility for a defined period of time.
- Stories and Starlight is scheduled for July 17. This fundraiser will feature a night sky guided tour and outdoor activities for all ages.
- Summer fundraising is in full swing and going well. Housel has applied for the Great Fish Community Challenge.

BREAK 10:55a
RESUME 11:07a

E. Old Business

County CIP Account and Library Depreciation Fund

- Behe shared the legislative history and intent of the of the Library Depreciation funds with the board. Impacts to moving the county approved CIP funding from Library Depreciation to County CIP account in FY22 was discussed.
- Behe shared various options available regarding the library depreciation fund
- Adams noted that the formation of a library district would eliminate the need to make this decision to separate the funding. Adams said a workshop with the commissioners is necessary.

Moved by D. Adams "to table the decision to approve or reject moving the county approved CIP funding in the amount of \$38,467 from the library depreciation fund to a separate county CIP fund."

Seconded by A. Logan

Motion passed unanimously

Exploratory Mill Levy Committee Meeting

Moved by M. Sultz "to reject hiring the Moore Information Group to poll Flathead county voters about library issues."

Seconded by D. Adams

Motion passed unanimously

F. New Business

Trustee Recommendation to County Commission

- The board discussed board applicant candidates and interviews.
- Board Chair, Leistiko will write the formal letter of recommendation.

Moved by H.Roedel "to approve the recommendation of either David Ingram or Maggie Doherty as the next Library Trustee to the Board of Commissioners."

Seconded by M. Sultz

Motion passed unanimously

Library Director Evaluation and Contract Discussion

Closed to Executive Session at 11:40a

Housekeeping: Next regular meeting: Thursday, June 24, 2021. 9a-12p.
Kalispell

Stories and Starlight Fundraising Event: Saturday, July 17, 2021 8p-11p.
Heron Park.

G. Adjourn: Leistiko adjourned the meeting at 12:00p