

BOARD MINUTES

JUNE 2, 2020

PRESENT: SUE DAVIS, MARSHA NEILL, VICKY McCRAY, LIESL HOLTZ, CODY McDONALD, JEANNE LILLEGARD ABSENT: MIKE METCALFE

Chairman Liesl Holtz called the meeting to order. Minutes from the March 3 meeting were approved. The financial status was reviewed.

The building project loan from the county currently stands at \$9675.69, but is about to get some help from 3 Rivers Communication. To help ease financial stress caused by the pandemic, the company is offering \$15,000 grants to the libraries in its service area. Stanford is not serviced by 3 Rivers, but the Judith Basin communities of Raynesford and Geysler are. Jeanne was asked to submit a letter explaining how the library and/or the guild would use the grant. She wrote that \$5000 would be used to ease the building loan, \$5000 would continue the digitization project, and the remaining \$5000 would expand the collection and assist with remote programming. Post-grant, the new loan balance will be \$4675.69. Jeanne will see that 3 Rivers gift is recognized on the donor wall and is acknowledged in the Judith Basin Press.

Our first 10,000 pages of digitized newspapers now appear on Montana Newspapers and Chronicling America. These pages include our county's earliest newspapers and the Judith Basin Press up to 1938. The 3 Rivers grant will allow us to start on the early holdings of the Judith Basin Star.

Marsha moved to move discussion of the operational policy to the next meeting. Vicky seconded. Motion carried.

As requested by the Public Library Standards Task Force, the board completed a worksheet concerning proposed changes at an April work meeting. Jeanne reported the task force met May 5 via Zoom. Members felt it is impossible to set new standards since the pandemic is currently creating havoc in the library world. Action is tabled until fall.

The spring meeting of the South Central Federation was also held on Zoom. Hopefully, the fall meeting will take place in Red Lodge September 12.

The 2020 meeting of the Montana Library Association was cancelled. Jeanne's registration fees have been refunded.

Cody reported the county will not be observing its centennial this year due to Covid-19 concerns.

With the 2019-2020 fiscal year drawing to a close, Jeanne feels safe in purchasing some new furniture for Hobson, a dependable printer for Hobson and a reliable laptop for Stanford.

Jeanne felt the 2019-2020 budget lines were sufficient for the upcoming year. Sue moved we adopt them for the 2020-2021 year with the exception of the salary line as county increases have not yet been determined. Marsha seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The social distancing version of the summer reading programming is in place. Children will still work for movies, craft kits will be sent home and there will be ice cream bars in the freezer instead of an ice cream social. To date, 35 children have signed up.

Jeanne reported that library usage has been steady. Both staff and patrons are grateful the virus is not yet present in the county.

The next meeting is set for August 4 at 1 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.