

MINUTES
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DEKALB PUBLIC LIBRARY
BILDER FAMILY MEETING ROOM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deborah Booth, Bill Cummings, Andrea Dahlberg, Rebecca Hunt, Kelli Meserole, Jennifer Salmon, Gary Vander Meer, India Washington, Betsy Zimmerman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: n/a

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT: Emily Faulkner, Samantha Hathaway

GUESTS PRESENT: n/a

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Hunt at 6:33 p.m.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Move Discussion/Action Item 'e' to beginning of the Discussion/Action Items.

Postponed Minutes Item 'a' until the next meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Wenner Trust Letter: the final disbursement to the library is around \$310,000.

MINUTES

- A. Approve March 12, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes: Postponed.

REPORTS

- A. Director's Report – March: Reviewed. Faulkner reported that nearly 700 children registered for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in the first two weeks. The travel collection is being weeded. Faulkner noted that we will be hosting a live history program in July featuring historical figures from DeKalb.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Discuss Potential IMLS Federal Funding Cuts: Faulkner outlined updates to potential IMLS funding cuts. \$2.5 million will be cut from RAILS, which could potentially impact materials moving/interlibrary loan services. Libraries may need to pay for those services, which would likely have an outsized impact on small and rural libraries. Meserole stated that she would like to see advocacy options on our website.
- B. Review Trustee Facts File – Chapter 4: Reviewed.
- C. Review Standards for Libraries – Chapter 4: Reviewed. Salmon requested that ADA Title 2 requirements regarding signage for accessible entrances be reviewed for compliance.

- D. Approve Menconi Terrazzo Refinishing and Repair Contract: Head of Facilities Ryan Racine explained that the bathrooms and elevator lobbies need their terrazzo to be resurfaced, as staining has become significant. Meserole asked about the timeline for repair and Racine explained that it will be done in sections to minimize service disruptions. Meserole moved to approve both parts of the quote. Dahlberg seconded. Motion passed via roll call; 9-0.
- E. Approve Pentegra Security Camera Contract: Racine explained the need for new and additional security cameras. A server to run them will be needed and is currently under bid as that can come from a number of companies. Meserole asked why we need to use Pentegra instead of other companies. Racine explained that to change companies would require replacing every camera in the building, which would not be cost-effective. Salmon moved to accept the contract. Vander Meer seconded. Motion passed; 9-0.
- F. Discuss Final 2024 EAV and Property Taxes: Faulkner explained that, unlike this year, the difference in anticipated property taxes was much closer to estimates, meaning that no abatement is necessary. The library's tax collection will be \$69,000 less than budgeted. A discussion about school taxes was had. Zimmerman enquired about the tax rate, Faulkner said that it had decreased significantly.

FINANCE

- A. Approve March 2025 Monthly Bills: Meserole moved to approve the monthly bills. Zimmerman seconded. Motion passed via roll call, 9-0.
- B. Review Financial Reports: Reviewed. Vander Meer asked if the library would need to use invested funds to pay bills before the next round of tax dollars is received. Faulkner responded that sufficient funds are held in the general account.

OLD BUSINESS

Faulkner reported that the cost of the bottle-filler and new water fountain increased significantly due to materials cost increases related to tariffs. She believes that the change is not worth the increased cost and will not be pursuing the project.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT: Vander Meer moved to adjourn, seconded by Cummings. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.