

## Regional Board Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024

Board President, Ruth O'Loughlin at 10:32 a.m., called a special meeting of the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Board to order. Those in via zoom were board members Judge Jessie Griffin, Myra Cingolani, Sandra Crofford, Cristy Dunnahoe, Judi Fava, Mack J. Grant, Gaynell Jamison, Ruth O'Loughlin, Diane Parnell, Elgenia Ross, Vickie Ross, Vertie Staples, and Regional Director, Judy Calhoun.

### **Old Business:**

The director presented a revised 2025 budget. Health insurance costs were higher than expected so the budget was adjusted to reflect the changes. Sandra Crofford made the motion to accept the revised budget, seconded by Judi Fava. The motion passed.

### **New Business:**

The approval of a new director hire was first on the agenda. At 10:34 am., Board President, Ruth O'Loughlin announced the board would go into executive session to discuss personnel hire. Upon resuming the board meeting Judi Fava made the motion to approve Hunter Bennett as the new Regional Director pending her completion of a Masters of Library Science Degree. Cristy Dunnahoe made the second and the motion was approved. Next on the agenda was a Memorandum of Understanding between the Regional Library and Hunter Bennett regarding the Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Program. Sandra Crofford made the motion to approve the MOU. Judi Fava seconded that motion and the motion was approved. The Region must have a qualified Director with a Masters Degree in order to receive state aid. John Paul Myrick, East Central Arkansas Regional Library has agreed to be the Director of Record in order to receive state aid. Cristy Dunnahoe made the motion to approved the MOU between the Region and Mr. Myrick. Judi Fava made the second and the motion was approved.

The last item on the agenda was the Regional Bank accounts. Mack J. Grant made the motion to remove Director, Judy Calhoun from all Region and Branch bank accounts and add Hunter Bennett. Myra Cingolani made the second and the motion passed.

Ruth O'Loughlin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Diane Parnell made the second and the meeting was adjourned.