

Southeast Arkansas Regional Library

MINUTES

Regional Board Meeting

April 18, 2022

The Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Board met in person at the Monticello Branch Library Meeting room and via Zoom on Monday, April 18, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice-President, Debby Bland at 10:30 am. The minutes of January 24, 2022 were presented in printed form. Diane Parnell made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Elgenia Ross and the minutes were approved. The financial report was presented in printed form. Dianna Harmon made the motion to approve, Vertie Staples gave the second and the motion was approved.

The Director's report included information of the renovation work at Dermott and Dumas, a Freedom of Information request and various grants the Branch Libraries have received. The statistical report was presented by Digital Projects Coordinator, Jennifer Knight and included slides with information about the Region's web and Facebook presence.

Under old business, the Director distributed the 2020 Audit Report. The Report will be discussed at the next business meeting. The first item under new business was the closing for the Christmas holidays. December 25 falls on a Sunday this year, so the Region takes the Monday off. The Director recommended closing the 23rd & the 24th for the other two days. Sandra Crofford made the motion to close the Region December 23 & 24th as part of three-day Christmas holiday. Gaynell Jamison seconded the motion and the motion passed. Next on the agenda was the Coronavirus Capital Fund Project (CCFP). The Arkansas State Library has requested funds from the State of Arkansas for a partnership with UAMS Institute for Digital Health and Innovation to provide private and secure space in 10 libraries across Arkansas for virtual meeting such as mental health counseling, telehealth visits, job interviews, etc. Out of the 23 libraries that applied, the Warren Branch Library was chosen to participate. The Director asked the board for their support of the proposed project. The Director shared support letters from the Bradley County Judge, Klay McKinney, the Bradley County Medical Center, Representative Jeffrey Wardlaw, and Senator Ben Gilmore. A motion was made by Diane Parnell to support the CCFP, second was given by Sandra Crofford and the motion passed. The Director also shared correspondence to a suspended patron with the board.

The next Regional Board meeting will be held on July 18, 2022 in Desha County. A letter will be sent after the details have been arranged. Gaynell Jamison made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Karen Anderson and the meeting was adjourned. Lunch was provided by Union Bank.

Members present in person & via zoom: Karen Anderson, Debby Bland, Jeri Brewer, Sandra Crofford, Dinah Cox, Cristy Dunnahoe, Mack Jewel Grant, Dianna Harmon, Gaynell Jamison, Jerry Moore, Ruth O'Loughlin, Diane Parnell, Reathel Privet, Elgenia Ross, Vicki Ross, Cindy Smith, Vertie Staples, Nancy Vittitow, Vern Wilson, Director, Judy Calhoun. Visitors included: Jennifer Knight, and Stacey McKeown.