

Southeast Arkansas Regional Library

MINUTES

Regional Board Meeting

April 15, 2019

The Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Board met on Monday, April 15 at the Monticello Branch Library meeting room. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 by Board Chair, Sandra Crofford. Ms. Crofford welcomed the new Lincoln County Judge, Buddy Earnest, and Desha County Board member, Karen Anderson to the meeting. The Regional Director introduced the new Monticello Branch Manager, Elizabeth Newman. The Director also presented Mary Wright, Regional Secretary/Bookkeeper, who would be retiring at the end of April. New Regional Staff introductions were given for Stacey McKeown, Secretary/Bookkeeper and Melissa Benefield, Collection Development.

Roll call was taken. The minutes of January 28, 2019 were presented in printed form. There were no corrections. Dianna Harmon made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Laurie Black. The minutes were approved.

The financial report was presented in printed form. The Director indicated to new board members how the financial report is presented to the board. The financial report contains two pages. First page is the Region's general fund expenditures and budget. The second page shows current bank balances for the Region's operating funds, restricted accounts, and branch library & capital funds. Dianna Harmon made the motion to approve the financial report as presented. Cindy Smith gave the second and the motion was approved.

The Director gave her report to the board. The report included an update on the Region's inventory and branch building books. The Director shared two building books with the board. The IRS tax forms for the Friends of the Library groups were filed. This is to insure the groups do not lose their 501c3 status. A new Regional Facebook has been created. The Director also reported on the rain damage around the region. There was a discussion concerning water damage to the Dermott Library that has led to severe wood damage to the library. Pictures of the Warren renovation were shared with the board. VOX books and Binge Boxes were introduced to the board. The books are in Monticello, Warren & Dumas but will be added to other branches at a later date. The binge boxes are in Monticello, Warren & Star City. The Director also reported on a break-in at the McGehee Library. The back door was damaged and money was taken from the manager's office.

There was no unfinished business. Under new business, the Director gave an update to the board concerning Lincoln County. It was discovered during the annual library survey that Lincoln County has been paying the utilities for the Star City Branch Library out of the Region's library fund account in Lincoln County. This is in direct violation of the Inter-County Regional Agreement and Arkansas Law 13-2-404, which states that "No claim against the fund shall be approved by the county court until acted upon by the governing library board." The Director and members of the Lincoln County Board will be attending the Quorum Court Meeting tonight.

The next Regional Board meeting will be held on July 15, 2019 in Lincoln County. A letter will be sent after the details have been arranged. A motion was made by Laurie Black to adjourn and the

meeting was adjourned. Before the lunch was served, Laurie Black gave an update on the renovation effort of the Pickens Plantation. Cindy Smith also reported on Dermott author, Charles Graham's book signings and shared his contact information.

Members present: Karen Anderson, Laurie Black, Debby Bland (virtual), Vickie Charles, Dinah Cox, Sandra Crofford, Cristy Dunnahoe, Kim Forrest, Mack Jewel Grant, Dianna Harmon, Gaynell Jamison, Cliff Morgan, Jerry Moore, Diane Parnell, Elgenia Ross, Vickie Ross, Cindy Smith, Vernestine Wilson, Judge Buddy Earnest, and Director, Judy Calhoun.