

The Mission of LARL is to enrich lives and strengthen communities.

**LARL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FULL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Approved**

A hybrid meeting of the Lake Agassiz Regional Library Full Board was held on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at the Moorhead Public Library. President Kalil called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Board Members Present: Briggs, Caroon, Durant, Ebinger, Holecek, Jacobson, Johnson, Kalil (*President*), Shastri via Zoom, Titera, Willhite, Wood.

Board Members Absent: Busko, Geray, Nelson.

Others Present: Lynch, Sprynczynatyk, David Meyer (Becker County for Barry Nelson), Linda Schell

PUBLIC INPUT

None

Lynch shared with the Board that the House and Senate both signed off on MLA's requests for the 2023 Legislative session. The changes include a Regional Library Basic System Support formula change, and increase of \$4M in funding, with the funding indexed in the future. Libraries will also see an increase in Legacy funding from the current \$2.5M to \$2.75M for the next biennium. The governor still needs to sign off on the final funding bill. The amount of increases that LARL will see are not known at this point, but should be known by August.

The board thanked Lynch for her hard work over the last several years to finally get the funding increase and formula change approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Willhite/Ebinger) Move to approve the Agenda of the May 18, 2023 meeting of the LARL Board of Trustees as presented. MCU.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 23, 2023 FULL BOARD MEETING

(Briggs/Ebinger) Move to approve the Minutes of the March 23, 2023 Full Board Meeting as presented. MCU.

FINANCIAL REPORT

With 33.33% of 2023 complete, LARL spent 33.11% of budgeted expenses.

Revenues are at 48.66% of budget due to LARL doing quarterly billing to Signatories. Accounting/Bank fees are at 70.26% of budget due to the audit being fulling paid. Leases are at 49.45% of budget due to quarterly payments.

(over)

FINANCIAL REPORT - continued

Sprynczynatyk discussed the 2023 Distributions from the LARL Endowment funds.

(Ebinger/Johnson) – Move to reinvest the full annual distributions from the FM Area Foundation for the Ada, Crookston, Fertile, Hawley and Moorhead Branches into the sub funds from which they were earned. MCU.

Sprynczynatyk discussed the LARL budget process and the second draft of the 2024 Preliminary Budget. There are a few unknown items in the budget which LARL won't know until August or later in the year; Health Insurance which is budgeted at an 10% increase and State Basic Support. The budget includes a 2.36% increase to LARL Signatories. The budget reflects a \$105,594 shortfall. LARL will plan to use reserves to cover the shortfall.

The board discussed the anticipated increase in state funding pending the Governor signing off on the increase funding to libraries and the adjustment to the RLBSS formula. Since funding amounts are unknown at this time, and likely won't be known for a few months after a Signatory funding request needs to be finalized, the Board suggested Sprynczynatyk not make changes to the revenue budget for the June 2023 meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lynch is involved with weekly meetings regarding the new Moorhead Library and Community Center. The Architect and Engineering selection process has been completed, JLG Architecture of Moorhead and Miller Hull of Seattle. The Moorhead City council approved \$3.5M for the administrative and design portion of the project.

The Crookston Public Library is working with Polk County Social Services. Polk County Public Health is going to offer office hours at the Crookston Library, to invite people in to learn about the services the County can provide them as well as services the Library can offer them.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kalil thanked Sprynczynatyk for his work and working with the auditors and thanked Lynch for her work filling in as the MLA Legislative Chair.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Becker County (Kalil, Nelson-absent)

Detroit Lakes had a bathroom grand opening/going away party for Greta Guck. The Detroit Lakes Library exterior was cleaned. Now that it has been cleaned, parts of the historic building must be resealed and painted.

Breckenridge (Holecek)

No report.

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BOARD MEMBER REPORTS – continued

Clay County (Ebinger)

No report.

Clearwater County (Titera)

No report.

Crookston (Briggs)

The Library is waiting on the contractor to install new windows.

Detroit Lakes (Wood)

The library is moving forward with adding a drive through book drop. And will keep focusing on working on the items identified in the community needs assessment.

City of Mahanomen (Durant)

City Hall that is connected to the Library has been remodeled, so now both the Library and City Hall have been updated.

Mahanomen County (Geray-absent)

No report.

Moorhead (Caroon, Johnson, Shastri)

Caroon discussed that this summer the schematic design of the new library will be complete.

Shastri reported the Library hosted Kids Fest last Saturday and 500 people participated.

Norman County (Jacobsen)

No report.

Polk County (Willhite)

Willhite thanks Chris Boike for providing space and the opportunity for the Library to partner with Social Services.

Wilkin County (Busko-absent)

No report.

MN Library Association/Library Trustee and Advocates Section (Kalil)

No report.

Northern Lights Library Network (Holecek, Schell)

No report, the next meeting is in June. Schell reminded that the Better Together workshop is taking place in Fergus Falls on June 13th. It's open to all Librarians.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20.