

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

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

A hybrid meeting of the Lake Agassiz Regional Library Full Board was held on Thursday, March 21, 2024 in person and online via Zoom. President Kalil called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Board Members Present: Braton, Caroon (via Zoom), Geray (via Zoom), Holecek, Nelson, Jacobson, Kalil (*President*)(via Zoom), Menard (via Zoom), Nelson, Shastri, Titera, Willhite (via phone).

Board Members Absent: Durant, Johnson, Wood.

Others Present: Lynch, Sprynczynatyk, Linda Schell, Tracee Bruggeman (Brady Martz & Associates), Rob Remark (JLG)

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The addition of topic of the welcoming of new board member Jon Braton was added.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2024 FULL BOARD MEETING

(Nelson/Jacobson) Move to approve the Minutes of the January 18, 2024 Full Board Meeting as presented. MCU.

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBER

Kalil welcomed Jon Braton, Wilkin County, to the LARL Board.

Braton recited the Oath of Office.

AUDIT REPORT

Tracee Bruggeman from Brady Martz & Associates presented the 2023 audit report and answered questions.

MOORHEAD COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC LIBRARY/LARL HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

Rob Remark from JGL discussed the new Moorhead Community Center and Public Library/LARL Headquarters and answered questions about the project.

David Geray left the meeting at 6:13

(over)

FINANCIAL REPORT

With 16.67% of 2024 complete, LARL spent 16.55% of budgeted expenses. Revenues are at 28.71% of budget due to LARL billing Signatories quarterly. All expense categories are either at or slightly below budget.

(Nelson/Caroon) Move to authorize the Director of Finance to submit the 2023 Annual Report to State Library Services. MCU.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lynch reported that LARL is fully staffed for the first time in a very long time.

BYLAWS DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the bylaws section regarding the Personnel Committee doing an annual evaluation of the Regional Library Director. It was suggested that “The Personnel Committee will make recommendations to the LARL Board of Trustees concerning policies that affect the LARL staff and will conduct the annual evaluation of the Regional Library Director. The Personnel Committee chair, or designee, shall serve on the labor negotiations team” be changed to “The Personnel Committee will make recommendations to the LARL Board of Trustees concerning policies that affect the LARL staff and should conduct the annual evaluation of the Regional Library Director. The Personnel Committee chair, or designee, shall serve on the labor negotiations team.” Kalil, Lynch and Wood will look into wording options and the process of changing the bylaws and bring the appropriate change to the full board in May.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Becker County (Kalil, Nelson)

A Detroit Lakes librarian attended a powwow at the Detroit Lakes High School, it was well attended and several kids signed up for library cards. An artist submission contest has just wrapped up to design the new Detroit Lakes drive-through book drop, which will get installed this spring. They are working with the City on a host of building issues.

Breckenridge (Holecek)

No report

Clay County (Ebinger-absent)

No report

Clearwater County (Titera-absent)

No report

Crookston (Menard)

No report

Detroit Lakes (Wood-absent)

No report.

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City of Mahnomen (Durant-absent)

No report.

Mahnomen County (Geray-absent)

No report.

Moorhead (Caroon, Johnson-absent, Shastri)

Caroon informed the board that the 11st Street underpass construction will start in the next week which will result in road closures for the next few years. Shastri reported that Moorhead visitors, new users, meeting room use, notary services and circulation all increased last year. Every 3rd Saturday the Library hosts Spanish story time.

Norman County (Jacobsen)

No report.

Polk County (Willhite)

The county board has invited the mayors in the County to the County board meetings to provide an update on their communities.

Wilkin County (Braton)

No report.

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

No report.

Northern Lights Library Network (Holecek, Schell)

Regarding legislative activity, each school received \$40,000 for school libraries in 2023, but there were no guidelines, so schools were able to use the funds how they chose. MN is 50th in the nation in Computer Science standards, there is an effort to improve consistency. There is a census currently going on in MN regarding school libraries and media specialists.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08.