

MINUTES OF THE DAVIESS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY MEETING

August 18, 2021

Members Present: Michelle Drake (Virtual)
Rodney Ellis
Beena Vora (Virtual)
Susan Gesser

Members Absent: Harry Pedigo

Others Present: Erin Waller, Director
Debbie Young, Business Manager
Nathan Havenner, Reporter – Messenger-Inquirer
Charlie Castlen, Fiscal Court Liaison
Richard Tutt, American Engineers, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by President Michelle Drake at 5:12 p.m.

Michelle Drake called for the approval of the minutes of the July meeting. After review and hearing no comments or corrections, Susan Gesser made a motion to approve the July minutes as presented. Beena Vora seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Rodney Ellis presented the Treasurer's Report. He went over the July, 2021 financial report including the receipts and expenditures for the month. Hearing no comments or corrections, Susan Gesser made a motion to approve the financial report and expenditures as presented. Michelle Drake seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Rodney Ellis went over the options for the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Tax Rate. He led a discussion and answered questions. Mr. Ellis proposed that the Library accept compensating rate for Real Property since it was a bit lower than prior year and keep the same rate as the prior year over the compensating rate for Tangible Personal Property (which includes Aircraft, Watercraft and Inventory). Mr. Ellis felt these rates were adequate to meet the approved budget. After discussion, Rodney Ellis made a motion to accept 6.2 cents (Compensating Rate) per \$100 for Real Property, 7.57 cents (prior year rate) per \$100 for Tangible Personal Property, Aircraft, Watercraft and Inventory and 4.0 cents per \$100 for Auto Tax. Susan Gesser seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The approved rates will be sent to the Daviess County Fiscal Court to be presented at the next Fiscal Court meeting.

The Board decided to move Old Business-Parking Lot Expansion Project as the next Agenda item so Michelle Drake called for Old Business – Parking Lot Expansion Project. Mrs. Waller introduced Richard

Tutt of American Engineers to the Board members. Mr. Tutt discussed the history of the parking lot expansion project with the Board and the proposed changes that had been discussed at prior Board Meetings. Mr. Tutt reported that a quick estimate of the project as presented last month would be \$80,000 and the next step would be to get a preliminary plan set which would look at more precise pricing. Mrs. Waller did note that the pricing did not include adding the drive-up Book Drop, fencing, and extra security cameras. The Board discussed having alternate bidding options for the contractors so they could see which pricing and options would be best. The timeframe would be very tight to get the project completed before the asphalt vendors shut down for the cold weather. It would be a more viable option to be ready for the project to start when the asphalt vendors open back up in April. Mr. Tutt noted that the project would probably not take a lot of time. Mr. Tutt said that he would need a signed contract to move forward with the next steps of the project. Mr. Tutt will get a revised contract to Mrs. Waller to present at the next Board Meeting.

Mrs. Waller presented the Director's Report and discussed the following:

- Susan Gesser and Harry Pedigo will be re-appointed to the Board in September so next month there should be an election of officers for the Board – President, Treasurer and Secretary.
- Mrs. Waller reported that the Library is expected to receive a \$20,000 LSTA Federal Grant which will reimburse money used towards recovery from COVID-19. Mrs. Waller said she anticipates using these funds to purchase additional soft seating for the Library which is easier to keep clean.
- The Library has applied for the Emergency Connectivity Fund, which helps schools and libraries provide tool and services their communities need for remote learning during the COVID-19 emergency period. It will provide free internet service through June 30, 2022, for those who cannot afford it. It will also help provide funds to purchase extra Hotspots for the community which are always in high demand.
- Mrs. Waller reported that Summer Reading had 1,348 participants and 1.2 million minutes were logged during the Summer Reading period. There was not as much Summer Reading Outreach as we had hoped.
- The Library has a new mascot – the Library Llama and we are in the process of getting a name for the Llama by doing a poll on the Library's Facebook page and so far Lulu is in the lead.

There was no New Business.

Michelle Drake called for Public Comment. Mr. Castlen thanked the Board for their continued service to the community.

Having no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m. The next meeting of the Daviess County Public Library Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Board Room.

