

Marion County Library Board Meeting Thursday,
October 12th, 2023 – 4:30 pm
Marion County Public Library

In attendance:

Seleta Rogers, Chair
Keisa Rembert, Vice Chair
Debbie Ford, Secretary
Roger Presnell, Treasurer
Cindy Haulk

Also: Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Kim Scott, MCLP Branch Manager
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist

I. Call to Order

Chair Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

II. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment

III. Approval of the minutes from April 13, 2023

Chair Rogers asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 13th, 2023, meeting. Spelling error was noted in section ten. Motion was made by Ford to accept the minutes with the corrections made. Motion was seconded by Rembert. Passed unanimously by Rogers, Rembert, Ford, Presnell and Haulk.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Manager Scott presented the treasurer's report. Present balance is \$22,381.80. Marion County Library has received all of the funds owed by the funding agencies for FY24.

V. Director's Report

Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. October 23 all of the branches will be closed to allow for training on the new cataloging system. The CVL is switching from Polaris to The Library Corporation (TLC). It will require new training for staff and changes to how books are cataloged and checked out but will bring a savings of \$90,000 to the budget.

These savings will go to offset some of the \$140,000+ increase in employee health benefits cost. Due to the significant increase in health care benefits coming in the next three years Director Harkness wanted to inform the board that he will be needing to meet with the funding agencies of the rural library branches to ask for an increase in the funding agencies' contributions to their local library branches.

VI. Local Library Report

Manager Scott gave her local library report. Last week the library participated in a community

outreach held by the SCCLA at the local high school highlighting STEAM. One family enjoyed all of the resources that the library brought to the event so much that they came to the library to check out the accordion this week. Next week the library will be participating in the Trunk or Treat at the SCCLA/FFA Fall Festival. The goal is to continue to draw new patrons to the library. After several years of not having story time, the library began offering story time again this September. The October Storytime had a participation increase of 400% from the September Storytime.

Stephanie Tischler, a part-time employee of the Marion County Public Library for ten years, has moved and as a result there is a part time vacancy. There are two promising candidates so far. Interviews will be held the week before Thanksgiving.

The lighting maintenance and update project is complete with all brand-new light fixtures. These should last for five years without needing to replace any bulbs. The change to LED is saving approximately \$300 a month on the electric bill.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business

VIII. New Business

- i. Discussion on candidates for board vacancy.
Connie English has decided to not renew for a second term on the board. After some discussion on possible candidates, Chair Rogers asked all of the board members to hand in names and contact information for all possible candidates to her and Kim by November 1st.

IX. Chair Report

Chair Rogers did not have a report.

X. Board Education

Director Harkness wanted to remind all board members that according to state law any board members who miss three meetings in a row forfeits their position on the board.

XI. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place on January 11, 2024.

XII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM