

Marion County Library Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 4:30 pm  
Marion County Public Library

**In attendance:**

Betsy Pond, Treasurer  
Cindy Haulk  
Debbie Ford  
Roger Presnell  
Seleta Rogers

Also: Alan Harkness, Director, CVL (Chattahoochee Valley Libraries)  
Kim Scott, MCLP Branch Manager  
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist

**I. Call to Order**

Treasurer Pond called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

**II. Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment

**III. Approval of the minutes from April 14, 2023**

Treasurer Pond asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting. Motion made by Haulk and seconded by Rogers. Passed unanimously by Pond, Haulk, Ford, Presnell and Rogers.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Pond presented the treasurer's report. The board is still waiting for the check payment from the city of Buena Vista for this year's budget. The account balance is \$8,361.48. The state reimbursement check for the air conditioner repairs and securement has already been received and deposited.

**V. Director's Report**

Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. Director Harkness explained that the Georgia Public Library Service has hired Gordian, a construction company out of Atlanta, to visit all the library buildings across the state that are 30 years and older for a consultation on repairs/updates for those buildings. The Marion County Library will be one of the libraries that Gordian will be visiting under this initiative. One of the conditions, if the Marion Library Board were to approve and accept the State's offer to repair/update the Marion County Library, is that they would not be able to do a renovation or new construction for at least 5 years. Director Harkness wanted to make the board aware that they will be coming to make a consultation.

Director Harkness noted that the money would be a grant with no financial contribution requirement. If they accepted the grant, they would have to wait a few years before

applying for the Capital Outlay or MR&R State grants for renovation or new construction. Several board members agreed that this would be best as it would allow for needed repairs and updates while giving the Marion County Library Board time to raise the \$100,000.00 needed to apply for the Capital Outlay or MR&R State grants.

Bestselling Author of historical fiction books such as *The Personal Librarian* and *Her Hidden Genius*, Marie Benedict, will be giving a free public presentation and book signing at the Columbus Public Library on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM. The Winter Reading Challenge Program is running through January 31<sup>st</sup>. The Children's Book Festival will be held April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Director Harkness invited the Marion County Board to hold one of their meetings this year at the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Public Library to see what is possible with a Capital Outlay State grant.

## **VI. Local Library Report**

Manager Scott gave her a local library report. She welcomed the new board members. Cindy Haulk has been recommended to the city for reappointment. Once she receives the approval and the official paperwork from the city, she will advise the board.

Manager Scott spoke about the Winter Reading Challenge, the program guide, and demonstrated some of the prizes. She presented some of the programs and activities happening at the libraries this month. She also invited the board members to take one of the free annual wall calendars.

## **VII. Unfinished Business**

There was no Unfinished Business

## **VIII. New Business**

### **i. Vote for a new chair**

Cindy Haulk nominated Seleta Rogers for the position of chair. Debbie Ford seconded the motion. Passed unanimously by Pond, Haulk, Ford, Presnell and Rogers.

### **ii. Vote for a new secretary**

Seleta Rogers nominated Debbie Ford for the position of secretary. Roger Presnell seconded the motion. Passed unanimously by Pond, Haulk, Ford, Presnell and Rogers.

### **iii. Appoint a representative to the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Board**

Seleta Rogers appointed herself to the regional board. The appointment was supported by Pond, Haulk, Ford, Presnell and Rogers.

## **IX. Treasurer Pond needs a volunteer willing to sign checks as two former signers are no longer on the library board. Roger Presell volunteered.**

**X. Chair Report**

Being newly selected, Chair Rogers did not have a report to present, but wished to commend Manager Scott for her hard work and express her appreciation of the association with the CVL.

**XI. Board Education**

There was no point to bring.

**XII. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will take place on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 PM**