

Pope County Library System
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Russellville Library Heritage Hall

Minutes

Oct 20, 2021

I. Call to Order

Gary Rowlands called to order the regular meeting of the Pope County Library Board at 4:05 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct 20, 2021.

II. Roll Call

In attendance were BOT members Gary Rowlands, chair, Lawanda Dale, Naomi Berry and Luke Hefley our newest prospective BOT member

Also, present were PCLS staff Sherry Simpson, Interim System Director; Riley Taurone, Assistant System Director and Deborah Jaques, Director of Finance

Approval of Minutes

The Board moved to approve the May 26, 2021, minutes.

Motion: Dale Second: Berry Unanimous: X

III. Director's Report & Old Business

Simpson discussed transitions in personnel including the hiring of new Adult & Teen Services Librarian, Karrissa Walker, and part-time programming clerk Savannah Noblett for Teen Department. Former PCLS clerk Dixie Tice and former PCLS volunteer Cheyenne Kugler have been hired for part-time clerk positions at Russellville.

Clarification was provided by Simpson courtesy of Treasurer Larry Holman that the E-Rate funding is not a grant and that there is no need to keep those funds in a separate account. How E-Rate monies are spent is up to the discretion of PCLS.

Simpson presented a first draft of a PCLS Background Check Policy for Staff and Volunteers. Simpson updated the board about ongoing grant projects: AARP Community Challenge Grant that will provide Russellville and Atkins branches with two ADA compliant tables. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was approved by the Arkansas State Library and PCLS was awarded \$48,317.

PCLS Headquarters resumed regular hours: Open 9:00 am – 7:00 pm Monday through Thursday, and 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Friday and Saturday.

IV. New Business

Irma McChristy, a proactive library patron, has expressed interest in taking a proactive role in fundraising for library projects with the PCLS Foundation.

Tour and Discussion of 200 East 3rd Street.

The board discussed further steps that must be taken while considering the purchase of this property for use as an administrative and material processing building.

Rowlands suggested attempting to reach a deal with the owner, Ms. Mary Taylor, and receive a commitment from Ms. Taylor for paying for appraisal and inspection of property.

Past utility bills will be reviewed to get an estimated cost of monthly expense for the building.

Estimated costs for any necessary remodeling were approximated at \$150 per square foot.

Further research and discussion will be necessary before BOT makes any decisions.

The annual budget will be provided to the BOT for review on Thursday, October 21, 2021. Once approved by the BOT it will be submitted to the County on Monday, October 25, 2021.

V. Adjournment.

The Board moved to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Motion: Rowlands Second: Dale Unanimous: X