

**MEETING OF THE NATRONA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
JANUARY 11, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm by President Mike Stepp.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Cathi Carr, Chris Mullen, Vickie Cawthra
Mike Stepp, Alaina Hall*

ALSO PRESENT: *Lisa Scroggins, Executive Director
Kate Mutch, Assistant Director
Greta Lehnerz, Business Manager/Human Resources
Megan Bratton, P/R Marketing
Charmaine Reed, Deputy County Attorney
John Griffith, NCPL Foundation
Candice Cochran, NCPL Foundation Executive Director
Dave North, Natrona County Commissioner
Peter Nicolaysen, Natrona County Commissioner
(By phone)*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved to approve the agenda. (Hall/Mullen); motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alaina Hall commented on the impressive selection of books in the Children's Library.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 14, 2022 MEETING

*It was moved to approve and file the minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting.
(Carr/Cawthra); motion carried.*

FINANCIAL REPORT

*It was moved to approve the Financial Report and payments for December 2022 bills.
(Carr/Mullen); motion carried.*

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner North reported on the plans to address the deficiencies found in the fire inspection several months ago. Components will be replaced but not the entire system. Justin Smith, the former fire marshal, and Devon Garvin the current fire marshal will do a walkthrough of the library Thursday, January 12.

Commissioner Nicolaysen said he is excited to be on board as the liaison to the library board and he feels the library is an integral part of the community.

President Mike Stepp thanked Commissioner North for his time as liaison to the library board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director discussed the state county ranking information she emailed to the Board. Natrona County ranks near the bottom both in staffing (FTE's/1,000) and Staff expenditures. With the exception of the State Library, County Library staff are County funded – either through a direct mil or an annual allocation. Natrona County is 19th out of 24 entities in operating expenditures, with only five counties receiving less funding per capita. This includes grants and outside support from our Friends and Foundation. Meaning that even with the generous support we receive, Natrona County is still one of the lowest funded County Library Systems in the state. She also included the state averages, medians, and Natrona County data at the bottom of each of the three sheets.

The director also discussed the patron complaint surrounding the books on display in the children's department. Dave North commented on the call he received from this patron.

The Board discussed the potential implications of HB0087. If passed, this could dramatically impact essential services, collections, resource, and programs that we provide to the community. It could also have an impact on staff including the expense it could cause for the library and county to defend and/or secure appropriate liability insurance.

The Director also mentioned that Sheri Good informed her of four more book challenges. to NCSD. The are young adult books by Ellen Hopkins.

Vickie Cawthra asked the status of Telehealth. The project now includes more locations so University of Wyoming is now going through their procurement process because of the increased price. The project may not be complete until later this year.

FOUNDATION REPORT

John Griffith introduced the Foundation's new Executive Director Candice Cochran. The next Foundation meeting will be January 17 at 5:30 pm in the Director's Office.

NEW BUSINESS

The Collection Development Policy in a redlined version and unmarked version were included for the Board to review. Deputy County Attorney will also review the policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved to go into Executive Session at 12:58 pm to receive information classified as confidential by law. (Hall/Cawthra); motion carried. It was moved to come out of Executive Session at 1:35 pm. Carr/(Cawthra); motion carried.

AJOURNMENT

It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:33 pm. (Mullen/Cawthra); motion carried.

Jackie Cawthra
Michelle
City Clerk

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