

**MEETING OF THE NATRONA COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Secretary Cathi Carr.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Cathi Carr, Chris Mullen, Vickie Cawthra*

MEMBERS ABSENT: *Alaina Hall, Mike Stepp*

ALSO PRESENT: *Lisa Scroggins, Executive Director
Kate Mutch, Assistant Director
Greta Lehnerz, Business Manager/Human Resources
Megan Bratton, PR/Marketing Manager
Dave North, Natrona County Commissioner
Beth Worthen, Library Foundation
Sherri Good, Friends of the Library*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 13, 2021 MEETING

It was moved to approve and file the minutes from the October 13, 2021 meeting. (Mullen/Cawthra); motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

It was moved to approve the Financial Report and payments for October 2021 bills. (Cawthra/Mullen); motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner North reported the county will have to figure out how to proceed with and pay for the waterline in Midwest/Edgerton as the 6th cent ballot initiative failed. He also reported sales tax revenues are up.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director reported she and Kate Mutch will be attending the Library Journal's Design Institute Virtual Workshop on November 30th. As part of this, sponsoring architectural firms partner with 4 - 6 libraries on potential projects which are then presented as breakout sessions at the workshop. As part of the registration process, attendees identify any potential projects they may have in the next few years, including new construction, expansion, or renovation. NCL has been selected as one of the "Challenge Projects" with the possibility for a new library project in the coming years. We met with an architect and agreed to focus on "Emerging Library Trends" as the starting point for our challenge project.

There will be a "Public Open House" drop-in event on November 19 from 10 am- 12 pm in the Creation Station to bid Conrrado Saldivar farewell.

The Director also reported We Read is dissolving. The final act of this public/private partnership between Casper Star Tribune, Natrona County Library and Natrona County School District will be to address literacy as a community value. The various committees are exploring the best avenue of action for this goal. With a mission of improving graduation rates in Natrona County, We Read launched in 2010 with two goals: 1. All NC students will read at or above grade level by the end of 3rd grade; and 2. Establish literacy as a core community value in NC.

The Director thanked Commissioner North and the BOCC for approving a new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) benefit for all employees.

With consent from Commissioner North, the Director sent a letter of intent to Renny MacKay concerning capital projects funds that may be available through the State.

The Director discussed the attacks on libraries including the issues at Campbell County. ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom has said that in September 2021 they saw a 60% increase in challenges, and notes there is "a growing number of challenges to materials written by minority or LGBTQ authors, or books that reflect the experiences of marginalized groups." They note that social media may play a role in this. Particular titles are selected for challenges and then "it goes viral, for lack of a better phrase." Building library advocates is more important now, than ever. She informed the Board the Wyoming Library Association is in negotiation with EveryLibrary to launch a state-wide advocacy campaign in support of libraries and Intellectual Freedom. From this we hope to gain advocates across the state, and hope to be ready should NCL be faced with multiple challenges.

FRIENDS REPORT

Lisa Scroggins and Chris Mullen reported on the Friends meeting they attended in October. Scroggins proposed that in addition to the book sale volunteers, the FOL add a paid membership opportunity as a way to build a group of local library advocates. The Friends are reluctant to follow the suggestion at this time.

Sherri Good invited the Board to the annual Library staff appreciation event on December 1 from 1:30 - 3:30 am. The winter booksale is December 2 – 4th.

Chris Mullen will attend the November 17 Friends Board meeting.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Beth Worthen reported the appeal letter has been sent out.

Mike Stepp and Chris Mullen will attend the November 16 Foundation Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board discussed the Rules for Public Comments Policy. It was moved to accept the policy as presented. (Mullen/Cawthra); motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed a patron final appeal of trespass/ban. It was moved to deny the appeal for reinstatement. (Mullen/Cawthra); motion carried.

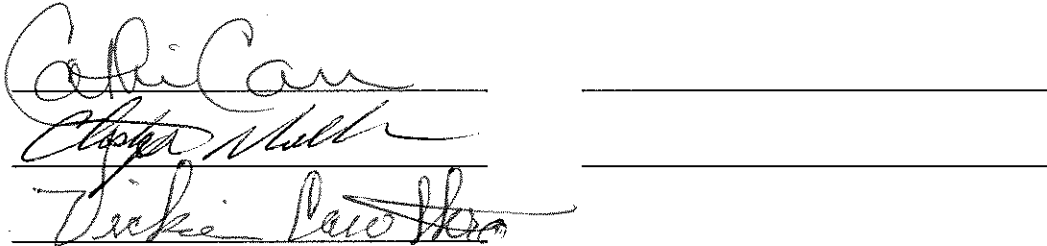
EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved to go into Executive Session at 12:51 pm to discuss personnel pursuant to Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(x)(i) (Mullen/Cawthra); motion carried.

It was moved to come out of Executive Session at 1:04 pm. (Cawthra/Mullen); motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 pm. (Mullen/Cawthra); motion carried.


Cathi Can _____
Christopher Mullen _____
Trishie Cawthra _____