

# **MAHOMET PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## **REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING April 14, 2025, 6:15PM AT THE LIBRARY**

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**Members Present:** Kevin Kelsey, Scott Schaumann, Mike Cunningham, Carrie Heimann, Kristen Streeter, Stevi Stutzman, John Howard

**Not Present:** Susie Baker

**Also Present:** Melissa Dailey, Kate Smith, Ashley Elson

Kevin Kelsey opened the meeting by reading the library's mission statement: "Together we create a welcoming community that empowers everyone to learn, connect, create, and grow."

### **Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2025**

Kristen Streeter moved to approve the minutes for March 10, 2025. Scott Schaumann seconded. The motion passed unanimously. There was no discussion.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **A. Financial Report for March 2025**

Scott Schaumann moved to approve the financial report for March 2025. Kristen Streeter seconded. Roll call vote; all trustees voted in favor of the motion. There was no discussion.

#### **B. Check Register for March 2025**

Kristen Streeter moved to approve the check register for March 2025. Scott Schaumann seconded. Roll call vote; all trustees voted in favor of the motion.

Carrie Heimann asked what MCS office tech was for \$3,000. John Howard said it was due to two new computers. Scott Schaumann asked if the library has a computer replacement schedule and John said yes. Scott asked how many years and John said about five years. Kevin Kelsey asked why the new computers so soon. John Howard said it was because using Canva on Chrome on those specific computers was impossible. Canva is one of the most important services we use for marketing and signage.

John Howard noted that it took a long time for Project 47 to bill the library from the mystery dinner.

### **Director's Report for March**

John Howard started with the statistics. Young adult usage quadrupled, adult circulation increased 10%, and digital is up 20%-30%. He assumed this was due to March having good weather. John commented that there are usually 50 to 60 notaries a month right now. Scott Schaumann suggested supplementing the digital stats into the statistics, this way the board could see the numbers broken down since digital is becoming a larger piece. Kristen Streeter said this would help looking at the expenses for specific categories such as Hoopla, to make important financial decisions.

John Howard then talked about overdrive statistics. We spent \$17,000 in 2024 and the library is a net "loaner," providing nearly 9,000 more checkouts of eBooks to patrons from other libraries than vice versa. The library is able to provide for other libraries while they support us with physical books, where we are a net "borrower." The average checkout to Mahomet patrons costs us \$0.83, while including checkouts from patrons of other libraries brings our overall cost per circ of Overdrive materials to just \$0.59. The library is fortunate to have more funding than other small libraries, so it is a privilege to share. Kevin Kelsey added that we have the finances to support and help others. Carrie Heimann said that this is useful for budgeting.

Mike Cunningham asked how much faxing is at the library and John Howard said it is free. Mike was curious due to the note in the Director's Report that Leah had helped a patron for three hours with faxing.

### **Audience Comments – None**

### **Committee Reports - None**

### **Unfinished Business – None**

### **New Business**

#### **A. Approval of Contract with CLA for Audit**

Carrie Heimann moved to approve the contract with CLA for audit. Mike Cunningham seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

John Howard recommended using the same auditors for the upcoming year for \$17,000 because they know how the library works. Scott Schaumann asked if the state has any restrictions on using the same auditors for a period of time. Kevin Kelsey said no and it is cheaper.

## **B. Special Meeting to Discuss Expansion Plans**

John Howard said that there will be a study session meeting to discuss alternative ways to handle the expansion if the library does not receive the state construction grant. This will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm.

## **C. Election Results and Timetable for New Board Members**

John Howard said that all four people running for library board were voted to be elected. Sarah Miller had the highest votes. On the third Monday of May is when the new members will be officially on the board and the May meeting prior to that will be when they will be sworn into office. The board then discussed the details of the transition, including how signatures on checks will pan out. John Howard said that new members will need to complete orientation by June's board meeting. On behalf of the board, Kevin Kelsey sends his congratulations to the newly elected.

## **Strategic Plan Update**

John Howard said that the weather radio works well, the staff has been more proactive on continuous training, the policy book has been updated, and the surveys look good so far. He then mentioned that the plant swap was a great event that displays the "connect" in our library motto of "learn, create, connect and grow.". Scott Schaumann asked how many participated and John said about 30 to 50 people.

## **Board Advocacy**

### **A. Date for Ice Cream Social**

John Howard said that the Ice Cream Social event will be held on July 13<sup>th</sup> from 2pm – 4pm this year. Stevi Stutzman reminded the board that the library needs to purchase some heated scoops due to the difficulty last year.

## **Trustee Comments – None**

Mike Cunningham moved to open closed session. Kristen Streeter seconded. Closed session opened at 6:59pm.

## **CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Illinois Statutes ILCS 120/2(c)(1) in order to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.**

Mike Cunningham moved to provide John Howard with a \$35 monthly stipend to defray the cost of his personal cell phone. Kristen Streeter seconded. Roll call vote; vote was 5-1.

Mike Cunningham moved to provide John Howard with a 3% bonus to be paid in a lump sum. Kristen Streeter seconded. Roll call vote; all trustees voted in favor of the motion.

## **Adjournment**

Scott Schaumann moved to adjourn the meeting. Stevi Stutzman seconded; the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

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Respectfully Submitted by Ashley Elson, Library Clerk.