

MORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

February 14, 2023

The Morton Public Library District Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. Director Alissa Williams and Board members Turner, Gryl, Hilliard, Riesberg, and Thompson were present. Ropp and Keach were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES

The minutes from the December 14, 2022 Board Meeting were approved as submitted

(Board Member Ropp joined the meeting at 4:33 pm)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gryl presented the Treasurer's Report. **Gryl moved and Riesberg seconded to transfer \$200K from MCB ICS to Better Banks at a rate of 2.5%; and to purchase a CD at Better Banks at the rate of 4.41% in the amount of \$200K from the Special Reserve Fund, with Turner, Keach and Gryl as signors. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ropp moved and Hilliard seconded to pay the February bills as presented. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.

Turner moved and Ropp seconded to ratify the payment of the January bills. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Quarterly Budget Report for October through December 2022.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Williams reported on the 2022 Annual Circulation Data. While patron count is still down 43% as compared to pre-pandemic levels, circulation is only 7.6% lower than pre-pandemic data and shows a 7% gain over last year. When e-book circulation is considered, total circulation is down 4%. Circulation of children's material has increased over pre-pandemic levels, as has participation in Summer Reading.

The marketing plan has been completed and will be presented in March. The Library will observe its 100th anniversary in April of 2024, which may present opportunities for additional fundraising.

A FOIA request was made for correspondence related to meeting room requests. The library will be closed February 20-22 for a collection swap and rearrangement of materials. Township employees have volunteered to assist with moving the shelving units.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed the Local Government Efficiency Act Committee. Library employees will be asked to participate as community members and meetings will be scheduled at times adjacent to regular board meetings. The Board reviewed the Special Reserve Policy; no

changes were proposed. The Board reviewed the Investment of Public Funds Policy. Treasurer Gryl recommended no changes.

Gryl moved and Riesberg seconded to approval disposal of items listed. The motion carried unanimously.

Turner moved and Ropp seconded to approve the carpet repair proposal from Tazewell County Flooring. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.

Gryl moved and Thompson seconded to approve the Salary Benchmarking Project. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Hilliard brought forth community concerns conveyed to her regarding noise levels in the library. The concerns included that the children's area is near the study rooms and that some patrons engage in video conferencing or phone calls in public spaces. The Board discussed the fact that the Library is not a quiet library, though it does wish to offer quieter spaces for patrons seeking them. Patrons can ask library employees to intervene. The Board also discussed ways to "sound-proof" some areas.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather W. Thompson, Secretary

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 15th at 4:30 pm.