

MINUTES OF THE



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING via Zoom Video Conferencing
February 24, 2021**

Mary Herr called the regular board meeting of the Bay County Library System Board of Trustees to order at 5:34 p.m. on February 24, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom Video Conferencing in Bay City, Michigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was not recited due to the logistics of the meeting.

Roll Call: Sue Blondin, Don Carlyon, Mary Herr, and Paul Travis
Board Members Absent: Anne Harris
Others Present: Kevin Ayala, Trish Burns, and Janelle Coe

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS
None

MINUTES

Motion by P. Travis, seconded by S. Blondin, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2021, regular board meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0

BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by D. Carlyon, seconded by S. Blondin, to approve the bills payable as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0

PENAL FINE REPORT

K. Ayala reported January Penal Fines came in at \$16,902.91, under budget by \$1,097.09 for the month.

FINANCIAL REPORT

K. Ayala reported revenues for January were \$1,919,081.06, with the majority of revenue coming from Penal Fines and Property Taxes. There are no areas of concern to report.

Motion by P. Travis, seconded by D. Carlyon, to receive the Penal Fine and Financial Reports as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0

ADMINISTRATION REPORT – Trish Burns

Justice Read Grant – Helen Raica-Klotz, director of the Writing Center at SVSU and BCLS, wrote and received a grant for a Justice Library for Bay County. The Justice Library is a small library stocked with racial and social justice titles for community members to take, read, and bring back to the small library for others to read. A component of the grant also includes a community read and discussion. BCLS is working with this project to assist with deciding the community read title, acting as pick up points for community members to acquire a copy of the chosen title, and also to assist in the community discussion(s). We hope to be able to have one of the community discussions in the Word Art garden at Sage in late spring, dependent upon health restrictions.

Bay City Times Digital Resource - The BCLS Bay City Times digital newspaper archive has expanded through the year 1945. This gives cardholders online access to the years 1889-1945, including the historically important World War II years. Newspaper reporting has famously been called “the first rough draft of history” and historically, local newspapers were the internet + social media of their day. Bay County residents now have online access to decades of local news articles, photographs, illustrations, and advertisements.

Book boxes – Teen and Fiction Librarian Linda Smith suggested the idea several months ago to do “Teen Lit Loot Boxes” featuring a book, activities, and snacks that teens could pick up curbside. Those boxes have become so popular that we are starting the service for other ages. Early Bird Reader Bags will be available every month starting in March for grades K-2. Book boxes for Adults and for Tweens are in the planning stages to be rolled out over the next months.

State Library Budget – Governor Whitmer released her preliminary third state budget. Library funding is staying flat for 2021-22, which is better than expected. This is subject to change, but early indicators are positive. We assumed that state aid will decrease, but it may not be as dire as we thought.

Reopening – Based on the declining cases and positivity rates for COVID in our area, the library re-opened to the public on February 15th. That week was frigid and snowy and patrons continued to use curbside quite often, but numbers of patrons coming in to the buildings are growing. Patrons, as always, are thrilled to be able to come back in to the buildings and have shared that while they appreciated the curbside service, there is nothing like being able to come in and browse.

Motion by D. Carlyon, seconded by P. Travis, to receive the Administration Report as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance Committee – No report.
- B. Personnel Committee – No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Fine Free Libraries

Motion by D. Carlyon, seconded by P. Travis, to approve the recommendation from Administration to go fine free starting in April of 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bay Area Community Foundation Funds

Motion by S. Blondin, seconded by P. Travis, to approve the recommendation from Administration to keep \$5,000.00 in spendable for the Walter R. Vaughn Memorial Fund returning \$11,949.00 to the endowed portion and to keep \$7,5000 in spendable for the Bay County Library Designated Fund, returning \$10,249.00 to the endowed portion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No Public

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

T. Burns announced that Janelle Coe has made the decision to retire effective March 5, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by D. Carlyon, seconded by P. Travis, to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yes: Blondin, Carlyon, Herr, Travis

No: None

MOTION PASSED 4-0



Paul Travis
Secretary/Treasurer



Janelle Coe
Recording Secretary