

DIVIDE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING – March 29, 2023

Mr. Nelson called the meeting to order on Wednesday, March 29, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Board members present: Nate Nelson, Rita Stewart, Carol Williams, Commissioner Isaac Jacobs, and Library Director Traci Lund. Marissa Ratcliffe was absent.

Minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting were read. Motion made by Mr. Jacobs to approve the meeting minutes. Seconded by Ms. Stewart. Motion passed.

Financials were presented. This year is looking good and not much has been spent. The library has received book grants.

Librarian's Report: North Dakota State Legislature is in session. The two bills affecting libraries are HB1205 and SB2360. Ms. Lund said HB1205 would be the least detrimental to libraries. It requires the Miller test to select books, which the library already uses. There were amendments voted on today. SB2360 has a misdemeanor charge in it.

A library open house was held to acquaint the public with how the library is set up, how books are chosen, and the review process. The public has expressed positive support for the library and staff through phone calls, notes, and visits.

The librarian's new laptop has arrived and is all set up. The library is exploring email options. The current email is through NCC and it was never meant to be a business email and has limited space. Going through the state for a nd.gov one has been looked into, but Ms. Lund said that doesn't seem to be a possibility either.

Old Business: ND State Library Grant – Local History – The movies at Dakota Theater went amazingly well. There were big crowds. It was good for the theater. People have been checking out the DVDs from the library and watching them on YouTube.

State Collection Development Grant – Received \$2000 grant. \$665 went towards Libby, the online library site, and the rest will be split to purchase large print and juvenile books. The large print section was weeded as well.

Employees – Vonni Anderson has been hired to be fulltime. She plans to start working in the library after the school year ends. Becky Knudson was hired to work part-time. Recently, she has been working a couple of mornings a week. Denise Benson has also been helping by coming in to cover books.

New Business: Annual Report – 2022 was a great year. Computer usage and visitors were up.

Legal Representation to Challenge Censorship Laws – Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher is a law firm that so far 47 individuals and 20 cities in North Dakota have signed up to represent them if HB1205 and/or SB2360 are passed. The Board discussed drafting a resolution in opposition to SB2360 and HB1205. Ms. Lund will ask Mr. Seymour Jordan, the county attorney, to draft resolutions against both bills.

Operations Policy was reviewed. Ms. Lund said she sent both the former and new policy to the state library and they told her it says what it needs to say. The new policy is more specific. Mr. Nelson and Mr. Jacobs expressed support for the more specific, new policy. Motion to adopt new operations policy was made by Ms. Williams. Seconded by Ms. Stewart. Motion passed with all present in favor.