

Marion County Library
September 16, 2024
5:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Present: Peggy Pentkowski (Vice Chair), Megan Lynch (Secretary), Amy Brown (Treasurer), Linda Ramos (Chair), Dana Scott (Director)

Excused Absent: n/a

Scheduled Speakers: FOMCL Debra Meyer was scheduled to speak, but was not in attendance. Ms. Scott provided the FOMCL update.

Public Comments: Claudia Brigham requested to change her public comment from this month to next month.

Minutes: The August minutes were approved as edited.

Chair: The Chair's Report will be filed with the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was submitted and will be filed for audit.

Unfinished Business:

Bylaws update

Ms. Pentkowski moved to approve the bylaws as edited. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Director: The Director's Report will be filed with the minutes.

Ms. Brown moved to accept Robertson's bid to update the lighting. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

FILED FOR RECORD
at 8 o'clock A M

OCT 28 2024

Dawn Moffet
Marion County Clerk
D.C.

Marion County Library

September 16, 2024

5:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Ms. Pentkowski moved to accept the parking lot bid as proposed. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Ms. Brown moved to accept the DH Glass bid to fix the door with a maximum amount of \$2000. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

New Business:

Attorney

- It has been advised that it is good practice for the Library to have an attorney that can advise on any issues that may come up. The Library Director has received a quote from one local attorney, but will reach out to get additional quotes.

Current Year Budget Review

- Current Year Budget Adjustments – There are no current year budget adjustments.

Next Year's Budget

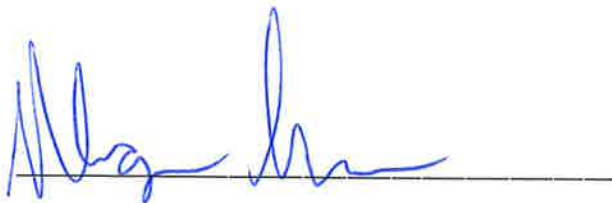
Ms. Brown moved to accept the 2025 budget for operations. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Ms. Pentkowski moved to keep 3088 as the budgeted amount. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Ms. Brown moved to accept the 2025 budget for salary line items. Motion duly seconded and unanimously approved.

Non-Agenda Items: n/a

Meeting Adjourned at 6:23 PM.



Secretary for the Board

Marion County Library Board Chair Report – Sept 16, 2024

Chair's Report

- A. Accepted resignation of Alesia Owens
- B. The Board and Director have received and responded to 14 FOIA requests as of the last Board meeting. The Chair gave brief explanation of the parameters included in a FOIA request.
- C. Letter to the Editor – According to the Board Code of Conduct, Section B Communications B.1.a.2 an electronic vote may be taken and results noted in the minutes for the next Board meeting. There were three in favor and one opposed. The email vote is filed with the minutes.
- D. Discussed how the Board would like to see the response to FOIA requests. The Board members will be copied on the responses.
- E. Discussed attendance at Budget and Quorum Court meetings. The Board is encouraged to attend but attendance is a private citizen.



Linda Ramos

Marion County Library Board Chair



LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted to the Administrative Board of Trustees

September 16, 2024

Dana E. Scott

Library Updates

- Door Lettering
 - Reminding that we are waiting until door is fixed or replaced
- Door Quotes
 - D&H
- Flooring issue
 - Possible “glue down” issue
- Electric
 - Robertson
- Parking Lot
 - Madden
- Survey
 - Worked with the following to find property lines:
 - Jones PT
 - Title Company/Bobby Woods
 - Davenport Realty

FOIA

- Received and answered fourteen (14) FOIA requests since the Aug Board Meeting.

Programs & Services

- Current
 - Loom Knitting
 - Bite into Books
 - Teen Entertainment
 - Board Gaming Grannies
 - Game Night
 - Virtual Gaming
 - Afternoon Gaming for the Littles, Tweens, and Teens



LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted to the Administrative Board of Trustees

September 16, 2024

Dana E. Scott

- Upcoming Events
 - The Library Bites into, Games, Books, Crafts
 - Spooky Party on October 31
 - Give Thanks on November 27
 - Teens Invade in the Fall
 - Active Shooter in Oct
 - Fire Drill this Fall

Director's Updates

- Director's Summit food & mileage
- Camera for videos for YouTube
- Junior Library Guild
- Bentonville Furniture
- Phillip Howerton Author Party

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dana E. Scott", written over a horizontal line.

Dana E. Scott, Library Director

Letter to the Mountaineer Echo

5 messages

Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com> Sun, Sep 1, 2024 at 3:56 PM
To: Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com>, Peggy Pentkowski <peggyboardmember@gmail.com>, Amy Brown <amyboardmember@gmail.com>, Meg Lynch <megan.MClibraryboard@gmail.com>
Bcc: Dana Scott <dana.librarydirector@gmail.com>

Board,
Please find attached a letter I would like to submit to the Mountaineer Echo on behalf of the Marion County Library Board for publication this week..

As you are aware the Library Board has been under attack for many years. I am hopeful by informing the citizens of Mario County about the Board's role in the library, we may clear up some misconceptions.

I am asking for an electronic vote since time is of the essence.
Please vote Yes or No and reply all in response to posting this letter.
I need your response by no later than 10:00 AM on Monday Sept 4, 2023.
We will follow up with an in person vote at our next meeting.

Thank you,
Linda Ramos
Chair, Marion County Library Board

 **Letter to the Echo Sept 2024.docx**
29K

Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com> Sun, Sep 1, 2024 at 3:59 PM
To: Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com>, Peggy Pentkowski <peggyboardmember@gmail.com>, Amy Brown <amyboardmember@gmail.com>, Meg Lynch <megan.MClibraryboard@gmail.com>

Yes
Linda Ramos
[Quoted text hidden]

Amy Brown <amyboardmember@gmail.com> Sun, Sep 1, 2024 at 4:14 PM
To: Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com>
Cc: Peggy Pentkowski <peggyboardmember@gmail.com>, Meg Lynch <megan.MClibraryboard@gmail.com>

I vote yes.
[Quoted text hidden]

Megan Lynch <megan.mclibraryboard@gmail.com> Mon, Sep 2, 2024 at 9:29 AM
To: Amy Brown <amyboardmember@gmail.com>
Cc: Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com>, Peggy Pentkowski <peggyboardmember@gmail.com>

I think in light of the ongoing investigation we should hold off until we have more information about what has been happening, so I vote no.
[Quoted text hidden]

Linda R <lramosboardmember@gmail.com> Mon, Sep 2, 2024 at 9:53 AM
To: Megan Lynch <megan.mclibraryboard@gmail.com>
Cc: Amy Brown <amyboardmember@gmail.com>, Peggy Pentkowski <peggyboardmember@gmail.com>
Bcc: Dana Scott <dana.librarydirector@gmail.com>

To summarize, 3 of the Board members voted Yes to send the letter to the Echo and 1 Board member voted No. With the vacancy, the quorum remains at 3 so the letter will be sent to the Echo.

Thank you all for your consideration.

Linda Ramos

[Quoted text hidden]

WE HAVE AN AWESOME LITTLE LIBRARY

To the people of Marion County:

When you come to the Marion County Library, you are greeted by a friendly, knowledgeable, welcoming staff. The Library Director ensures that the library operates according to the principles set forth by the Arkansas State Library.

Did you know there are others that are working behind the scenes? The Marion County Library Board's main responsibility is the oversight and support of the library. This Board is made up of members that are passionate about the library and the interaction with the community and strive to maintain the trust and confidence of those whom we serve.

Did you know the Board has a direct impact on how the library functions? According to the Arkansas State Library, the Board is responsible for creating policies for the library's operation. The policies are reviewed on a regular basis, discussed, modified if needed and approved by the Board. All the policies are posted on the Marion County Library Website.

Did you know that the Board has a significant financial responsibility? The Board has at all times access to the current state of the library's financials. With the monthly review of these accounts, the Board is able to determine if any misappropriation of funds is occurring. The Board, along with the Director, work diligently to ensure adherence to the county budget.

Another function of the Board is to hire and evaluate a Library Director. The Board is tasked with deciding if the Library Director should have a raise based on performance. For the past three years, the Board has recommended a raise for the Director but has been refused by the Quorum Court of Marion County. In some cases, the justification for the raise was not allowed to be discussed at the budget committee. The Board will continue to pursue the appropriate use of funds for this purpose.

Did you know the Board operates by motions, discussion and voting? In order for the Board to take action, the Board members must concur; therefore, it is critical that Board members be qualified, devoted to the library and willing to discuss openly.

In conclusion:

The Marion County Library Director and Library Board has been under attack for many years. Many of these attacks come from those not fully informed of the facts. One such case in point is the Work From Home Policy. At the January 12, 2023 meeting, JPs attended and asked the Board and Director to create a Work from Home Policy which they did.

We encourage the citizens of Marion County to reach out to the Library Board and the Library Director with concerns or questions. The library strives to be a welcoming place for reading, fun and lifelong long learning.

We believe we have a "Tiny But Mighty Awesome Little Library"

The Marion County Library Board
Linda Ramos – Board Chair
Peggy Pentkowski – Board Vice-Chair
Amy Brown - Treasurer
Megan Lynch – Secretary