

Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
William F. Laman Public Library  
Regular Meeting - Via Zoom  
Monday, April 18, 2022 @ 5:30 PM

The Board met via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. Ms. McLean called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Those present were Ms. Crystal Gates, Executive Director; Ms. Valerie McLean, President; Mr. Charley Baxter; Ms. Joyce Brewer; Ms. Esther Crawford; Ms. Kim Drake; Ms. Katie Phippin; and Mr. Sonny Rhodes. Also present: Mr. Adam Branscum, Mr. Richard Theilig, Ms. Stacy Purdy, and Ms. Robin Campbell. There were no public comments.

Motion Mr. Rhodes, second Ms. Crawford to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed the Financial Report. Motion Ms. Drake, second Mr. Rhodes to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates presented the Statistical Report. Motion Ms. Crawford, second Mr. Baxter to approve the Statistical Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed the Director's Report, including her PTO and recent meeting schedule. Ms. Gates expressed her thanks for cancelling the March meeting due to a death in her family. Ms. Gates reported an increase in the cost of the mobile branch due to supply chain issues and inflation. The increase was more than she was willing to approve without updating the Board and requesting their approval prior to signing a contract. The total price is approximately \$419,000.00. She has requested partial funds for the purchase through the ARPA grant request with the State Library. There is no guarantee that the funds will be allocated, but she is hopeful they will. The other requested items from that potential allocation are touchless water fountains and book lockers to allow for after-hours access to materials. In addition to requesting these funds, Ms. Gates is exploring other funding opportunities for the mobile branch. Motion Mr. Baxter, second Mr. Rhodes to authorize Ms. Gates to move forward with the purchase of the mobile branch and to seek additional funding sources for that purchase. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Gates reviewed the approximate cost of the potential administrative building, and advised against the addition due to the cost. At the current time, she advised focusing on staff expenses and increased costs of materials and services. All present agreed that taking on the additional facility is not in the best interests of the library at this time.

Motion Ms. Drake, second Ms. Crawford to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel. Motion carried unanimously. Motion Ms. Crawford, second Mr. Rhodes to exit Executive Session with no action taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rhodes announced that he will not be at the next meeting. The next regular meeting will be Monday, May 16, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom.

With no further business to discuss, motion Mr. Baxter, second Mr. Rhodes to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Crystal Gates, Secretary