



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Session Minutes
Monday, March 18, 2024
5:00 p.m.
Centennial Park Library
2227 23rd Avenue, Greeley, CO 80631

1.0 OPENING OF MEETING AT 5:01PM

1.1 Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

All were Present unless noted:

Chair Mary Heberlee

Vice-Chair Joyce Smock

Secretary/Treasurer Nick Nakamura

Trustee Deana Lemos-Garcia was excused

Trustee Teresa Nuñez attended online and arrived at 5:08 due to technical difficulties

Trustee Gerri Holton

Trustee Michael Wailes attended online

Quorum was established.

Legal Counsel William Garcia

HPLD Staff: Dr. Matthew Hортt, Natalie Wertz, Rick Medrano, Niamh Mercer, and Kim Parker

Guest: Quentin Rockwell

Chair Mary Heberlee read the following statement into record:

High Plains Library District is dependent on the trust of its community to successfully achieve its mission. Therefore, it is crucial that all Trustees conduct business on behalf of the High Plains Library District with the highest level of integrity, truth, and honor, avoiding any impropriety or the appearance of impropriety.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve the agenda: Vice-Chair Joyce Smock

SECOND: Secretary/Treasurer Nick Nakamura

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4:0

1.3 Approval of Consent Agenda

a. February 19, 2024 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

b. March 4, 2024 Special Session Meeting Minutes

MOTION to approve the February 19, 2024 RS Meeting Minutes: Trustee Gerri Holton

SECOND: Secretary/Treasurer Nick Nakamura

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4:0

MOTION to approve the March 4, 2024 SS Meeting Minutes: Vice-Chair Joyce Smock

SECOND: Trustee Gerri Holton

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4:0

1.4 The Good We Do

Matt introduced Andromeda D'Angelo Stanfield, HPLD Events and Experiences Librarian, who showed a video of staff working some of the events that the Events and Experiences staff participated in last year. She shared that the events took place all around the District, including Erie and Mead.

1.5 Public Comment

No Public Comment

2.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ACTION

2.1 Miner's Park Urban Renewal Area Proposal – Town of Frederick (Action) - Dr. Matthew Hortt, HPLD Executive Director, and Legal Counsel William Garcia

The Town of Frederick is proposing a special taxing district to develop an Urban Renew Area (URA) and is asking that HPLD forego the mill levy tax revenue from that area for the first twenty-five years, which would total around \$3,000,000. The Finance Committee recommends negotiating a 50/50 split of the tax revenues. Legal Counsel Garcia suggested that if the Board is leaning toward not participating in the proposed IGA, they may invite the Town to an HPLD Board meeting to discuss the topic.

Discussion from the Board ensued, and it was proposed that a 10-year term be offered. In the end, the Board's direction was to open negotiations, as articulated below:

BOARD DIRECTION: Open Negotiations for a 50/50 split in tax revenues for ten years, with options for renewal every five years up to twenty-five years, plus real estate if they want a library.

2.2 DSS Expansion and Archive Construction Budget (Action) - Dr. Matthew Hortt, HPLD Executive Director

When discussions started on the DSS expansion, \$10,000,000 was earmarked. Now, after incorporating the five-year plan design, the construction costs come to between \$14,000,000 and \$15,000,000, for a total cost of \$20,000,000 to \$21,200,000. The large range in costs comes from unknowns in water drainage. Dr. Hortt recommended that the Board approve the updated budget range. After Board and staff discussion, the following motion was made.

MOTION to approve an updated DSS Expansion and Archive Budget of \$20,000,000:

Vice-Chair Joyce Smock

SECOND: Secretary/Treasurer Nick Nakamura

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4:1

2.3 Legislative Update (Information) - Dr. Matthew Hortt, HPLD Executive Director

With Colorado Legislature being in session again, Dr. Hortt touched on six state bills that pertain to libraries: House Bills 1124 and 1205, and Senate Bills 041, 049, 070, and 084.

For Information Only – No action is needed

- 2.4 HPLD/Member Libraries Service Options Discussion (Action) - Dr. Matthew Hortt, HPLD Executive Director, & Legal Counsel William Garcia

Dr. Hortt explained that there has been some turnover in Member Library Directors since the agreement and signing of the most recent Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the District and Member Libraries in 2020. With this change, District Staff have received multiple requests to consider sharing more of the tax revenue in the way of reimbursements for equipment and using cost accounting that is reviewed by a third-party mediator. Because of this, staff have analyzed and are proposing various options for the Board to consider and then give direction to Staff.

The topic was discussed in detail, and in the end the following Board Direction was given:

BOARD DIRECTION is to stick with the current processes; bring together the Member and Branch Library Boards and Directors, an Establishing Body member, and Legal Counsel Bill Garcia to discuss this; and work on the small issues.

- 2.5 Auditors Communication to the Board (Information) – Natalie Wertz, HPLD Finance Manager
Natalie Wertz presented a letter that Alanna Moses of Anderson & Whitney, HPLD’s auditors, had sent for the Board. The letter let them know that they have a direct line of communication to the auditors and explained some of the audit processes.

For Information Only – No action is needed

3.0 DIRECTORS REPORT

- 3.1 Review Draft Agenda – Dr. Matthew Hortt, HPLD Executive Director
a. April 15, 2024 RS
- 3.2 District Updates – Dr. Matthew Hortt, HPLD Executive Director
NOCO Style Magazine highlighted LINC in their April edition.

The March 15th edition of the *Greeley Tribune* highlighted the Centennial Park Library refresh on the front page.

Dirt work has started at Grover, and Dr. Hortt, Chair Mary Heberlee and Vice-Chair Smock went out there last week.

The *Request for Proposal* for the Carbon Valley Regional Library and Farr Regional Library remodels has been released.

The Town of Lochbuie has made amendments to their complaint. They added Keenesburg and Weld County Government to the list of interested parties and did some wordsmithing.

The District has been using GlowForge laser cutters, and the company appears to be having some issues recently. Therefore, the Creative Technology team is looking at other options and may change providers.

HPLD received two annexation notices for the Johnstown service area, but they seem to be in Larimer County. Staff will review them with Legal Counsel.

Dr. Hortt will travel to Washington D.C. over the weekend for the National Workforce Development Board Meeting and will return next Tuesday evening.

4.0 BOARD COMMENTS

- 4.1 Chair Mary Heberlee went to Grover and still feels like it's something that we need to do to keep progressing, even though it hurts financially. She also thinks we can legitimately solve **the** problems.
- 4.2 Vice-Chair Joyce Smock said construction starting early in Grover is exciting because it may be completed early. She's glad we are being proactive with these projects. We are on the right track.
- 4.3 Secretary/Treasurer Nick Nakamura reported that the Finance Committee instructed Natalie to move \$10,000,000 of \$11,000,000 into an interest-bearing account to hedge against possible upcoming interest rate cuts. They are watching an under-performing fund and will reinvest when it gets to \$10.00 per share.
Colorado Mercy of Mission (COMOM) has announced that this year's event will be held on September 27 and 28 in Thornton. He appreciates the libraries for advertising the event when it's time to do so.
He also attended the ribbon cutting at Centennial Park Library. It's a fantastic building, and he's glad we continue to refresh our facilities to keep them current.
Finally, he heard from a constituent how much the Colorado Early Literacy orange bags are appreciated.
- 4.4 Other Board Members
Trustee Teresa Nuñez appreciates Matt for his research on the Member Libraries and how we can best work with them.

Trustee Gerri Holton is glad she is part of two great organizations that she loves.

Trustee Michael Wailes was at the State Capital for a legislative session and got to hear discussion on some of the proposed bills that may affect libraries.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT AT 7:27PM

There being no further business,

MOTION to adjourn the meeting: Trustee Gerri Holton

SECOND: Vice-Chair Joyce Smock

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 5:0

Upcoming meetings:

April 15, 2024 at 5:00p.m.: HPLD Board of Directors Meeting - Regular Session
LINC Library Innovation Center, 501 8th Avenue, Greeley, CO 80631

Nick Nakamura

HPLD Board Secretary/Treasurer
Nick Nakamura

Kim Parker

Recording Secretary
Kim Parker