

10 E. Chicago St.
Coldwater, MI 49036

BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY SYSTEM

BOARD MINUTES
APRIL 15, 1996
CENTRAL LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
5:00 p.m.

PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL

Jeanne Berg, Carol Brown, Marcia Carman, Richard Sharland, John Swanson, and Director Mary Hutchins.

ABSENT

Jeanne Unterkircher and Marilyn Ashdown (both excused).

ALSO PRESENT

Linda Johnson, Quincy Branch Manager.

APPROVE AGENDA

Berg moved, seconded by Brown, to approve the Agenda. Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Swanson moved, seconded by Carman, to approve the Minutes of the March 18, 1996 Board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The name of our AT&T phone service has been changed to Lucent Technologies. This is a corporate structure change only.
2. Certificate of Insurance received from Braman Roofing.
3. Jim Seidl has notified us that there is a proposal to raise state aid by 1 cent from 45 cents to 46 cents per capita. This may or may not be approved.
- 4 . MLA sponsored meetings (on operating district libraries) at Howell Carnegie District Library are set : Sharland & Hutchins will attend April 25; Brown or Berg & Hutchins, May 23; Ashdown & Hutchins, June 13.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

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FINANCES

1. Approval of bills: Berg moved, seconded by Carman to approve bills. Carried.
2. Financial Statement: Rumsey & Watkins sent no Financial Statement because the penal fine report was not received by them. However, the budget comparison study was available.

PENDING BUSINESS

1. Chamber of Commerce proposal to expand the Internet: Motion by Swanson, seconded by Berg, to approve the Installment Purchase Agreement between the BDLS and the Chamber. Carried.
2. Building maintenance: An estimate from Bob Perez Construction, Hartford, MI, was received for exterior painting of both sections of the library and the restoration of the front porch. Hutchins will get other bids. The Sunrise Rotary/Friends of the Library garden project adjacent to the library building, is on hold until the Board decides on this maintenance.
3. Strategic Planning: The Board will meet at a different library location each month, starting in May at Union City, to hold an informal public discussion on Strategic Planning, preceded by the regular Board meeting. The Board meeting will be from 5-7 p.m and the public hearing, from 7-8 p.m.
4. Liaison Reports:
 - a. Coldwater Public Library: Randall Hazelbacker has been suggested to replace Donna Baker on the CPL Advisory Board.
 - b. Bronson: Carole Maddox has been able to come to Central to help with technical services barcoding.
 - c. Quincy: A Portage firm remodeling estimate was received.
- The Quincy Rotary Raffle on April 19 will go to the Quincy Library. - The Board's approval of a temporary plan whereby the automated branches send a person to Central to help on the computer system backlog, is a source of concern. The branches are having to balance their own needs with those of the system.
 - d. Union: Strategic Planning discussed.
 - e. Sherwood: Will be getting a listed telephone number.
 - f. Algansee: Status quo.
5. Director's Report:
 - a. "Log On At the Library Day" to celebrate National Library Week throughout the nation will be held at Central on April 16.
 - b. Theme of Summer Reading Program is "Colorful World Of Library Kids".
 - c. Literacy fund -low on funds for a dire need in this county.

-con'd.

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d. Penal fines will likely be further eroded as townships enact "parallel ordinances", thus removing the District Court's jurisdiction which allocates penal fines to libraries.

e. Blue Cross/Blue Shield has been so inept that Director Hutchins has contacted a MLA insurance carrier.

f. The Dr. Suess Birthday Story Program was wonderful.

g. The furnace (installed in 1978) has been out for two weeks. The original company and second company are out of business. Since furnace contractor, Kirk Skinner, has been out of town, his assistant has been working on the problem.

h. We have had technical problems with the reference copy machine.

i. Amy Harmon's vacation has been delayed due to work load.

j. Employment & Training Council meetings are being held at Central, bringing good contacts.

k. The Branch County Economic Growth Alliance has three library people on its Planned Growth Committee: Jeanne Berg, John Swanson and Director Mary Hutchins. This involvement is resulting in valuable contacts for the library system.

l. Overdues are still a big problem. When the computer system is complete, we will be able to catch more of the repeat offenders.

m. We had some problems this winter with the current snow-plowing contractor. Next year we may want to contract with the county.

n. Hutchins will be on vacation Friday, April 19 and Monday, April 22.

o. The Internet is proving an excellent source of reference answers, especially regarding Supreme Court cases and other timely information.

p. The book budget is a major problem. The backbone of the collection is being eroded. We need to provide the necessary expenses out of other funds instead of reducing the book line item to balance the budget.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Summer evening schedule: Berg moved, seconded by Carman, to adopt the summer evening schedule. Carried. Summer hours will commence Tuesday, June 4, and run through Monday, Sept. 2.

2. Setting new rates for Internet: Berg moved, seconded by Brown, to adopt the new rates for Internet starting May 1, 1996: \$60. for 6 months; \$96. for one year. Carried.

3. Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for April 29, 1996, at 7:30 a.m.

4. BISD/BDLS grant: Berg moved, Swanson seconded, to endorse BDLS participation in Telecommunications & Information Infrastructure Assistance Program. Carried.

-con'd.

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EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Johnson expressed support for the computer system and the usefulness of the statistics it provides. She is concerned about getting caught up on Quincy library work while recognizing that the system needs completing and that the contribution of the branches to that effort is needed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Submitted by:

Mary Hultman for Carol Brown
Carol Brown, Board Secretary

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