Scenic Regional Library
Board Minutes – August 26, 2025

Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees met at the Scenic Regional Library Union Branch on August 26, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Board President Kathi Ham presided at the meeting. Board members attending the meeting were John Barry, John Cheatham, Sarah Rothermich, Laura Hengstenberg, Martha Lindsley, Carla Robertson, Karen Holtmeyer, Jennifer Schwentker, Joy Dufrain and Susan Richardson. Board members Bob Niebruegge and Linda Andrae were absent.

Library Director Steven Campbell, Assistant Library Director Megan Maurer, Associate Director of Business and Human Resources Kjersti Merseal, Administrative Assistant Bree Hendrickson, Nick Kenny with MOSIP, and Thomas Ley with Cochran Engineering were also present.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. They were approved as presented.

Financial Report

Director Campbell stated that we are about 7% through the year. As the FY 2025-2026 just started, Director Campbell said there is not much to report.

John Barry made a motion to approve the financial report. Carla Robertson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried 11-0.

Reports:

Hermann Branch Re-Opening

Director Campbell informed the Board that the Hermann branch re-opened on Aug 25. He also stated that the temporary carpet in the entryway should be removed and the permanent carpet installed in the next week or so. The Gallery is not fully done but the rest of that carpet should arrive in a couple of weeks.

Self-Check Machines

Director Campbell stated that we have received the new self-check machines for the 7 branches that will be receiving them. They are being installed this week.

Unfinished Business:

Missouri Securities Investment Program (MOSIP) Presentation

Nick Kenny with MOSIP gave a brief presentation to the Board. MOSIP is a local government investment pool which allows entities to pool their money with other entities to get the best interest rate. Mr. Kenny explained to the Board that safety is their most important goal, along with liquidity and yield. Mr. Kenny went on to explain how MOSIP could benefit the library and all the ways it can be used. He also answered several questions that the Board asked him.

Martha Lindsley made a motion to proceed with the MOSIP MOU. Laura Hengstenberg seconded the motion. Ten Board members voted aye. Carla Robertson abstained. The motion carried 10-0 with one abstention.

Cochran Engineering Presentation- Hermann Storm Water Study

Thomas Ley with Cochran Engineering gave a brief presentation to the Board. Mr. Ley discussed with the Board the findings of the Hermann Storm Water Study and what their proposal was. They proposed to put in a new 3-foot storm pipe as a relief path to get the water away from the library. Mr. Ley went into explained to the Board the work that would be done to accomplish this. Director Campbell requested that the Board approved Cochran's recommendations.

John Barry made a motion to approve Cochran's proposal. Laura Hengstenberg seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried 11-0.

Personnel Policy Review

Director Campbell informed the Board that they were going to postpone the Personnel Policy review as the Library's employment attorney is currently reviewing it.

Request for Reconsideration

Director Campbell stated that there was a Request for Reconsideration received for a book, "Heartstopper, Vol.2," by Alice Oseman, on June 26. The Committee met on July 3 and ultimately decided 5-0 to keep the book in the collection. A letter was sent to the patron the same day.

Proposed Revision to the Collection Development Policy

Director Campbell said that at the June meeting, he presented a Request for Reconsideration on a book that had received a similar request six month earlier. In that meeting, he asked the Board's permission to no have the Reconsideration Committee meet to discuss the book, again. Instead, he asked that he draft a response letter based on the committee's previous discussion of the item. The Board agreed. Director Campbell also suggested that the Collection Development Policy be revised to codify this practice moving forward.

Carla Robertson made a motion to approve the Proposed Revision to the Collection Development Policy. Susan Richardson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried 11-0.

Flood Insurance

Director Campbell informed the Board that Ted Schroeder, the library's insurance broker, was only able to find one carrier that would provide flood insurance to the library: Philadelphia Insurance. However, they would not provide flood insurance for our Hermann or Pacific branches. Director Campbell was told that the Pacific branch was in the 500-year flood plain, which may be a factor. Director Campbell reached out to Ted Schroeder and asked him to find out more information about regarding the Pacific branch being in the 500-year flood plain. The cost to add flood insurance through Philadelphia Insurance for the other seven locations would be $32,667 annually. This would be in addition to the $29,746 annual premium for flood insurance for the Hermann branch through the National Flood Insurance Program. The Board decided to wait until Ted Schroeder could provide more information about the Pacific branch to decide.

New Business:

Tax Levy

A legal notice about the Library's annual tax levy hearing, as required by statute, appeared in the Missourian on August 20. The Library Board will consider the proposed property tax rate of $0.1837 per $100 of assessed valuation for Scenic Regional Library District, a consolidated library district and political subdivision, to generate revenue for the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2025.

John Barry made a motion to accept the proposed tax rate of $0.1837 per $100 of assessed valuation for Scenic Regional Library. Jennifer Schwentker seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried 11-0.

Missouri Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Policy Renewal

The Library Board's Conflict of Interest Policy will expire in September. Director Campbell stated that the policy must be re-approved by the Board of Trustees every two years. The policy prevents the Board members from having to complete individual conflict of interest paperwork each year for the Missouri Ethics Commission. Director Campbell recommended that the Library Board re-approve its Conflict of Interest Policy.

John Cheatham made a motion to re-approve the Conflict of Interest Policy. Joy Dufrain seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried 11-0.

New Vehicle-Award of Contract

Director Campbell informed the Board that he received bids from five dealerships for a new four-door sedan. Director Campbell recommended to the Board that they approve the bid for the 2025 Toyota Camry SE Hybrid from Straatmann Toyota ($31,999).

Joy Dufrain made a motion to award the bid for the 2025 Toyota Camry SE Hybrid to Straatmann Toyota. John Cheatham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried 11-0.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Kathi Ham adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm.

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Secretary

Approved:____

President, Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees

Date:____________________________