

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE  
BOARD MINUTES – Official  
Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.  
Kent District Library Service Center**

Present: Dale Parus, Karen McKinnon, John McNaughton, Diane Kooiker, Shirley Bruursema, Peggy Hemerling, Lance Werner

Absent: Maggie McKeithan, Ron Suszek

Staff Present: Carol Dawe, Sheryl VanderWagen, Amber McLain, Jeff Lezman

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Dale Parus. There were 22 additional participants.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Karen McKinnon, to approve the agenda as presented - *motion carried*.
- 3) **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS:** None
- 4) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
- 5) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Shirley Bruursema moved, supported by Lance Werner, to approve the board minutes from August 11, 2022, as presented – *motion carried*.
- 6) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**
  - a) August Financials and Check Register: Motion by Peggy Hemerling, supported by John McNaughton to approve the August financial report and check register as presented – *motion carried*.
- 7) **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** None
- 8) **COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Carol Dawe pointed out her written report. There were no additional questions. Carol discussed an article from a recent edition of the Harvard Business Review on dealing with turbulent times. She noted that in light of the Strategic Planning process, there is nothing wrong with “pie in the sky” ideas and in fact they are necessary for the process, and it is necessary to have these ideas expressed so that we have them in our back pockets and can easily introduce them at an appropriate time.
- 9) **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - a) Advisory Council Official Minutes – July 14, 2022, included in the packet for information
- 10) **NEW BUSINESS**
  - a) Elections Discussion – The Advisory Council elections will take place as specified in the new Plan of Service and Bylaws which the board will act on later in this meeting.
  - b) Membership Inquiry – The Benton Harbor Public Library has expressed an interest in joining Lakeland. Carol has had an initial meeting with their director. They are interested in joining the Lakeland Overdrive group, continuing education opportunities and advocacy. They have their own ILS and are not interested in delivery, they use RIDES. The board had several questions but agreed that staff should proceed with looking at membership requirements as set out in the Plan of Service and Bylaws, meeting with the Lakeland Overdrive group and to continue investigation of the feasibility. Carol and their director will continue the investigation and bring forward an action plan for both Lakeland and the library board for an upcoming meeting.
  - c) FY2021-2022 End of Year Budget Amendments – Motion by Lance Werner, supported by John McNaughton to approve the FY2021-2022 End of Year Budget Amendment #2 and the FY2021-2022 Pass Through Budget Amendment as presented – *motion carried*
  - d) FY2022-2023 Budgets – Motion by Lance Werner, supported by Karen McKinnon to approve the FY2022-2023 Budget package as presented – *motion carried*
  - e) Plan of Service Draft – The proposed Plan of Service was presented complete with the proposed Bylaws in Appendix B. There are also a few typos and minor changes to correct.

Motion by Lance Werner, supported by Peggy Hemerling to approve the Plan of Service as corrected – *motion carried*

**11) PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Matt Lubbers-Moore (SF) commented in regard to the Benton Harbor Public Library that their collection is quite outdated and may account for at least part of their low circulation numbers.

Kamey Howe (EC) thanked Sheryl VanderWagen for working out a situation where one of their patron records was updated accidentally by another library. The Cedar Springs patron record was able to be corrected without causing an issue with their patron. VanderWagen noted that the correction involved working with KDL Patron Services staff and she thanked them for their assistance.

Amy Stockwell (NW) asked whether the Benton Harbor situation could be resolved by adding the Southwest Cooperative to the Overdrive sharing project. Carol noted that Southwest would likely be one of the last groups to be added to Overdrive sharing so the timing would be off since Overdrive determines how the groups are added.

Stefanie Reed (MG) reported that the Flat River Community Library has a new notary public service for their patrons. They have had two staff members certified as Notary Publics.

**12) BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:**

- a) Lance Werner reported that recently 6 members of the Kent County Board of Commissioners have asked about book banning. KDL currently has 14 applicants for vacant library board positions.
- b) Karen McKinnon reported that the Leighton Township Library recently had a visit from author, Joe Grimm through the Michigan Humanities Council. They are also planning to participate in the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with Moline Township.
- c) Diane Kooiker reported that Herrick District Library launched its second book vending machine in Park Township. Herrick also dropped their Fax 24 service in favor of doing a free service provided through their copy machine vendor.
- d) Peggy Hemerling reported that the Hastings Public Library received two unsolicited donations to their window replacement project in the amounts of \$8000 and \$60,000.
- e) John McNaughton reported that the Grand Rapids Public Library staff recently ratified a new union contract. Their technology audit is ongoing, and they are working with their hold lockers located in various locations.

**13) NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, October 13, 2022, 9:30 a.m. at Kent District Library Service Center.

**14) ADJOURNMENT:** Peggy Hemerling moved, supported by John McNaughton to adjourn at 10:24 a.m. – *motion carried*.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Sheryl VanderWagen