

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
BOARD MINUTES – Unofficial
Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.
Kent District Library Service Center**

Present: Diane Kooiker (HO), Dale Parus (IC), Kerry Fountain (IS), Rob Bristow (OG), Maggie McKeithan (OS), Joe Zappacosta (SM), Ron Suszek (UM), Shirley Bruursema (KDL)
Lakeland Staff Present: Carol Dawe, Janet Cornell
Absent: Lance Werner (KDL), John McNaughton (GRPL)

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am. by Dale Parus.
 - a) Introduced New Members.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Rob Bristow moved, supported by Ron Suszek, to approve the agenda as presented - *motion carried*.
- 3) **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS:** There were no questions from members.
- 4) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Dale Parus congratulated Patmos and Kent District Libraries for their successful millage elections.
- 5) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Rob Bristow moved, supported by Ron Suszek, to approve the board minutes from October 12, 2023 – *motion carried*.
- 6) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**
 - a) October Financials and Check Register: Diane Kooiker moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to approve the October Financials as presented - *motion carried*.
- 7) **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**
 - a) None
- 8) **DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Carol Dawe reported on the following items -
 - a) Ann Langlois has officially started at Lakeland although she is back in Germany right now to tie up some moving issues. The staff met together to look at how and why we do things right now to see if there may be better ways of providing services or if we can eliminate things not needed.
 - b) Carol talked with Bibliocommons as they are also looking at different ways that they do business with large consortiums, so they can provide better service at a better price. We are the 2nd largest consortium they work with.
 - c) The financial audit is in the works and the state aid financials are done. The rest of the state aid report will be finished up this month. Carol asked Lakeland members to submit their state aid reports as soon as possible as well.
 - d) Patmos millage passed with a favorable rate of around 62 percent.
 - e) She is also working on standards and is focusing on the Newaygo County libraries right now.
- 9) **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - a) Advisory Council official minutes for October 12, 2023, included for informational purposes.
- 10) **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a) Board Officers Election – Kerry Fountain moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to accept the election slate as presented – motion passed. The officers elected for one-year terms are the following:
 - Chair: Lance Werner (KDL)
 - Vice Chair: Dale Parus (IC)
 - Secretary: Ron Suszek (UM)
 - Treasurer: Maggie McKeithan (OS)
 - b) Strategic Planning Update – An update was included in the packet. Bold items are new, grey items are ones that have been completed. Action plans may be added as more activities are completed. Carol Dawe mentioned that she and Ann talked with Innovative. Money was set aside last year for training for her, and they also discussed the loan determinator table.
 - c) Muskegon County Libraries ILS Exploration – Ron Suszek reported that the Muskegon County libraries of MADL, Hackley, and White Lake have an RFP with Bibliocore to investigate the

feasibility of consolidating the ILS for their libraries. They should have more information after December 8th.

- d) Board Member Oath – The state of Michigan encourages local boards to take an oath of office. This is also encouraged for local library boards as well so that those elected to their positions understand their responsibilities. Those newly elected board members in attendance took the oath of office after the board meeting.

11) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a) There were no public comments.

12) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- a) Shirley Bruursema – Wrapping up the election duties which includes picking up signs, as some municipalities will issue fines for those leaving them out. It was a good outcome for both Patmos and KDL and she thanked all those who supported them in their elections. She is gearing up for 11 millage elections in 2024.
- b) Kerry Fountain – Made a trip up to Northern Michigan University to return an item lost in RIDES. The item would have cost \$2,500 to replace so she wanted to make sure it made it there safely.
- c) Rob Bristow – Happy to see the millage pass for Patmos as they are close neighbors.
- d) Joe Zappacosta – After 2 years of negotiating they have come up with a final agreement with the school district. This will allow them to move forward with some much-needed renovations at both of their locations.
- e) Maggie McKeithan – They are on track and under budget with their renovations. They are also adding some new self-checkouts.
- f) Diane Kooiker – none.
- g) Ron Suszek – Was hopeful for a good partnership with the NEA Big Read Lakeshore event on November 14th with author, Jerry Craft.
- h) Dale Parus - none.

13) NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 14th, at 9:30 a.m. at Kent District Library Service Center.

14) ADJOURNMENT: Ron Suszek moved, supported by Dale Parus, to adjourn at 10:09 am - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,
Janet Cornell