

LONESOME PINE REGIONAL LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APRIL 6, 2023

<p>PRESENT: Mr. Lu Ellsworth Mrs. Roberta Smallwood Mr. Chris Allgyer Mrs. Ethel Daniels Mrs. Earlene Lester Ms. Carolea Newsome Ms. Tammy Scott</p>	<p>ABSENT: Ms. Martha Jett Ms. Jennifer Meade Ms. Sheila Phipps Ms. Rebecca Scott</p>
--	---

Others Present: Hazel Jessee, Interim Director  
Shannon Steffey, Director Appointee  
Onedah Stanley, Business Manager  
Dakota Mullins, Big Stone Gap Library Branch Manager  
Debbie Yates, Administrative Assistant

The regular meeting of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at the C. Bascom Slemper Memorial Library in Big Stone Gap.

Chairman Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He noted some absences but reported that a quorum was present. He welcomed everyone to the meeting at the Big Stone Gap Library. He reported that he and Ms. Jessee have had very positive meetings with the Wise and Lee County Administrators discussing the LPRL budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year.

- I. Ms. Newsome made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mrs. Lester seconded and the agenda was approved.
- II. There were no citizens to speak.
- III. Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve the March 2, 2023 minutes as presented. Mr. Allgyer seconded and the motion carried.
- IV. Mrs. Smallwood reported that monthly payables had been reviewed. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Allgyer to accept the financial report as presented. Mrs. Lester seconded and the motion carried.

The following check numbers were reported:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>
General Fund	42835	42910

- V. Director's Report

**Library Highlights**

- Photos were shared via PowerPoint highlighting various March events, including Dr. Seuss' Birthday (March 2), Read Across America Week (March 2-6), and St. Patrick's Day. Library staff developed, created and implemented displays, activities, craft workshops, programming, outreach to local elementary schools, and dress-up days.

- In recognition of National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29, the Lovelady Chapter of DAR provided a display honoring four Lee County service men at the Pennington Gap Library.
- A Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park representative gave an informative presentation for children's programming at Big Stone Gap Library about butterflies.
- Ms. Jessee expressed her appreciation to Dickenson County and the Town of Haysi for recent improvements to the buildings in their localities. She also expressed her appreciation to the Clintwood Kiwanis Club for their equipment donation to enhance Dickenson County's children's programming.
- Branch librarians and administrative staff attended the John Fox Jr. Literary Festival at Mountain Empire Community College. A photo taken of the staff with guest author Silas House was shared.
- The Natural Tunnel State Park nature programs continue to entertain and educate patrons in our Lee, Scott and Wise County libraries. Discussions have been initiated with The Breaks Park staff regarding nature programs for our Dickenson County libraries.

#### **Administrative Highlights**

- The E-Rate process is complete for FY23/24. An award decision is pending. Ms. Jessee was pleased to report that this year's bid will result in increased internet speeds and decreased costs.
- Budgets for each county have been submitted. She repeated the goodwill of the Wise and Lee County Administrators when meeting with her and Chairman Ellsworth.
- The Wise County Historical Society is planning an open house and grand opening for the first of May.
- Administrative and library staff are developing programs and ordering materials for upcoming spring and summer events.

#### **Grants/Donations**

- The RAPHA Foundation grant awarded to Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library to assist with flooding expenditures has been finalized.
- Several new grant requests have been submitted on behalf of LPRL libraries for a variety of enhancements. Ms. Jessee will update trustees upon her receipt of awards.

Ms. Jesse noted that March was a busy month and she is continuing to see an increase in program attendance and visitors in the libraries. She indicated that flyers from each library were included in the board packs depicting National Library Week activities. She encouraged trustees to visit their local library and noted that some trustees are scheduled to read for the children during programming. She expressed her appreciation for their participation and support of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library system.

The following items were distributed in Trustees' folders:

- ❖ Accounts Payable Checks for month of March 2023
- ❖ Financial Statements for February 2023
- ❖ Monthly Stats Reports for February 2023
- ❖ National Library Week flyers from branch libraries

Chairman Ellsworth and Ms. Jessee discussed the status of a privacy wall for the Wise County Historical Society in the Mailbox Library area. They were pleased to report that the Administrator has indicated that Wise County will assist with the task.

VI. Reports of Committees - None

VII. Unfinished Business - None

VIII. A fundraising proposal was submitted by the Friends of the Scott County Public Library asking permission to hold a book sale on April 22, 2023. The book sale will kick off the library's National Library Week activities. Ms. T. Scott made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Mrs. Daniels suggested pursuing a grant to enhance adult programming for the Wise County Library. Discussion ensued.

On behalf of the board, Chairman Ellsworth expressed sympathy to Ms. Tammy Scott on the passing of her father. Ms. Scott expressed her gratitude for the support.

Trustees were reminded of the next board meeting on May 4 at the Pennington Gap Library.

No further business was discussed. Chairman Ellsworth announced adjournment of the meeting and all signified by rising.

Ms. Jessee introduced the branch manager of the Big Stone Gap Library, Dakota Mullins, who provided a tour of the library.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman