

APPROVED
Grand County Public Library
Minutes for the Regular Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2023 5:30 pm
Board Room, Grand County Public Library

In attendance for the September 19, 2023 Grand County Public Library Board meeting held in the Board Room at the Grand County Public Library, were as follows: Michele Widera, Rowan List, Rachel Stenta, and Alanna Simmons-Cameron. Also present were Carrie Valdes, Library Director; and Meghan Flynn, Assistant Director (minutes). Jenna Woodbury, Didar Charles, and Trish Hedin were absent.

Rachel called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Approval of the minutes for the May 24, 2023 meeting was discussed. Rowan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Michele seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The library bills were passed around for review.

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

Carrie delivered a brief Director's Report to the Board. She noted that the library's year-to-date statistics and 2023 budget are generally on track. The library has had a difficult time retaining part-time staff so the budget's salary line item is slightly underspent.

There was no Old Business.

The Board moved on to New Business. The first item on the agenda under New Business was Discussion and Recommendation of a 2024 Grand County Public Library Budget to the Grand County Commission via the Grand County Budget Advisory Board. Carrie reviewed the 2024 budget worksheet that was included in the agenda packet. She noted that the library is primarily property tax funded. She reviewed the proposed budget's line items and noted that many have been increased somewhat to account for inflation. The proposed 2024 library budget will require a tax rate increase. In the past, Grand County has tended to increase the rate every 4-5 years. After a rate increase the library's expense line items are kept relatively static for a few years with the exception of salaries and benefits, which change every year depending on county-wide adjustments. The last library tax rate increase was in 2020.

Carrie noted that if there is no political will increase the tax rate for 2024, line item expenditures will be kept the same as the approved 2023 library budget. Discussion followed. The Board noted that the proposed increases are modest given Consumer Price Index information, inflation, and known facility needs. More discussion followed. Alanna made a motion to recommend the 2024 library budget as presented to the Grand County Commission via the Grand County Budget Advisory Board. Rowan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The second item on the agenda under New Business was Discussion and Recommendation of a Grand County Public Library Fee Schedule to the Grand County Commission for Approval. Carrie noted that the library staff does not recommend any changes to the fee schedule. Discussion followed. Rachel made a motion to recommend the library fee schedule to the Grand County Commission as presented. Michele seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The third item on the agenda under New Business was Review and Consideration of Approval of a Revised Grand County Public Library Privacy Policy. Carrie shared with the Board that a recent situation revealed the need for some updates to the library's privacy policy. Library staff drafted a new policy to increase clarity and accurately reference the appropriate sections of Utah state code. The Grand County Attorney reviewed the new policy draft and made some further recommendations. Discussion followed. Michele made a motion to approve the revised Grand County Public Library Privacy Policy as presented. Rachel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The fourth item on the agenda under New Business was Discussion of Upcoming Board Vacancies. Carrie noted that Jenna will term out at the end of this year and Rowan will reach the end of their first term. Rowan expressed interest in serving a second term on the Library Board. The Board discussed spreading the word about the remaining upcoming vacancy.

There was no Consent Agenda.

The Board moved on to Board Member Reports. Michele asked if a representative from Friends of the Library ever presents to the Board. Carrie noted that presentations have happened in the past, but not every year. The Board noted that it would be good to hear from a Friends representative at a future meeting. Rachel shared that NASA has a program for institutions to apply for a moon tree seedling. She noted that the library may be interested in the opportunity.

The Board moved on to Future Agenda Items. The November meeting may need to be rescheduled. Board members offered to join Carrie for the upcoming meeting with the Grand County Budget Advisory Board if their support for the proposed increase is needed. Discussion followed.

A closed session was not needed. Rachel adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.