

Rusk County Community Library Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Present: Anna Kauffman, Randy Tatur, Leah Fuse, Hollis Helmecci, Laura Stunkel, Gerard Schueller, Cindy Pohlman

The meeting was called to order in the upper level of the Rusk County Library by Randy Tatur at 5:00 pm.

The board reviewed the Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion to approve the December 2020 meeting minutes was made by Cindy Pohlman and seconded by Anna Kauffman. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the December 2020 financial statements. The general operating is over budget due to purchases of PPE and other items related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The motion to accept the December 2020 financial statements was made by Laura Stunkel and seconded by Leah Fuse. Motion carried.

Next, the board reviewed the invoices from December 2020/January 2021. The motion to approve the invoices from December 2020/January 2021 was made by Laura Stunkel and seconded by Cindy Pohlman. Motion carried.

Next, the board discussed the library building maintenance issues. Ayers and Associates completed their assessment for a fee of \$4800.00. Their estimated cost of building repair, which mostly includes sill caps, new floor, extending the eaves, new roof, along with masonry work, came to a total of approximately \$205,000. This cost does not include the HVAC system or sidewalks. The next step is to meet with the joint committee. The HVAC system is being reviewed and assessed by Marty Reynolds.

Next, the board discussed the unspent library funds that were appropriated by the city/county and are being carried over from prior years. The total is approximately \$81,000. According to Jon Thompson, the director of the IFLS Library System, "Any unspent library funds including those appropriated by the city and/or county carried over the prior year(s) remain under the exclusive control of the library board."

He further supported this by sharing the Wisconsin State Statute 4.58(1), Powers and Duties, with an attached Attorney General Opinion. The discussion on this topic was inconclusive, with no action taken by the board at this time.

The board discussed COVID-19 adjustments to the library's service. Starting February 1st, patrons can start making appointments for browsing times. Also, next Monday, appointments can be made for using the computers(3 people/30 minutes/day). Lobby hours will also be extended for lobby pickup.

The director's report was given by Hollis Helmecci. There has been declining participation in the library's online events. Statistically, the library is doing well with checkouts, check-ins, and renewals of items.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Leah Fuse.