

Minutes of Marshall Library Board – April 9, 2025

Call to Order:

The Marshall Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. Vice President Janet Hasten called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Board members present were Jody Green, Janet Hasten, Robert Nelson, Jenn Smitley, and Herman Wallace. Alyson Thompson, Director, and Jamie Poorman, Head Librarian, were also present. Mike Cameron, Steven Schofield, Melissa Strait, and John Tarble were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by the trustees.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes from the March 12, 2025, meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Herman, seconded by Jenn, the minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary Jody Green reviewed the library's correspondence, which included thank-you notes from Denise Gaskins and Matt at Farnsworth.

Presentation of Bills:

The March invoices were listed and reviewed. Alyson requested that an additional add-on limit of \$2,000 be approved since April is the last month of the fiscal year. On a motion by Jenn, seconded by Herman payment of the bills in the amount of \$10,710.22, plus add-ons of up to \$2,000.00 were approved. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Bob – yes, Herman – yes, Jenn – yes, Janet – yes, Jody - yes

Librarian's Report:

Jamie presented the Librarian's Report for March. Patron registration increased by 14 and total circulation was 2,918. Jamie noted that the Seed Library statistics shown are low, however, the collection is gone, so over 300 were distributed. The seed collection has been restocked through a donation of 500 packets. Facebook view numbers also continue to increase.

Friends of the Library Report:

The Friends of the Library has not met since the library board's last meeting. Their next meeting will be May 1, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

Marshall Area Public Library District Report:

The Area District has not met since the library board's last meeting. Their next meeting will be on April 22, 2025, at 4:30 pm.

Director's Report:

Alyson updated the trustees on several events and activities in March, including training for staff, replacement of the upstairs carpet, and a surprise inspection by the State Fire Marshall. Alyson also noted that power surges are causing the elevator to stop working and require reset procedures. Alyson also provided a copy of the "Statement on Potential Federal Funding Cuts to Libraries", which is posted on the library's website.

At the end of March, the Library accounts held \$204,346.87 in Operations, \$10,000.00 in Retirement and \$10,000.00 in Special Reserves, for a total of \$224,346.87.

Old Business:

- Phase II Construction Project

Alyson provided updates on the carpeting, elevator and fire alarm.

- Statement of Economic Interests – now sent via email – due May 1st.

Alyson reminded the trustees that the annual Statement of Economic Interest forms are now completed electronically. An email from the County Clerk has been sent to the trustees' email account with a link to the form.

New Business:

- Distribution of revised meeting room policies.

Alyson provided revised meeting room policies for the trustees to review. On a motion by Jenn, seconded by Jody the revised policies were approved.

Other:

- Annual Library presentation to City Hall – Monday, April 14th at 6:30 pm.

Alyson invited the trustees to attend the City Council meeting for the annual library presentation.

- Underground Railroad tour in Illinois Room

Alyson encouraged the trustees to tour the Underground Railroad exhibit.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm on a motion by Bob, seconded by Jenn.

Next meeting will be on May 14, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Marshall Public Library in the McConchie Meeting Room.

Jody Green, Secretary