

**Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Public Meeting at the Colfax Branch of the Whitman County Library
January 16, 2024

23

Present: Cindy Alred, Heather Lustig, Sue Kreikemeier, Ronda Penwell, Shirley Cornelius, and Cody Allen

Ronda Penwell called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

There was one addition to the agenda, rotation of board officers.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Minutes of the December 19 meeting, and Resolutions 24-01 and 24-02 were approved by a vote of the Board.

Reports

December financial documents were presented to the board and a brief explanation about them was given.

In the director's report, Enduris had an insurance adjuster here to do an appraisal of our main library building to see if we have enough insurance covering the building. Beginning on February 3, we are adjusting our Saturday hours from 1-5 PM to 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We will now have a story time once a month on Saturdays. We had a book shelper quit in December and have shifted her duties to other employees instead of hiring a new employee. James is working on purging Horizon records of patrons with fines older than seven years. He is also removing Overdrive records from our online search catalog which should make it easier to do searches and find what we actually have in the library. The library is now collaborating with the County and the Veteran's affair office to provide county wide programs. The Friends of the Library have elected Sara Golden as President, Lizzy Jones as Vice-President, Suzy McNeilly as Secretary, and Clancy Pool as Treasurer. Alexis Maki is a new permanent artist in the Center replacing Molly Rice. We have a metal art sculpture, The Prospector, by Benjamin Breuckel from Steptoe, on display in front of the library. Our 2024 Collection focus will be on Science and we hope to get grants from either Penguin or Random House Books to expand our collection. We are no longer using Beanstack as we feel we have not been getting the usage out of it. Also, our material request procedure has switched from paper to on-line requesting.

Continuing Business

In branch news, the insurance company has come back with a settlement of the Rosalia library. The insurance company is giving the city \$75,000 for a settlement. The city is going to use \$35,000 for abatement of mold issues and use the remaining \$40,000 for aesthetic repairs. The repairs are expected to take a while and in the meantime, the city has done some minor repairs to the building that the library is in now. The Garfield library has purchased Lego

kits with the huge donation that it got earlier in the year. Three people applied for grants to go to the WLA conference in Spokane. Cody and Sarah Bofenkamp will be attending the conference representing the library.

In Library usage, like last month circulation is down overall but program attendance is still on the rise. Facebook usage continues to rise along with overall database usage. Kanopy was one of the databases that had a lot of usage.

New Business

The director presented to the board a list of strategic goals for 2024 that include getting more people into the library and as a by-product improving print circulation but also keeping pushing on our on-line resources such as Libby. The director hopes the Friends of the Library will be up and running this year with the Friends focusing on newsletters, the tea party, jingle and mingle, the book sale and a community meeting. Finally, the director will start preparing for a levy lid lift either in 2025 or early 2026.

New board officers for 2024 include Sue Kreikemeier as President, Cindy Alred as Vice Chair, and Heather Lustig as Secretary.

Adjourn

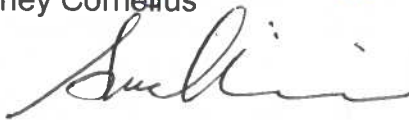
The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 PM by Ronda Penwell.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, at 4:00 PM at the Colfax branch of the Whitman County Library.



Shirley Cornelius



Ronda Penwell, Chair

Sue Kreikemeier