

## **Southeast Kansas Library Executive Board Meeting**

May 22, 2024

The Executive Board Zoom meeting was called to order at 10:38 am by Board President Scotty Zollars.

Those present were board members Scotty Zollars, Bev Clarkson, Sarah Owen, Jennifer Gum-Fowler, Jennifer Rosson, and Marilyn VonSoosten, with board members Janice Jones and Robie Martin absent. Also present were Business Manager Brenda Armstrong and Library Director Sharon Moreland.

### **Board Minutes**

- **Jennifer Gum-Fowler moved that the March minutes be approved as written. Sarah Owen seconded. Motion passed.**

### **Financial Report and List of Bills**

- Sharon shared the financial report and current list of bills for March through May.
  - The Business Manager is moving forward doing EFTs wherever possible.
  - Currently awaiting 2025 county tax estimates.
  - Considering changes with our current arrangement with the accountant due to QuickBooks software changes.
- **After discussion, a motion was made by Sarah Owens to approve the list of bills for March through May and Jennifer Gum-Fowler seconded. Motion carried.**

### **System Director's Report**

- Sharon presented the director's report sharing key highlights.
  - State Aid will increase in YR2025 for all libraries with a new base amount of \$1,000, plus an additional increase of \$0.02 per capita. We advocated for the restoration of State Aid at Library Legislative Day.
  - HB 2176 passed, which allows the communities in Arkansas City and Udall to vote for or against new library districts.
  - The Director's Retreat on April 12 at Flint Oak Lodge was a success, especially the roundtable discussion sessions.
  - The May 21 Academic In-service was also a success, especially Pam Hamilton's keynote presentation.
  - The System has been invited to reapply for the Family Engagement in Public Libraries Grant and to expand it regionally across the state. Two Regional Library Systems have expressed interest as potential partners. **Sarah made a motion to hire a temporary Youth Services Assistant Consultant if SEKLS receives the grant and Jennifer Gum-Fowler seconded. Motion carried.**

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### **Old Business**

- SEKLS Strategic Plan with attachments were reviewed.
  - Sharon shared plan highlights of the plan, revised to fit the new format required by the State Library.
  - Sharon compared the new Strategic Plan with the initiatives developed for the 2024 System Plan, as shown in the Report Card document.
  - The IPL/SEKLS Agreement is up for review with the Iola Board in 2024.
  - **Bev Clarkson moved to approve the SEKLS Strategic Plan and Sarah Owens seconded. Motion carried.**
- The 2024 Competitive Grant was tabled.
- The Frontenac Library petition for system membership was tabled.

### **New Business**

- 2025 Draft Budget
  - Sharon reviewed proposed adjustments to the 2024 budget to reallocate the Postage: Revenue Neutral Rate line item after learning that the Legislature extended their coverage of the postage payments for the mailing. **Sarah Owens moved to accept the changes to the 2024 budget and Jennifer Gum-Fowler seconded. Motion carried.**
  - Sharon presented the 2025 Budget, which includes an increase in the System's State Aid. **Bev Clarkson moved to accept the proposed 2025 budget. Jennifer Gum-Fowler seconded. Motion carried.**
- 2025 System Plan
  - Jennifer Gum-Fowler requested that this plan be ratified at the September SEKLS Annual Meeting and sent to the County Appointees.
  - The System Plan is due to the State Library Board in May for their June meeting.
  - After discussion, **Sarah Owens moved to approve the 2025 System Plan and Jennifer Gum-Fowler seconded. Motion carried.**

President Zollars reminded the board the next meeting will be in-person on June 7 at the Iola High School. Due to scheduling conflicts, board members requested a Zoom board meeting on a different date. After additional discussion, a survey will be sent to all members for a final meeting date.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am on **a motion made by Jennifer Gum-Fowler moved and seconded by Bev Clarkson. Motion carried.**

Jennifer Rosson, Secretary (Brenda Armstrong, Recorder)