Bledsoe County Library Board Minutes 9/11/2023

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Introductions and recording of members present, absent and guests

Members present were:
John Hargis, Linda Nipper, Sonny Pendergrass, Roy Standefer, and Wanda Carver

Others attending: Matt Kirby, Falling Water River Regional Director, and Carolyne L. Knight, Bledsoe County Library Director

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

A motion was made by Linda Nipper and seconded by Roy Standefer to approve the minutes of the June 12, meeting. Said motion was approved by unanimous vote.

4. Administrative Reports

4.1 Regional

Director, Matt Kirby, encouraged us to attend the Trustee Workshop on September 28, from 9:00-3:30 in Crossville. Free lunch will be provided.

We were excited by the certificate of recognition awarded to our own Veronica Douglas for completing the Core Competencies training.

Matt reported that though library funding may not go up, it cannot go down from year to year.
He reminded us of some services provided by the regional system, such as technical training, policy and procedures advice, and library trends in the state. There was some discussion concerning procedures that should be followed if books or other media available in the library were to be challenged. Bledsoe has not experienced any at this time, but Matt said that other counties have not all been so fortunate. The policy is to bring any concerns to the board for consideration when and if this ever occurs.

4.2 Library Director

Director, Carolyne Knight, shared the mayor's June Statement of Expenditures and Encumbrances for our perusal. She was pleased to report that a 5% raise is anticipated for our library staff. Carolyne reported that the library has all new lights, but we still need a new copier/fax machine.

Carolyne reported that 57 children completed the Reader/Listener summer reading program.

5. Old Business

A sign prohibiting smoking, vaping, or spitting on library property has yet to be purchased. New fencing for the back of the property is still being considered with an anticipated cost of no more than $5,000 for a fence of approximately 70’.

6. New Business

Election of new officers: Chair, John Hargis; Vice Chair, Dona Loyd; and Secretary, Wanda Carver. Sonny Pendergrass made a motion to approve, and Roy Standefer seconded the motion.

We approved changes to the By-Laws concerning Regional Board members. Motion was made by Sonny Pendergrass and seconded by Roy Standefer.

The Computer/Internet Use Policies were discussed. There were questions about downloading, but we were assured that protections are already in place to prevent abuse. Wanda Carver made the motion to approve the policies and Sonny Pendergrass seconded the motion.

A fencing committee was elected: John Hargis, Roy Standefer, Sonny Pendergrass, and Carolyne Knight. Suggestions were made to look at Jeri Aldridge’s and Lynne Swafford’s fences when considering style. The committee will compare prices of materials and labor before the next meeting. They agreed that they might need to provide the labor themselves if the cost was beyond the determined $5,000.

A motion was made by John Hargis and seconded by Roy Standefer to adjourn the meeting. Said motion was approved by unanimous vote.