

**Mountain Regional Library System
Board Meeting of Trustees
Union County Public Library
Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 1 p.m.**

I. Call to Order and Welcome – Paula Whitehead, Chairman

Members present - Paula Whitehead (T), Joan Crothers (T), Holly Tiger (T). John Turner (F), Mark Tune (F), Kathy Tickner (F), Karan Harper (F), Stacey Head (U), Kaye McCann (U), Trish Allen (U), Joan Mannheim (U) . **Members absent:** Dionne Berrong.

Staff Present: Heath Lee, Director; Vicki Adkison-Asst. Director/Business Mgr.; Susie Brendle, UCPL Mgr.; Debbie Phillips, TCPL Mgr. (by phone).

Guests: Thomas Weaver, Private Citizen Cherokee County.

II. Addition to Agenda: There were no additions.

III. Adoption of Agenda: Motion was made by John Turner to accept today's Agenda.

IV. Minutes: The minutes of the June 10, 2020 meeting were sent by email. John Turner made a motion to approve them: seconded and passed.

V. Public Comments: Thomas Weaver said he was concerned about a sign he saw at UCPL saying no "lethal weapons" in the Patron Behavior policy that is posted. He knew the GA General Assembly had changed the code for government buildings and libraries have been forced to left their bans and allow weapons within their facilities. He felt these are rights that could lead to a suit. He said the library system should change these signs.

VI. Items to be discussed

a. Old Business:

- i. Fannin Co. building Project Update: MOU from GPLS should be delivered approximately Sept. 1st, 5% of grant money has to be spent within six months. There will be new leadership in the Board of Commissioners after the November election, although Commissioner Helton will still be in office. No county funds have been allocated as yet. There are a number of drawbacks to the Whitepath Building— dangerous parking in a busy area, for one. Two options for state funding: Accept the grant or reject it.

b. New Business:

- i. Welcome new Board members: Joan Mannheim (UC), Mark Tune (FC), and Trish Allen (UC).
- ii. MRLS Employee Pay Scale: Holly Tiger made a motion to adopt with no changes; seconded, discussed, and passed.
- iii. Patron Behavior Policy: The policy has been changed to delete the words, "lethal weapons," and the new policy will be posted as soon as possible. Mark made a motion to adopt; seconded and passed.
- iv. Meeting dates for remainder of FY21: Stacy made a motion to change the time and keep the dates; seconded and passed.
 - Nov. 18, 2020, 10 a.m. at Mountain Regional Library.
 - February 17, 2021, 10 a.m. at Fannin County Courthouse
 - May 19, 2021, 10 a.m. at Towns County Public Library.
- v. Amended FY21 Budget: Vicki said the only change to the budget is more State grant money came in and was divided between the counties. John made a motion to accept the FY21 Budget; seconded and passed. Audit will be in November.

VII. Chairman's Report

- a. FY2021 Signatory Authorization: Kathy made a motion to approve Heath Lee, Director; seconded and passed.

VIII. Director's Report

ALA 2020 Annual Conference, canceled in May, was recently moved to virtual environment. For a mere \$60 Lee was able to participate in many different conference sessions.

Marlene Cannon accepted position of Public Services Coordinator for MRLS as of July 1st. She will serve all the counties within the system.

Since June MRLS has added over \$22K of books and materials throughout the system. Bulk of these funds came from State FY20 budget.

The Blackbaud accounting system contract ends 12/31/20. Vicki will be putting all this data into MIP before December.

Vanessa Pittman, MRLS Tech. Services Librarian, will be managing all ordering of books, materials processing, and spending. Branch Mgrs. will have input into what titles are being ordered; Pittman has final decisions.

MRLS is currently overhauling how we order supplies and equipment to keep a consistent method across all three counties. This is essential for maintaining proper and stable bookkeeping methods.

Staff Day for MRLS will be on Wed., 9/30/20 at the Union Civic Center in Blairsville, free of charge. Currently, to be held in-person; however, Covid-19 could change that.

MRLS now has a 1-year contract with STAT to continue courier services for Fannin and Union counties on a two delivery per branch per week. Deliveries to Towns Library will be from MRL.

Constitution & By-Laws Update: Many areas are totally out of date and no Towns by-laws were found. John Turner made a motion to have Heath and Vicki update and bring to the Board meeting in November; seconded and passed.

In Fannin Co. Commissioner Helton asked about a stand-alone temperature scanning station for library patrons. It would cost the county \$3K. After discussion, it was decided to tell him "No."

IX. Finance Report -Vicki Adkison: These reports should be about 12 pages in the future. She said this year has been a "turn around year." John Turner made a motion to accept the MRLS FY20 Finance Report; seconded and passed.

X. Personnel Report: Michelle Smith has been hired to clean all four library buildings. Troy Smith has been hired as new IT.

XI. Adjournment 2:45 p.m.

Motion to adjourn was duly made.

/s/Joan Crothers, Secretary