

Heartland Regional Library System
Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Roll Call: The Heartland Regional Library Board met at the Vienna Library for the January meeting. President Carole Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00. Board members present were Carole Wagner, Denise Tyler, Rachel Williams, Eleanor Terry, and Lerilee Huhman. A new library board member for Maries County, Heather Walker, was also present. Stacey Dunham, Nora Bond, Brittany Davenport, and Ralf Trusty attended via Zoom. April Noblett was absent. Staff members present were Director Lisa Garro, Lysha Thompson, and Jenny Dillon. Chrissi Germann attended via Zoom. Kathy Rowles, a guest speaker from LAGERS, was also present at the beginning of the meeting.

Guest speaker: Kathy Rowles, from LAGERS, presented on the Initial Valuation for HRLS completed in October 2024. She gave a brief overview of LAGERS and what they can provide for public and governmental entities. Kathy provided a brochure that contained the election choices offered and the process to join. She then went into more detail on the specifics in the initial valuation report. She stated that the Initial Valuation for HRLS must be available to the public to view (physically or electronically) for 45 days. Kathy told the board there is no time constraint to join and there would be plenty of time to discuss the possibility of joining. This gives Lisa time to juggle and crunch the numbers on the cost. Kathy also said that the Heartland System would be required to write a resolution or ordinance to join LAGERS.

Approval of Minutes: After a brief discussion, Nora made the motion to approve the minutes and Rachel seconded. All approved.

Financial Reports: It was noted that only 86% of the budget was spent in 2024. Following a brief discussion, the financial reports were approved after a motion was made by Rachel and second by Eleanor.

Approval of monthly expenditures and transfer of funds: Eleanor made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures and transfer of funds, and Lerilee seconded. Discussion was held and then the motion passed.

Director's/Librarians' Reports: The director and programming librarians reported on the following:

Chrissi reported on a slow month due to the weather and holidays. She was able to visit HeadStart and had several programs in branch and outreach.

Lysha will be covering the Miller County programming until a new program librarian is hired. She was excited to report that HRLS received an \$8,000 grant for the summer reading program. This will be used to pay for presenters and other costs for the summer program. An additional \$1,000 was acquired to help provide supplies. Lysha reported it had been 3 years since the library received this grant. She also said the theme for this summer's program is Color My World.

The Director's report:

- Update on the Belle branch expansion. The new doorway has been finished. The next step is painting and then the shelf installation. All the construction costs are paid out of the Maries County Capital Improvements fund. The current children's shelving may not fit well in the space and eight new shelving units were estimated to cost \$15,124.

- Several staff changes were reported. Penny, Jerry, and Chrissi have all resigned their positions. The Eldon position has been filled, and the other positions have been posted.
- FamilySearch is a free genealogy database, but not all modules were accessible. HRLS is now an affiliate so patrons can come into the library to have access to all modules. There was no cost to the HRL system to become an affiliate of FamilySearch.
- Eldon branch news – the furnace was not heating the space properly. Parts are ordered and will be repaired as soon as they come in. All costs will be paid out of the Miller County Capital Improvements.
- Upcoming activities – Kanopy's Big Movie Watch, Together We Read, World Read Aloud Day, and Adult Reading Challenge

Communications: none

Old Business: None

New Business:

Carole handed out copies of the Library Director evaluation form to members in attendance. An electronic copy will be sent to those members attending on Zoom. Everyone was asked to complete and return it at the next meeting.

Lisa provided an updated HRL Base Pay Schedule for new hires in 2025. After some discussion, Eleanor made a motion to approve the new pay scale, and Denise 2nd. Motion passed.

The next item of business was updating the Bank signature cards. The list below is by bank account with the needed changes to be made as follows:

Remove the following Heartland board member and staff members from the Maries County Bank (accts #407402- Regional Acct. - pays the bills after transfers from each county each month):

- Eleanor Terry, Kacie James, Chrissi Germann

Add the following Heartland Library board members and staff member to the Maries County Bank (acct #407402):

- Rachel Williams, Heather Walker, Brittany Davenport, Jenny Dillon

Remove the following board member from the Maries County Bank accts. (#400378 – Maries Operational acct where taxes are deposited directly, #406295 – Maries Capital Improvement fund for use of repairs and construction, and #709468 – Performer MMDA is only an interest bearing acct.):

- Eleanor Terry

Add the following Maries County library board members to the Maries County Bank (#400378 #406295, and #709468):

- Rachel Williams, Heather Walker

Add the following Miller County library board member to the Citizens Bank of Eldon (acct #97861):

- Brittany Davenport

Add the following Miller County library board member to the Central Bank accts (#125552161 and #000891246):

- Brittany Davenport

Eleanor made a motion to make these changes to the specified bank accounts, and Rachel seconded. The motion passed.

District Library Board Reports:

The Maries County library met at 5:45 on 1/21/25 at the Vienna branch. They voted in the following slate of officers for 2025:

President – Rachel Williams

Vice Pres – April Noblett

Secretary – Carole Wagner

Treasure – Denise Tyler

They passed the motion to approve the transfer of 5% of the unexpended Operational Funds into the Capital Improvement Fund.

The Miller County library reported on their meeting that occurred at 5:45 on 1/21/25 at the Vienna branch. They voted in the following slate of officers for 2025:

President – Ralf Trusty

Vice Pres – Nora Bond

Secretary – Lerilee Huhman

Treasure – Stacey Dunham

They also passed the motion to transfer 5% of the unexpended Operational Funds into the Capital Improvement Fund.

Committee Reports: No reports given.

HRLS Policies: The leave policy section was reviewed. The bereavement leave policy had several suggested changes. Following discussion, Rachel made a motion to approve the policies with the suggested changes, Eleanor seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Session: none

Adjournment: Eleanor made the motion to adjourn at 8:15 and Rachel seconded to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted, Lerilee Huhman, HRLS secretary