

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

Roll Call: The Heartland Regional Library Board met at the Iberia Library for the October meeting. President Carole Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:15. The following board members were present: Carole Wagner, Denise Tyler, Toleda Jett, Nora Bond, Stacey Dunham, Brittany Davenport, and Lerilee Huhman. Rachel Williams and Heather Walker attended via Zoom. Tierney Earp was absent. Staff members present were Director Lisa Garro, Lysha Thompson, Jenny Dillon, and Michelle Vaughn.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes: Nora made the motion to approve the minutes as presented and Stacey seconded. All approved.

Financial Reports: Following a brief discussion, the financial reports were approved after a motion was made by Nora and a second by Brittany.

Approval of monthly expenditures and transfer of funds: Toleda made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures and transfer of funds, and Stacey seconded. The motion passed.

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

The programming librarians, Jenny and Michelle, shared their latest statistics reports. Michelle reported attending the PD Day in Tuscumbia for the new Show-Me Conference. Teachers were surprised to hear about the many library resources available for schools to use. She also reported seeing more adults attending programs. She has been to seven schools and is currently rescheduling some schools. Jenny reported on the programs and schools that she is visiting. She also shared her enthusiasm about the two book clubs and the excitement of preschoolers engaged with books.

The Assistant Director's report was handed out and reviewed.

- Recently promoted library services at the Show-Me Conference teacher PD day and at the Miller County Retired Teachers meeting that met at the Eldon branch on Oct. 14.
- Tech Mini Grant application update
- Planning passive programs
- Program planning is ongoing and working toward a consistent schedule with regular programs at the same day/time each month when possible.
- Upcoming – November – International Games Month with family game nights planned.

The Director's report:

- Working on creating a comprehensive procedure manual for employees
- Policy questions related to patrons with outstanding bills and when or if to forgive the bill. Also, when to delete expired cards. The director checked with other libraries on their policies and shared several responses.
- Shared the Timeline of Due Dates for the monthly meetings.
- Upcoming – forming a nominating committee and budget committee

- Staff holiday meeting will be December 12th. All branches will be closed. The meeting will be followed by a meal at noon.

****See the Director's Report for October 2025 for more details.**

Communications: None.

Old Business: Lisa reported that there was one employee with a concern about joining LAGERS but further checking relieved the concerns. The qualifying staff agreed to proceed with participating in LAGERS with the parameters set by the board last month. Also, there was the question of whether there needed to be a re-evaluation since the number of full-time employees had changed. Rachel did not believe that would be necessary. Lisa will check.

Carole asked for a volunteer from each county to service on the Nominating Committee to present a slate of officers for each county and the regional board for the coming year. Stacey volunteered from Miller County and Rachel for Maries County.

Carole then set the Budget Committee with county presidents, Rachel and Nora. Denise, the regional treasurer, will not be able to serve on the committee. Stacey, Miller County treasurer, was asked to serve the position of committee chair without a vote. Lisa will draft a suggested budget soon in order to give the committee time to review before the November meeting.

New Business: Carole asked for suggestions of which dates to use as the extra days off at Christmas and New Years. Lisa said the majority of the staff preferred December 26th and January 2nd. Stacey made the suggestion to also close the library on the 24th. The board responded positively to the idea. Brittany had the motion to close on December 24, 25, 26 and January 1 and 2. Stacey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District Board Reports: None.

Committee Reports: None.

HRLS Policies: None.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Stacey made the motion to adjourn at 7:40 and Brittany seconded. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted, Lerilee Huhman, HRLS secretary