

Approved Minutes

Regular meeting of the Fremont County Library System Board of Directors held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 in person and via Zoom at the Dubois Branch Library.

Board Members Present: Kristen McClelland, Carrie Johnson, John Angst, and Marta Mossburg. **Also present:** Anita Marple -Director
Guests: Jim Anderson, Fremont County Treasurer.

The meeting was called to order: 9:37 AM

- 1) **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by John Angst, all approved.
- 2) **Review of Fremont County Information for Offline Boards:** County Treasurer Jim Anderson: Financial Review

Jim Anderson explained to the board how it used to be that state tax payments from mineral production were distributed twice per year. Under new legislation from a couple of years ago mineral companies must pay taxes within three months of production. It means the county is paid more frequently, but the amounts are less predictable.

He also explained that deferred taxes play a role in when the county receives money from the state. He said the county is trying to smooth their finances out by creating a mineral stabilization fund.

Jim Anderson explained that the library is not going to get a distribution this month, but will likely receive \$11,000 in January.

- 3) **Approval of Consent Agenda** John moved to accept. Motion passed.

- 4) **Correspondence**

John Angst motioned to send a letter to the County Commissioners demonstrating our appreciation of Jim Anderson and his staff in regards to his department helping us understand the revenue side of county's operation. Approved. Carrie Johnson and Anita Marple will work on that.

- 5) **Public Comment:** None

- 6) **Reports Roundtable**

A. Commissioners Update - Carrie Johnson said the new County Commissioner liaison to the Library Board is Mike Jones.

B. Director & Assistant Director Reports & FCLS Annual Report review -

Anita Marple said longtime library supporter Mary Wendel's memorial service at United Methodist Church in Lander will be on September 25 and said she was a central pillar of library world in Fremont County. She also noted that the library has filled 6 of 7 new part time positions and that there is lots of training going on in addition to promotion of new Saturday hours. She said that a lot of what she is doing is responding to what patrons want and that she is working to find the best prices for online book access.



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7) Unfinished Business

- A. Update on new FCLS Website: Anita Marple said we've started the process of switching people over. Hopefully by the end of the week online visitors will be switched to the new site. She said we have a staff person who will be updating the website and coordinating the development. The URL will be <http://fcslonline.org>
- B. Board By-Laws Article VI Section 1 Term add in consecutive "no elected officer shall serve more than one consecutive": Second reading and action. John Angst motioned to adapt by law. Motion passed.
- C. Child Supervision Committee Update: Kristen McClelland and Marta Mossburg said they had just started working on the child supervision issue and would have more to report next month.
- D. Report to Commissioners on Special Meeting: Marta Mossburg and Kristen McClelland proposed three changes to the report to County Commissioners regarding the Special Meeting:
 - 1. "Glimpsing" to "viewing or seeing" in Internet Use Issue Paragraph.
 - 2. Also in Internet Use Issue paragraph will add language that clarifies that library staff will receive additional training based on any policy or procedure changes that may happen in coming months.
 - 3. In the Board Communication Issue: Second sentence changed to "The discussion included a review of the Board's Policies & Procedures which clarifies that the board members should communicate with the Library Board **on all Library Board issues** before communicating with the County Commissioners." (bolded new language)Carrie Johnson moved to approve amended report. Motion passed.

8) New Business

- A. Access to Board Meeting Recordings: Carrie Johnson said the board wants the secretary to be able to participate in meetings which is why we call for stripped down minutes. She said she had to contact Anita Marple two times to access recordings in order to accurately write minutes when she was secretary. She noted the goal is to release minutes publicly within 10 days. She said we have not made the recordings public but instead use them internally.

Marta Mossburg said that we often make a big deal of pressing "record" on Zoom meetings, which makes it seem like the meeting won't happen unless we record. If we don't provide access to the public she said it is transparency theater and that those who live far away from meeting sites would not easily be able to attend meetings. She said the County Commissioners provide access to Zoom meetings and that it makes it much easier for people who do not live in the town where the Library Board is convening to participate. She said she has nothing to hide and thinks more transparency is better than less. She also thinks the public should have access to the recorded Zoom meetings as should all board members, not just the secretary.

John Angst said meetings should be in person and that we should record in audio. He said he prefers no Zoom access for the public and no Zoom meetings with all board members in attendance. He said that he would prefer making audio available to the public.



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Kristen McClelland said one of the things we tout as a library is access and she didn't know why we would take a step backwards by not allowing Zoom meetings. She also suggested we need to discuss moving meeting times to outside of work hours during week nights or on weekends so that those who are not able to take off during the day because of work to be there in person who would otherwise be able to Zoom can make it as well as those whose financial situation or lack of transportation make it impossible for them to attend.

Two members of the public attending online suggested that we could be violating the Americans with Disability Act by not allowing online access.

Carrie Johnson said she would like full board discussion on this issue and is tabling it until October.

B. Email Communications: Julie Freese. Carrie Johnson asked if we were all clear on what is appropriate to send via email. All said yes.

9. Action Items: Update

Carrie Johnson said that hopefully we will have a written document from Nathan so we can revise the policy on the meeting room use. We will also discuss filters for computers and Zoom recordings at October meeting. Kristen McClelland and Marta Mossburg will also give an update on child supervision.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 4, 9:30 AM in person at the Lander Library and Via Zoom Meeting

Adjourned 11:31.