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MILLARD J. OAKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES
OF MEETING 5/20/2025

ATTENDEES:

BOARD MEMBERS: Rita Reagan-Underhill, Deb Newkirk, Helen Carter, Cindy Robbins, Jerry Schetterer, Brenda Winningham.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Phillip Talley, Donna Savage, J. Darwin Clark, Cindy Robbins, Gail McGowan

REGIONAL LIBRARY STAFF: Matthew Kirby, Regional Director

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Deb Newkirk

LIBRARY STAFF: Judith Cutright, Director

AGENDA:

Reading and approval of meeting minutes: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Schetterer. Motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was made by Rita Reagan-Underhill with second by Helen Carter. All approved.

Board Discussion:

A. ALA Grant Doors-Community meeting - There were about 15-20 people who attended the community meeting. All were in agreement that the automated doors are needed. Judith has gotten 3 bids. The 2 low bids came in at approximately \$9000.00 but did not cover any of the electrical work that would need to be done and they were not local firms. The bid from J&S in Cookeville was \$16,874.00 and included all the electrical work needed for the installation on both the front and rear doors. The next step is for Judith to meet with the County Mayor to get approval. A motion to approve the J&S bid was made by Deb Newkirk with a second by Rita Reagan-Underhill. All approved B. Landscaping committee- A landscaping committee is needed to decide what

should be planted where the trees were cut down. It was decided that Gene Gantt,

who is working on the Courthouse improvements, should be invited to help advise us. Rita Reagan-Underhill and Cindy Robbins will work on getting in touch with Mr. Gantt. Those interested in working on the committee will attend a meeting at the Library on June 16, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

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C. Board appointment- Jerry Schetterer and Deb Newkirk's terms expire this year.

Both have agreed to serve another term. A motion was made to approve their appointments by Cindy Robbins with a second by Rita Reagan-Underhill. All approved.

D. Self-evaluation- There had been only 3 evaluations submitted so the issue was tabled until the next Board meeting.

E. Summer reading program- The Summer reading program will be starting on June 5, 2025. Read Squared is an online program that will be used to help in tracking the amount of reading that is done. The program can be used by parents and the library staff. The paper log will still be available for use. The theme for this year is Color Your World and centered on the arts. The first program will feature the Science Heros. This will be their first appearance at the library.

F. City Mayor-

1. Storybook Walk- Judith and the City Mayor walked where the storybook trail will be set up by the ball fields and pool. The story is printed and is ready for the boards. It is hoped that the boards will be installed and ready by the end of summer.

2. Donation- The Mayor did say that the city has made their annual \$5000.00 donation. Judith asked Cindy Robbins if she knew what happens to that money. Judith stated that she has never seen that added to the library's budget. Darwin Clark said that it goes into the General Fund and goes to the next year's budget. It is not a separate item. He went on to say that they will look into showing it on the library's budget.

3. Trash- The library has had a problem getting the trash picked up. It is not good for patrons and visitors to the trash cans full and overflowing onto the sidewalk. In the past when the city has been called about the trash, they have responded that it was the county's responsibility, meanwhile when the county is called, they say it is the city's responsibility. The Mayor stated that it is the city's

responsibility and if the trash is not picked to call her and she will have situation taken care of.

G. Possible Senior program- Kellie is going to take on and develop this program.

Angie takes care of Storytime and Chelsea takes care of Teen Nite. She is looking at late morning or early afternoon on Wednesdays to have a Bingo program. It was brought up that the Putnam County library has a Plant Bingo where participants bring in plants, seeds, bulbs, pots etc. that is very popular.

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H. Driver kiosk- The kiosk has been installed and is connected to the WIFI. It has been popular with the community. Drivers can renew their licenses but cannot get the Gold Star. That paperwork must be submitted for verification and then the new license will be mailed.

I. Speck donation- Matilda Speck has donated 3 big binders of cemetery records for all of Overton County. She recorded and included some pictures of the cemeteries and headstones. She has recorded the Overton countians who were in the Civil War and included their rank and the outfit they served in. Judith plans to send her a card of appreciation and thanks.

Friends of the Library - Deb reported that the book sale netted \$540.00. The Friends received a \$1500.00 grant from Dollar General, thanks to Judith, which will help to cover the expenses for entertainers for the Summer reading. The Teen Nite has been being well attended. The Friends are going to partner with Paperpie Learning. Paperpie will host a book fair at the cookout/awards event that the Library holds at the end of the Summer reading. Paperpie also has a Cards for a Cause (CFAC) fundraiser that the Friends will use after the start of the new school year.

Regional Library Report - Matt Kirby focused on the Federal grants that are received since there have many news reports about grants in the news and not all have been entirely accurate. Tennessee libraries receive Federal funding of approximately \$3.7 million thru the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) annually. MOPL receives \$12000.00 from state and federal funding. The federal portion is \$9000.00 and is supplemental. Grants for state programs are ongoing but not sure about what will happen in the coming year. The \$12000.00 that MOPL receives

is twice the amount the library receives from the county. The library receives \$6000.00 annually from the county for books.

Directors Report: Judith reported that the repairs to A/C unit in the main library came to \$4000.00. Unfortunately, the Federal grant to MTSU for the Virtual Reality program was cut and the planned open house could not be held.

A. Financial Report-

1. 2023 - 2024 Overton County budget attached with expenses through May.
2. Bank Deposits- were listed FY 2024-2025 thru April.

Public comment- There was none.

Motion to adjourn was made by Rita Reagan-Underhill with a second from Cindy Robbins.

The next Library Board meeting will be held on July 15, 2025 at 4:30 P.M.

Deb Newslink

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Newkirk

Secretary/Recorder