

PIONEERLAND LIBRARY SYSTEM  
EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Thursday, May18, 2023, Willmar Library Multipurpose room

Committee members present: Brent Olson, John Winter, Candice Jaenisch, Bill Paterson, Eric Rudningen, Doug Erickson, and Mitch Kling.

Admin Staff on site: Laurie Ortega, Director. Guest: Jake Fejedelem, Renville County head librarian. Absent: Ron Antony and Duane Anderson.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Olson. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**The agenda** was approved on a motion by Paterson, seconded by Rudningen.

**Minutes of the March 23, 2023 Executive/Finance Committee** were approved at the April 20, 2023 Board meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:**

**A. The April 2023 Financial Report** was approved on a motion by Winter, seconded by Rudningen.

**B. Bills and Check Registers** were approved on a motion by Rudningen, seconded by Paterson.

**Personnel Committee:**

- **New Hires:** The following new hire was approved on a motion by Jaenisch, seconded by Erickson: Annie Mathison, Library Asst. I, Willmar

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Circuit move:** There will be a one-time charge to move the telecommunications circuit in Appleton to the new library building. On a motion by Jaenisch, seconded by Winter, approval was given to split the \$974 circuit move charge with Arvig.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:**

**A. Head Librarian vacancy:** Director has identified two candidates to bring in for in-person interviews for the open Canby/Madison/Dawson position. One of them is from out of state. Director is working on setting up interviews, hopefully sometime in early June.

**B. Library building project:** The Appleton project is getting close to completion. There have been a few delays which have pushed back the projected completion date/library move by a week or two. Updated estimate for the move to the new library space is the end of June or early July. New London has identified a contractor and will be moving forward with renovations to the new library space. Director anticipates completion of this project possibly by the end of 2023 if all moves forward as planned.

**C. Phone System:** Arvig has been out for a walk-thru for the new VOIP phone system for PLS headquarters/Willmar library building. The start date for installation/training is 30-45 days out at this point.

**D. Legislative Update:** The education bill, which includes Regional Library System (RLBSS) funding, has passed both the House and Senate and is headed to the governors' desk for signature. The bill includes \$4 million per year in new funding to Regional Public Library Systems, along with a change to the current funding formula. The formula changes shift funds from the Equalization factor to increase the Basic System Services factor, which will support basic operations in all public library systems and lessen the volatility of the formula. This is great news! This funding increase and formula change has been a long time coming.

**OTHER:** Next board meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. (Finance Committee @ 6:30)  
Executive/Finance Meetings: July 20, August 17 @ 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:26 p.m.  
Recording Secretary – Laurie Ortega