

Van Buren District Library Board

Board Meeting
December 20, 2016
Webster Memorial Library

Minutes

Chairperson Sandra Hanson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Webster Memorial Library.

Present: Wayne Rendell, Phillip Marshall, Bruce Cutting, Libby Godwin, Marianne Abbott, Betty Markel, and Sandra Hanson. Ryan Wieber, director; Debby Stassek, assistant director; Molly Wunderlich, business manager; Douglas Cultra, Van Buren County administrator; and Donald Hanson, Van Buren County commissioner.

Absent: Catherine Hulin (excused).

It was moved to approve the agenda, with Unfinished Business moved directly after Public Comment. (Motion: Hanson; Second: Abbott; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2016 Board meeting, as mailed. (Motion: Markel; Second: Marshall; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve for payment the December "due to" vouchers number 16-12-01 through 16-12-03 in the amount of \$3,881.82; and December General Fund vouchers number 16-12-02 through 16-12-56 in the amount of \$77,794.58. (Motion: Rendell; Second: Godwin; Motion: Carried).

Public Comment:

None

Unfinished Business:

Doug Cultra, Van Buren County administrator, reviewed the history and current status of the property tax dispute with New Covert Generating. Factors such as the plant's location, ability to serve three markets, prior purchase offer, and its high-quality turbines all indicate a much higher taxable value.

It was moved that the Van Buren District Library will pay its proportional litigation amount for the tax years 2012-2016, subject to final cost sharing agreement. (Motion: Rendell; Markel: Godwin; Voting 'yes' -- Marshall, Abbott, Godwin, Markel, Cutting, Hanson, and Rendell; Voting 'no' -- no one; Absent: Hulin; Motion: Carried).

Reports:

Molly Wunderlich reviewed VBDL's revenues and expenditures through November 30. In revenues, very little tax money has been received for the new year. Penal fines are down 15.21 percent when compared to November 2015. In expenditures, there will be three payrolls in December. Salaries and Wages expenditures are lower than originally budgeted because six-day library service began in April instead of January. The large expenditure in 982.3 Magazines is for the library's annual subscription service payment to WT Cox. In endowments, the Copley Family contributed \$5,000, and interest rates have improved slightly.

Mr. Wieber reviewed his written director's report, emphasizing the announced closing of the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant by October 1, 2018. VBDL currently receives \$252,000 per year in tax revenue from this plant alone. However, normal tax revenue is expected to continue for the next two years (2017 and 2018), while 2019 is unknown. Planning for the closure will begin right away, in early 2017.

Wieber discussed the possibility of VBDL annexing the portion of Kalamazoo County's Texas Township that is within the Mattawan School District. The Library of Michigan has verified this area as "unserved" and their penal fines and state aid are being held in escrow. The affected Texas Township residents would need to vote to join VBDL and each of the current municipalities would need to approve changes to the district library agreement.

Libby Godwin (Decatur) and Catherine Hulin (Gobles) have both been re-appointed to the Board for an additional four-year term.

New Business:

It was moved to adopt the MERS Defined Contribution Plan for New Participants, effective March 2017. (Motion: Markel; Second: Cutting; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to table the MERS Defined Contribution Plan Adoption Agreement and Conversion Addendum, pending corrections. (Motion: Markel; Second: Godwin; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to honor longtime library attorney Richard W. Butler, Jr with a resolution of gratitude and appreciation for over 30 years of service to the Van Buren District Library. (Motion: Cutting; Second: Markel; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve the attached 2016 Early Resignation Incentive Plan. (Motion: Markel; Second: Godwin; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to adopt the attached 2016 budget amendments, including increases and decreases of \$70,000. (Motion: Rendell; Second: Cutting; Voting 'yes' – Cutting, Markel, Godwin, Abbott, Marshall, Rendell, and Hanson; Voting 'no' – no one Absent: Hulin; Motion: Carried).

Wayne Rendell reviewed the Director's Annual Evaluation and recommended that his contract be renewed for 2017, with a 2 percent pay increase. It was suggested that this evaluation process be started in the third quarter next year.

It was moved to continue to employ Ryan Wieber in the capacity of Director of the Van Buren District Library, under the authority of the Board and its successors, for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. (Motion: Rendell; Second: Cutting; Voting 'yes' – Godwin, Markel, Cutting, Marshall, Rendell, Hanson, and Abbott; Voting 'no' – no one Absent: Hulin; Motion: Carried).

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday, January 24, 2017, at 5:00 p.m., at the Lawrence Community Library. This meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

Recorded by Debby Stassek