

**LIBRARY MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
15 OCTOBER 2024**

The regular meeting of the Joplin Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by President Mary Gaarder. Board Members Lisa Erickson, Heather Van Otterloo, Veda Boyd Jones, and Jean Coltharp, and Library Director Jeana Gockley were present.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Diane Reid Adams, Andrea Cullers, Jennifer Baldwin, Emily Stanley.

President Gaarder expressed Board Members' condolences to Dr. Coltharp on the recent loss of her father.

**BOARD EDUCATION:** Reference Librarian Patty Crane provided a Reference Department tour and staff introductions.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the September 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by Dr. Coltharp to approve the minutes, with a second by Dr. Van Otterloo. Motion passed. **5/0**

Minutes from the September 2024 closed session meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by Dr. Coltharp to approve the minutes, with a second by Dr. Van Otterloo. Motion passed. **5/0**

**VOUCHERS:** September non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$36,571.16 were approved. **(Erickson/Boyd Jones) 5/0**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** There were no Committee Reports.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Media Engagement**

- On September 25, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared about the Lego Buildathon event in their "5 things to do" section.
- On September 28, [KSN](#) aired a story about the Friends Trivia Night Fundraiser.
- Writers' Faire
  - On October 1, I talked about the event on [KSN](#)'s Living Well.
  - On October 10, Lori Crockett shared about the event on [KODE](#)'s Good Morning Four States.

- On October 10, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared about the event in their “5 things to do” section.
- On October 11, [KZR](#) aired a story.
- On October 12, [KSN](#) aired a story.
- On October 1, [KOAM](#) aired a story about the Library’s Storywalk.
- On October 9, KSN aired a story about the Makerspace.

### **Programs**

- The Library’s Hobbit Day event took place on September 20, from 3 to 5 pm. More than 100 attendees participated in activities offered throughout the Library - picking a hobbit name, doing a scavenger hunt, using the photo booth, creating a dragon craft, making a hobbit door wreath and/or making a book nook.
- The eighth annual Writers’ Faire took place on October 12. Forty-five local and regional authors were represented and they connected with over 215 attendees. Thank you to the Friends of the Joplin Public Library for sponsoring the event and kudos to Sarah Turner-Hill and Jill Halbach for their continued devotion to this special event.

### **Personnel**

- PR/Marketing Assistant Lori Crockett and Adult Programming Coordinator Sarah Turner-Hill have been selected as recipients of the 2024 Joplin Globe's 20 Under 40 Award. A special magazine that will honor the recipients will be released in November.
- The Children's and Teen Departments are being transitioned to a more cohesive Youth Services Department. This combined department will provide services to both areas of the library, for all ages of youth, from birth to eighteen. Christina Matekel-Gibson has accepted the new role of Youth Services Librarian and individuals working in the Children's Department will transition to Youth Service Assistants. In addition we are hiring a full-time youth service assistant to add to the team.

### **Building & Grounds**

- Bills Electric was on site October 10 and 11, and they wired the ionizing plasma generators into the HVAC system.

**STATISTICS:** There was discussion of withdrawn titles versus volumes.

**STAFF COMMENTS:** There were no Staff Comments.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** There were no Board Comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no Public Comments.

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Written by

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Administrative Assistant

Approved by

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Library Director

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Joplin Public Library will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, November 19, 2024.