

LONESOME PINE REGIONAL LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 4, 2008

PRESENT: Mr. Larry Yates
Mrs. Betty Bolling
Mrs. Iloe Stallard
Mrs. Paxton Allgyer
Mrs. Barbara Edwards
Ms. Brenda Johnson
Mrs. Mary Hylton

ABSENT: Mrs. Betty Humphreys
Ms. Melanie Jorgensen
Mrs. Donna Meade
Mrs. Tilda Pope

Others Present: Amy Bond, Julie Short, and Heather Fultz.

The regular meeting of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board of Trustees was held Thursday, December 4, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Wise County Public Library.

I. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Yates. Mrs. Hylton made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mrs. Edwards seconded and the motion carried.

II. There were no citizens to speak.

III. Mrs. Bolling made the motion to approve the November 6, 2008 minutes as presented. Mrs. Hylton seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Mrs. Bolling reported that monthly payables had been reviewed; she made a motion to pay the bills as approved. Mrs. Hylton seconded; the motion carried. The following check numbers were reported:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>
General Fund	29782	29868
Payroll	22813	22900

V. There was no Report of Attorney.

VI. Ms. Bond reported on the following matters:

The date of the January meeting will be changed from January 1 to January 8 due to the New Year's holiday.

The dedication ceremony for the Larry D. Yates Childrens Area at the Haysi Community Library will be held Wednesday, December 31, 2008 at 11:30 a.m.

The winner of the C. Bascom Slemm Memorial Library Storybook Festival of Trees will be announced on Sunday, December 21 at 3:00 p.m. during the library's Community Christmas celebration. Trustees were referred to an invitation inviting them to the event.

A \$500 donation has been received from The Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation; the donation will be used to purchase breast cancer related materials for the library's collection.

The Powers family has donated an additional \$250 to the Negetha Powers genealogy collection at the Haysi Community Library.

The Wise County Public Library in Wise and the Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library in Clintwood will be hosting Crooked Road Music Exhibits in 2009. The *Crooked Road Royalty* exhibit will be displayed at the Wise library in April and at the Clintwood library during May; the *Musical Styles Along the Crooked Road* exhibit will also be displayed at the Wise library during May. These exhibits will consist of video and audio clips, photos, and essays.

The Friends of the Haysi Community Library will be hosting the *Looking at Lincoln* exhibit from January 20 thru February 17, 2009; this exhibit presents Abraham Lincoln's life through his speeches, letters, and proclamations. This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Town of Big Stone Gap plans to apply for Community Development Block Grant funds for downtown improvements. Ms. Bond and Mrs. Christine Smith, Branch Manager of the C. Bascom Slemm Memorial Library in Big Stone Gap, attended a meeting with Mr. Aaron Arnett, Project Consultant, and Mr. Pat Murphy, Town Manager, to discuss the library's role in the Town's revitalization efforts; several ideas discussed focused on tying the library to adjacent museums and Bullet Park. Ms. Bond will keep the Board updated on the progress of the project and the library's involvement.

The Library's Five-Year Capital Improvement Request has been submitted to the County of Wise for consideration. Ms. Bond requested that the phased replacement of outdated heat pumps at the Wise County Public Library continue, that handicap access to the front entrance of the C. Bascom Slemm Memorial Library be upgraded, and that planning for a new wing to house a public meeting room and youth services areas at the Wise library be considered.

On December 3rd, Mrs. Enid Costley, Consultant for Children's and Youth Services at the Library of Virginia, conducted a workshop for branch managers and programming specialists on age appropriate activities and management of children's programs. The workshop was very successful and informative.

The company from which Lonesome Pine has purchased most of the library's computers has filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy; extended warranties were purchased on all computers. The Library has been informed that there has been a total shutdown of warranties and replacement part operations pending reorganization of the company. Ms. Bond will report further on the matter as information is received.

Ms. Bond informed Trustees that it was time to begin budget preparation for FY2009-2010, she requested guidance on several matters due to the current economy and the uncertain state aid situation. She reminded Trustees that the grant for the Rose Hill Community Library computer center will expire in June, 2009; she asked how the Board would like to proceed with operation of the library and computer center. Prior to the grant, Rose Hill was open

only 15 hours per week and staffed one part-time employee. Funding through the grant made it possible to open the library 42 hours per week, make the branch manager position full-time, and hire an additional part-time employee during the grant period; however, once the grant period is over, Lonesome Pine will not be able to continue to operate the library at the current level. The Board instructed Ms. Bond to request funds from Lee County to continue to operate at the current level before considering reducing operations. Ms. Bond also reminded Trustees that the second phase of minimum wage increases will become effective in July raising minimum wage from \$6.55 to \$7.25. Lonesome Pine currently has four positions with an entry salary below or near \$7.25 per hour that will need to be re-aligned. Ms. Bond recommended that only those four positions be considered for re-alignment in the upcoming fiscal year; Trustees were in agreement. Administration will proceed with budget preparation based on the Board's guidance.

Mrs. Short, Mr. Yates, and Mrs. Rita Walters, Branch Manager of the Scott County Public Library, attended the Turning the Page Advocacy Symposium on November 10 – 11 in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Library's attendance of this conference was required in order to receive the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Opportunity Online Hardware Grant. Mrs. Short and Mr. Yates highlighted the sessions that they attended and reported that the symposium was very interesting, engaging, and informative. Ms. Bond informed the Board that sessions may also be taken online; information was distributed to those interested.

Ms. Bond presented Lonesome Pine's updated Technology Plan for Trustee information; she highlighted the Plan explaining that it had been written according to E-Rate guidelines. The Plan was approved by the Library of Virginia on November 24, 2008.

VII. There were no Reports of Committees.

VIII. There was no Unfinished Business.

IX. Ms. Bond contacted the Virginia Municipal League (VML) to determine if Lonesome Pine would be eligible for comprehensive insurance coverage as suggested by Mr. Yates at the last meeting. She reported that the Library is eligible for coverage as a political subdivision, that the coverage in the municipal pool will be equal or greater to the coverage with a local, private insurer, that the library should realize significant savings through VML, and that the procurement process will not be necessary if the Library chooses VML. After discussion, Ms. Johnson made a motion to change the Library's insurance coverage to the Virginia Municipal League. Mrs. Stallard seconded. The motion carried.

Lonesome Pine has been asked to generate at least 10 letters, e-mails, phone calls or visits to Senator Wampler, Delegate Phillips, and Delegate Kilgore concerning the importance of funding public libraries in these uncertain economic times, and to request that state aid not be reduced beyond the Governor's across-the-board cuts. Trustees were referred to a newspaper article from the December 3, 2008 edition of the Kingsport Times-News which projects state aid cuts will be higher than anticipated and that an announcement about the budget is expected around December 17. Ms. Bond and several Trustees plan to contact the representatives as requested. Ms. Johnson suggested that patrons also be asked to contact their representatives on behalf of their library.

Ms. Johnson made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Bolling seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman