

## MINUTES

### **Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – September 22, 2020**

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. online.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Kemper, President  
Claudia Oñate Greim  
Laura Dominik  
Pete Browne  
Olivia Dorsey  
Billie Howard Barnes  
Susie Kenney  
Denesha Snell  
India Williams

STAFF PRESENT: John Herron, Chief Executive  
Jessica Addo, Administrative Officer  
Janice Bolin, Director of Finance  
Reed Beebe, Purchasing Manager  
Melissa Carle, Director of Information Systems  
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director for Public Affairs and  
Community Engagement  
Crystal Faris, Director of Youth & Family Engagement  
Cindy Hohl, Director of Branch Operations  
Jerry Houchins, Director of Building Operations  
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Library Services  
Dawn Mackey, Technical Services Manager  
Heather Pedersen, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive  
Services  
Margaret Perkins-McGuinness, Deputy Director for Philanthropy  
Debbie Siragusa, Assistant Director / Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Stoppello, Director of Library Collections  
Karen Weitzel, Director of Human Resources

Kemper called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Kemper opened the public hearing for the 2020 property tax rate and the final 2020 – 2021 budget and asked for questions and comments. There was no response from the public, and Kemper closed the public hearing.

**Motion by Snell to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2020 Finance and Audit Committee meeting, August 25, 2020 Regular Board meeting, and August 31, 2020 Special Board meeting. Second by Dorsey. Approved unanimously.**

(Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has actually been cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.)

Kemper reported on the August 31, 2020 Special Board meeting with Karen George.

**Motion by Dominik to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Oñate Greim. Approved unanimously.** The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for August 2020: Payroll (08/27/20 net cash \$250,982 plus taxes \$96,337) and (09/10/20 net cash \$247,195 plus taxes \$92,920) total amount of \$687,434; General Expense Payments including Checks (#3721-3967), in the amount of \$1,883,045. (LBM 4443)**

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for August 2020. (LBM 4444)**

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the contract with and/or make payment to the attached list of vendors in amounts not to exceed those detailed in the attached list of vendors for FY 2020 - 2021. (LBM 4445)**

Discussing the proposed ad valorem tax rate, Siragusa stated that Library staff recommended that the ad valorem tax rate for 2020 be set at 56.44 cents per assessed \$100 valuation.

**Motion by Howard Barnes to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to fix the Library's 2020 ad valorem tax rate at 56.44 cents per \$100 assessed valuation pursuant to the provisions of 67.110 RSMo. Second by Snell. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4446)**

Discussing the proposed final 2020-2021 Library Operating Budget, Siragusa noted protest appeals are still pending, an additional clawback of funds is a possibility for 2020-2021, and the impact of the pandemic on property tax revenue is difficult to predict. The pandemic has significantly impacted other revenue categories, such as investment earnings, room rental and passport revenue.

**Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to adopt a final 2020-2021 Library Operating Budget General Fund of \$23,029,629 and approve changes in transfers as noted on the attached schedules. Second by Browne. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4447)**

Herron discussed the Director's Report with the Board. (LBM 4448) Crystal presented a summary of the Summer Reading Program which despite the pandemic saw a 56% increase in total registrations and positive engagement. Herron introduced Margaret Perkins-McGuinness the new Deputy Director for Philanthropy.

**Motion by Dominik to adjourn. Second by Browne. Approved unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

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Secretary

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Date