

**FDL Public Library Board Minutes**  
**February 18, 2021**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: On Thursday, February 18, 2021 via Zoom, the regular meeting of the Fond du Lac Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Board President, Mel Kolstad. Trustees present: Marilyn Averbeck, Anne Deacy, Ben Giles, Mel Kolstad, Dusty Krikau, Jerry Letcher, John McDowell, Jay Myrechuck, Sharon Simon and Brendan Wood-Taylor. Members absent: None. Those also in attendance included Library Director Jon Mark Bolthouse, Administrative Assistant Laurie Moore, Assistant Director for Operations Lori Burgess, Youth Services Coordinator Sarah Davis, Information and Outreach Services Coordinator Alana LaBeaf, County Board member Sarah Everson, community member Christine Brennan and WiLS staff members Melissa Mclimans and Laura Damon-Moore.

2. Approval of Minutes:

A. Discussion and possible approval of minutes from the January Regular Meeting of the Board. Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Simon; second: Letcher; carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Input: None.

4. Comments from the Public: Christine Brennan, a member of the community, had a few questions for the Board. She inquired when the Library will reopen to the public, and also asked about how we are handling the homeless population needing shelter during the day at the Library. Bolthouse let her know that the Board will be discussing the Library hours later in the meeting. Also, he informed her that there is a day shelter that has opened Monday through Friday for the homeless population. It opens as early as 7:00 and as of right now has plenty of volunteers to help support the shelter through April. The Library chose to stay open on the weekends to provide shelter when the Salvation Army and day shelter are closed.

A. Conversation and Discussion with WiLS; Strategic Planning Session: Mclimans and Damon-Moore from WiLS led the Board in beginning discussions regarding strategic planning.

5. Correspondence (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Bank Statement from Seefeld Trust for January 2021

6. Approval of Financial Reports:

A. List of bills paid since the last regular meeting: Motion to approve the bills as presented: Myrechuck; second: Letcher; carried by roll call vote: yes nine (9); noes none (0); absent and not voting one (1).

B. Statement of Accounts: Motion to approve as presented: Deacy; second: Krikau; carried by unanimous voice vote.

7. Director's Report:

A. Monthly Library Statistics

\* Bolthouse gave an update on the Solar Project. The OEI Grant was finished and submitted. Work has now moved onto starting on the EBSCO Grant.

\* Dramatic Results found another STEAM grant to pursue to make it possible for the Library to do more partnering with the School District.

8. Old Business:

A. None.

9. New Business:

A. Response to COVID-19 Pandemic: Library Operating Hours: Bolthouse shared with the Board how the COVID numbers are decreasing in Fond du Lac County, but there are still concerns of another variant. He would like the Board to give more input on the library hours so it is more than just a decision of one person.

Kolstad has similar concerns on safety as Bolthouse, and feels that if safety protocols are continued, it may be possible to be open more, starting incrementally. Giles and Letcher agree with phasing in of reopening hours.

Wood-Taylor gave the suggestion of starting by being open on Fridays for limited hours.

Krikau has her concerns with the Library being hit hard after school hours with schools now being open 5 days a week for in person instruction.

McDowell expressed that if the curve is trending down rapidly, it may be a time to go ahead with changes. We could also look at possibly doing some adjusting at the number allowed in the building as 50 is low for the square footage of the building. It may be possible that a separate allotted amount of people in the Children's space may be needed if that room reaches capacity quicker.

Krikau feels we need to use some science behind the decision of how and when to reopen.

Motion to reopen the Library on a part-time basis 2 – 3 days per week based on the current science and precautions in place already at the Library: McDowell. Amended motion to be more specific; When Fond du Lac County moves to Phase II, the Library will re-open Friday, Saturday and Sunday for normal hours, continuing the 50-person capacity. The Library will move to being open a full seven days per week when all staff that choose to be are vaccinated. The Library will revert back to only being open on weekends when and if Fond du Lac County would revert back to Phase I at any point: Krikau; second: Letcher; carried by unanimous voice vote.

10. Other:

A. None:

11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: McDowell; second: Deacy; carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting was adjourned by Board President Mel Kolstad at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Deacy  
Secretary