

Minutes of the Finance Committee
Board of Trustees
William F. Laman Public Library
June 1, 2020 @ 1:00 PM

The Board met via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. Ms. McLean called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Those present were Ms. Crystal Gates, Executive Director; Ms. Valerie McLean; Mr. Charley Baxter; and Ms. Vicki Matthews. Also present: Mr. Stephen Simpson, Ms. Stacy Purdy and Mr. Richard Theilig. There were no public comments.

All committee members and library staff discussed additional amendment options for the 2020 Budget. Ms. Gates reviewed two options, one including a significant workforce reduction and one with no staff cuts but with smaller reductions spread across various categories. Ms. McLean discussed that while the debt on the Argenta facility is holding back opportunities for Main and the system, the Argenta discussion will need to be had at some point in the future. The priority at the current time is to look at additional options for reducing the current budget to help weather the current pandemic and its impact on potential revenue collections. Ms. Matthews noted that the group met just a year ago trying to find cuts, and now we are again trying to find reductions. With the current climate, now is a good opportunity to decide where we are going, whether to keep fighting until the bonds are paid off or to make the decision to close Argenta Branch and enhance the Main library so that it is back to what it was before the branch was added. Upon further discussion of the spreadsheet and possible amendments, unallocated funds were moved to be shown as a reduction in anticipated millage revenue, funds to be moved from the Service Account to the Main Account were zeroed out with those funds to remain in the Service Account, and the final expected expenditures matches the expected revenue as shown on the proposed amended budget. Motion Mr. Baxter, second Ms. Matthews to recommend approving the proposed budget as shown in Column G. Motion carried unanimously.

Under board member comments, Mr. Baxter noted a decision needs to be made about Argenta Branch, and then the library needs to move forward. He also noted that the Ms. Gates has the responsibility to decide what her staffing needs are and how her staff fill those needs, and the board simply needs to know the number of people needed and whether she needs more or less than her current staff.

With no further business to discuss, motion Ms. Crawford, second Mr. Baxter to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Crystal Gates, Secretary