

Benton Harbor Public Library Board Meeting  
September 19, 2023

Minutes-Draft

**PRESENT:**

Mamie L. Yarbrough Board President, Treasurer and member of the Finance Committee  
Richard S. Hensel: Board Vice President and member of the Finance Committee  
Board Members: Toni Rabbers, Edward Isom James Gunter, Deidre Fields

Jill Wood Accountant  
Jill Rauh

**ABESENCE/EXCUSED**

Marian Tripplett

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 pm President Mamie L. Yarbrough

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST MEETING:**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gunter and seconded by Mr. Isom to accept the August Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup>, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING:**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Isom and seconded by Mr. Gunter to accept the August 29<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MONTHLY BILLS FOR AUGUST:**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Isom and seconded by Ms. Rabbers to pay the August bills.

**MOTION CARRIES**

**LIBRARY REPORT:**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Hensel and seconded by Ms. Fields to take money out of the Huntington Bank account and close the account and put the money into a savings account at 1<sup>st</sup> Source Bank.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Isom – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Fields – Yes

**MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gunter and seconded by Ms. Fields to look for the best CD rate we can get and with that purchase another CD.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Fields – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Isom – Yes

**MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Hensel and seconded by Mr. Gunter to move \$140,000 out of Honors Checking account and put it into Honors Savings account to hold until we find the best interest rate.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Isom – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Fields – Yes

**MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Fields and seconded by Mr. Gunter to move December’s Furlough days to December 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> so that on the regular weekend, the library will be open for the Holiday Lights Celebration, and the days will be closer to the staffs Christmas days off. The Library will be closed Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> and remain closed until December 27<sup>th</sup> when it will reopen for service.

**MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gunter and seconded by Ms. Fields to move to go into closed session to discuss the September 19, 2023 confidential written legal opinion from the Library’s legal counsel, which is subject to the attorney-client privilege.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Isom – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Fields – Yes

**MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gunter and seconded by Ms. Fields to open back up the Board meeting to the public.

## **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Isom – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Fields – Yes

## **MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Hensel and seconded by Ms. Fields to move that the Library take action to follow the advice contained in the September 19, 2023 written legal opinion of the Library's legal counsel.

## **ROLL CALL**

Ms. Fields – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Isom – Yes

## **MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Fields and seconded by Mr. Gunter to remove Kat Boyer's name from all Bank accounts.

## **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Isom – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Fields – Yes

## **MOTION CARRIES**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Field and seconded by Mr. Gunter to have Kat Boyer to return any items to the Library and that the check is contingent upon the returning of these items.

## **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Isom – Yes  
Ms. Rabbers – Yes  
Mr. Hensel – Yes  
Ms. Yarbrough – Yes  
Mr. Gunter – Yes  
Ms. Fields – Yes

## **MOTION CARRIES**

## **ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Secretary Yvette Moore.