

Minutes of the Board of Trustees
William F. Laman Public Library
April 23, 2020
2:00 PM

The Board met via Zoom at 2:00 p.m. Ms. McLean called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Those present were Ms. Crystal Gates, Executive Director; Ms. Valerie McLean, President; Mr. Charley Baxter; Ms. Esther Crawford, Ms. Kim Drake; Ms. Vicki Matthews; and Mr. Sonny Rhodes. Ms. Joyce Brewer was absent. Also present: Mr. Stephen Simpson, Ms. Stacy Purdy and Mr. Richard Theilig. There were no public comments.

Ms. Gates reviewed the bids received for the Main Branch cooling tower replacement. Motion Ms. Drake, second Mr. Rhodes to approve the low bid of River City Mechanical in the amount of \$48,587.00. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Gates reviewed the potential savings after initially putting aside \$90,000 to cover the cost of replacing the cooling tower, and the approved bid coming in at almost half of the amount set aside. Several maintenance projects have been done at both branches, including window repair and painting at Argenta, and stairwell repair and repainting, stairway rail touch up, the completion of the non-skid surface for all entrances, and the purchase of new ceiling tiles to replace the damaged ones at Main. Mr. Theilig has several contractors coming in to quote floor replacement for the Lecture Hall at Main. Depending on the estimated costs of that, Ms. Gates would like to consider using the savings from the cooling tower replacement to replace the flooring. After discussion, Ms. Gates will provide estimated costs to the Board at the next meeting, and all will discuss whether to continue with building repairs and replacements or hold off until more is known about potential revenue losses due to the pandemic.

Ms. Gates then reviewed the library services still being provided while the buildings are closed including new ecards being made daily, STEM/literacy packets and books being placed in the Little Free Libraries around the City, reference questions still being answered, virtual programming via social media, a new oral history project, and more. She also discussed ArLA's role in helping libraries, including the creation of a new Pandemic Response Committee and moving annual conference to a virtual conference.

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

Crystal Gates, Secretary