

Minutes

South Mississippi Regional Board

June 12, 2024

The South Mississippi Regional Board met at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday June 12, 2024 in the auditorium at the Columbia Marion County Public Library. Present were Mrs. Joan Bass, Chair, Mrs. Jinger Cole, Mrs. Sharon Dungan, Mrs. Patricia Norris, Mrs. Ernestine Bridges, Ms. Na'Chel Shannon, Library Director, Mrs. Gail Bracey, Interim Library Director and Mona Swayze to take minutes of the meeting.

Mrs. Bass called the meeting to order with prayer.

Ms. Shannon read the minutes of the March 20, 2024 and April 4, 2024 meetings. Mrs. Dungan moved to accept the minutes as read. Mrs. Norris seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: The Board of Trustees hired Na'Chel Shannon as Library Director to begin on June 3, 2024. There is some paperwork that Mrs. Bass and Ms. Shannon will need to submit to the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) Board of Commissioners naming Ms. Shannon as Provisional Library Director pending her finishing her Masters Degree program. That paperwork will need to be submitted by July 12, 2024 to be presented to the Board of Commissioners on July 23, 2024 for approval. This is to ensure that SMRL will still be eligible for the Personnel Incentive Grant Program (PIGP), which helps pay salaries. This paperwork should have been submitted to MLC by May 12, 2024 to be presented to their Board of Commissioners on May 25, 2024; however, that did not happen. In order for SMRL to continue to receive the PIGP payment in June 2024, Mrs. Bracey will need to continue to be Interim Director until the provisional paperwork is approved in July. She will be Interim Director in name only through July 31, 2024 and will need to come in to sign grant paperwork as needed.

New Business: The Board reviewed the job requirements for the new library director.

Next, Ms. Shannon presented the financial report to the Board.

Finally, Ms. Shannon discussed an issue that was brought to her attention this morning. A Jefferson Davis County patron questioned why the wi-fi access is different in Jefferson Davis County (JDC) from Marion County (MC)? In JDC, the wi-fi access ends at 6 p.m.; whereas in MC it ends at midnight. This hinders students who need wi-fi to get homework/schoolwork done. In JDC, the law asked that wi-fi access end at 6 p.m. because of potential mischief. After discussion, the Board agreed to extend the wi-fi access in JDC to 9 p.m.

Mrs. Norris moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Dungan seconded. Meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be July 10, 2024 at 10 a.m.

Approved by the SMRL Board on July 10, 2024.