

**Northwest Regional Library Minutes
March 18, 2021**

Due to the worldwide coronavirus spread, the Northwest Regional Library Board met by using web conferencing Zoom. All votes during the meeting were submitted by board members answering aye or nay.

Present: Samantha Winger, Gracia Nelson, Darryl Tveitbakk, Cheryl Matzke, Darlene Bates, Michele McCraw, Rob Burkel, Glenice Johnson,

Others present: NWRL Director Jim Trojanowski

Call to Order: Chair D Tveitbakk called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of the Agenda: G. Nelson/M. McCraw moved to approve the agenda with changing item number VII to Approval of Financial reports, February and March.. Carried.

Introductions: Amanda Walton was welcomed as the new NWRL Office Manager.

Approval of Minutes: R. Burkel/J. Pulczinski moved to approve the February 18, 2021 minutes. Carried.

Approval of the Financial Report: R. Burkel/M. McGraw moved to approve the February 18, 2021 Financial Report. Carried.

EFT payments check numbers 737 to 744 for a total of \$4,985.06
Check payments numbered 9897 to 9921 for a total of \$20,404.55

Reports:

- A. Directors Report: Director Trojanowski advised the board that Brainfuse sessions increased to 269 sessions compared to 73 uses in January. JobNow and VetNow were used only once each and he doesn't feel the need to renew them.

RLTA Category 3 funds will be used to renew Zoom and Brainfuse subscriptions along with adding a year of data for existing hotspots. \$30,000 plus will be put towards OverDrive and Hoopla and towards the program, Brainstack.

The application for free state park passes has been submitted. Libraries have not heard how many passes will be available to them. They Regional library directors would have liked to have input into planning and advertising the program.

Minitex, a state funded information sharing program, is celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Director Trojanowski asked that those who have been impacted by their service and would like to submit a story, to contact him for further information.

Director Trojanowski spoke at the Thief River Falls Lion's Club and reported that they were very interested in all the services provided by the libraries.

- B. Circulation: Circulation was up at the Godel, Karlstad, and Grygla libraries. Currently, Thief River Falls and Warroad libraries require walk-in appointments.

Director Trojanowski reported that Overdrive is the only source for newer book titles. They have fewer books and we pay for their service upfront. Hoopla, which we have had for one year, provides over 800,000 older book titles. They have promised to include new titles. He also stated that we can't get e-books and audio books that are available through Amazon.

Brainstack Reading Challenge software will be added to the Summer Reading Program.

Review of meeting schedule:

Attending members of the NWRLB agreed to return to the 2020 meeting schedule with the Executive Committee (Darryl Tveitbakk, Sam Winger, Gracia Nelson, Charlie Lindbergh, and Cheryl Matzke) meeting in person at the NWRL office every other month starting with the April 15th meeting. The full board will meet on May 20th and even months thereafter. Decision will be made prior to the May meeting whether to continue meeting via Zoom or in person.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next Meeting: April 15, 2021 4:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 5:35 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Gracia Nelson, Secretary