



JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT (JCLD)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS EMERGENCY MEETING
Conducted virtually via Zoom
January 14, 2022 11:00 a.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present at the meeting were: Board Members Eric Dziura (President), Jill Turner (Vice President), Susan Kiefer, Viki Brown and Kim Young.

Additional attendees: Kari May (Library Director), Claudine Taillac (Assistant Director, Public Services), Kelda Vath (Assistant Director, Social Services), Ginny Auer (Foundation Executive Director), Brittany Brite (Finance Manager), Ryan Bradley (Marketing Coordinator), Jacquelyn Bunick (Legal Counsel), Crystal Zastera (Facilities & Operations Manager), and Val Nowak (Executive Assistant).

Guests: Kathleen Kudo, Madison LaBerge, Mike Zacchino

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President Dziura called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. Roll call was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

This emergency meeting was called due to a high percentage of JCLS staff out due to COVID-19. Library Director Kari May requested authorization from the board to close the libraries because of staffing shortages, if the situation demands it, with staff placed on paid administrative leave for the duration of the closure.

Director May reported that at the highest point this week, there were approximately 20% of staff that could not work due to COVID, whether that was due to illness or awaiting test results from a confirmed exposure. The largest percentage of staff absences are in Medford. Omicron is predicted to peak somewhere in the next two to three weeks. At this time, the libraries have not needed to close due to staff shortages, but if these trends continue, it may become necessary. If closing individual branches may allow some branches to remain open, JCLS would aim to keep as many branches open as possible.

A press release has been prepared and is ready to be distributed through regular communication channels if closures are necessary, as well as on the JCLS website and social media channels.

Director Kiefer asked if it would be possible to move back to front-door service. May responded that closing the branches would not be to community spread, but rather if JCLS did not have the minimum staff necessary to staff the branch. The closure of a single branch is authorized, but the purpose of this meeting is to ask the Board for authorize emergency closure of all branches if needed.

MOTION: Director Young moved to approve the request to close all branches as needed due to COVID and to provide paid administrative leave to all staff. Director Brown seconded the motion.

Motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

ADJOURN

President Dziura adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

/s/ Val Nowak
Recording Secretary