



# CARTHAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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**DRAFT**

**APPROVED**

CARTHAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Tuesday, May 13th, 2025 5:15 p.m.

Carthage Public Library Board Room  
612 S. Garrison Ave.

AGENDA

Roll Call of Members

Minutes from the Last Meeting

Financial Reports

Director's Progress and Service Report

President's Message

Council Liaison's Report

Committee Reports

Building Committee

Budget Committee

Community Relations

By-Laws

Library Gardens

ADA Compliance

Communications

Compensation/Wages

New Business

Payment of Bills

Adjournment

**DRAFT**

**APPROVED**

The Carthage Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, April 8, 2025, in the Carthage Public Library Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm by Justin Baucom, President.

### **Roll Call**

Board Members present: Nancy Dymott, Gary Cole, Kevin Johnson, Justin Baucom, Brian Schmidt, and Donna Thomason. Board members absent: Sandy Swingle, Carrie Campbell, and Doug Huntley. Tom Barlow, City Council Liaison was also present, as were Julie Yockey, Library Director, and Sherri Luce, Children's Director.

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

There were no changes to the minutes of the regular meeting on March 11, 2025. A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Gary Cole and seconded by Brian Schmidt. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

Attached. Discussion included: Gary Cole made note that the Sur Tax of \$89,000 had been received. He also noted that work on the Emergency System had affected expenses this month. A motion was made by Gary Cole to accept the Financial Report. It was seconded by Nancy Dymott. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Director's Progress and Service Report**

Attached. Julie Yockey reported there had been 2 water leaks in the roof. This was caused by heavy winds. Work to repair them has been completed. It was also decided that the Building Committee would assist Julie in choosing the new sign to be placed on the property.

### **Youth Services Progress and Services Report**

Attached.

### **President's Message**

No Report

### **Council Liaison's Report**

No Report

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Building Committee**

Gary Cole reported that there was no new information about ongoing building projects.



#### **The Budget Committee**

## The Carthage Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2025

Julie Yockey presented the proposed 2025-2026 Budget. She explained that the biggest difference is the increase in wages due to the Minimum Wage increase. Employees receiving wages are currently paid \$13.75/hour. Brian Schmidt explained the increase of 5% in salaried employees pay. This increase, added to last year's 6% raise would give them an 11% increase which keeps the Carthage Public Library competitive with other libraries in the area. Nancy Dymott made a motion to approve the budget with Brian Schmidt seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Community Relations** – No report

**By-Laws** – No report

**Library Gardens** – Julie Yockey reported that Pinewood Nurseries has been working to replace trees that had been damaged in storms.

**ADA Compliance** - No report

**Communications** - No report

**Compensation/Wages** – No report

**Unfinished Business** – No report

**New Business** – Julie Yockey presented a new Cyber Security Policy that the library is required to have in place. Attached. Gary Cole made a motion to accept the policy. Brian Schmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Payment of Bills**

Justin Baucom stated that the bills had been reviewed and could be paid. Brian Schmidt moved that we pay the bills. Nancy Dymott seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Closed Session** -none

### **Adjournment**

Brian Schmidt made a motion to adjourn. Gary Cole seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Thomason  
Secretary-Treasurer

# **Carthage Public Library Youth Services Board Report April 2025**

## Programming:

1. National Library Week:
  - The second week of April is National Library Week. We used this opportunity to welcome families and individuals to visit the Library. We feel several of those that came in this week hadn't been in many years, if ever. It was an excellent opportunity to welcome new faces.
  - Better Business Bureau Scam Prevention Workshop
  - Author Visit
  - Book Giveaway
2. Story Time Sessions:
  - We held two early literacy Story Time sessions this month. One session celebrated Easter, finishing with an Easter egg hunt in our Children's Department.
3. Reading with Dessa, the Therapy Dog:
  - Dessa visited the library for a special Reading with Dessa session, where children had the opportunity to read aloud to the therapy dog, promoting reading confidence and comfort.
  - Sadly, Dessa doesn't seem to get as excited about her therapy visits in the community as she once did. Her visit in May will be her last before she starts enjoying retirement benefits.
4. Author Visit:
  - World-famous author, Mr. Roland Smith, visited Carthage's sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, with an additional session at the Library that evening. The library donated several copies of Mr. Smith's books to help students read or listen to the titles before the author's presentation. Students and staff members were excited to learn of Mr. Smith's travels and adventures, and how he puts his experiences on the page. Several asked questions at the end of his presentations, and even more came to get a book signed.
  - The evening presentation at the Library was more intimate, with approximately 25 visitors. Roland used this session to have more of a discussion than a presentation. Some attendees had met him at school and were excited to see him again and introduce their families to the author.
5. Carthage Public Library Tours:
  - Mr. Ben and Ms. Sherri provided a homeschool group with a Library and Steadley Center tour. These young people also had time to engage with some of the new STEAM materials purchased by the Community Foundation of Carthage.
  - Ms. Sherri also gave tours to all kindergartners at Columbian Elementary School. Three groups of students rotated between the Deli, Library, CWEP vehicles, and the Fire Department. While at the Library, students toured both floors, enjoyed a story time, and played in the Children's Department.

Additional Notes:

- Administrative staff attended an online webinar regarding personal hygiene and increased body odors as the temperatures outside increase. We then met to discuss our notes and made plans to discuss what we learned with all staff. This can be a sensitive subject, and we never intend to alienate patrons with fewer options to maintain personal hygiene. I am creating a brochure containing local resources for those needing clean clothes, laundry facilities, showers, etc. Our partners at the Crisis Center and Crosslines are helping provide information.
- The Library has been fortunate to receive additional private donations to help fund the summer library program. These funds will be used to purchase craft supplies, giveaway books, and prizes for participants.
- Summer Library Program preparations are in the final stages, with school visits, library decorating, ordering materials and supplies, and confirming scheduled performers. The Carthage Public Library will be transformed into a world of color within the next few weeks!

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherri Luce  
Children's Director  
Carthage Public Library

**Carthage Public Library  
High School Diploma Program Report  
March 2025**

Our newest student, who began the Excel Program in March, continues to make great strides. There have been a few new applications. These are in review, as we have two spots remaining for students.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherri Luce  
Children's Director  
Carthage Public Library