

2020 November director's report

1. The library received notification from the state auditor's office they had not received our 2017-2018 audit. Director contacted Harold Rotunda asking about the status and was informed he had not been contracted to do the work. Since this is a budgeted line item and we need to get moving on it, director gave the okay to have Rotunda perform the audit.
2. Staff updates: Christina resigned effective November 16th. She and family will be moving out of state to pursue better opportunities.
Ellie will be leaving the end of the semester. Changes and opportunities have timed out that it was a highly advantageous for her to move at the end of the semester rather than the end of the school year.
We wish both well and appreciate all they have done for the library.
3. Kelly Kohn installed the new lighting in the children's library. The new LED lamps have added a warmer feel to the room with the added benefit of no florescent flicker. He miscounted the number of fixtures and had extra lamps, so we had him change over the fixture in the tech service office as well. The last part of the lighting upgrade will be upstairs in the original part. Kohn had given us an estimate a couple years back in the neighborhood of \$10,000 since the job will require replacing all the current fixtures, adding and relocating new fixtures for better illumination, and labor.
4. State standards!!!! See next page.
5. As director was working on 2021 personnel budget, he discovered that Cassidy and Christina had not received the pay rate increase per the employee pay and benefits policy, when they moved to a ¾ time position. That works out to about \$800 per employee which we will have to correct in the next payroll.
6. State aid for public libraries, Houston we have a problem. The county's amount is less than the three year average and we may lose the county portion for 2021 which would be about \$12,000.

From county auditor Beth Didier: *The County is levying 2.17 mills for library, which will eventually bring in \$146,435.51, more or less.*

To receive state aid, the library requested \$148,000. The three-year combined average for 2018 (\$148,732), 2019 (\$148,897), and 2020 (\$145,362) is \$147,664. Director asked Beth what happened, her response is below;
The library was a victim of the process this year. We have to base our published tax estimate on an estimated taxable value. This year, a number of our utility valuations (wind towers, mostly) came in with lower valuations than the previous year; therefore, the estimated valuation was higher than the final actual valuation and the mills required to get \$148,000 (your request) at the estimated valuation were not enough to get the same amount at the final valuation. Unfortunately, when we set the estimate and the value goes down, that happens. It wasn't a purposeful decision on the part of the commission to deny the library. The

intention was to give \$148,000 but when the mills required to get that are higher, we aren't allowed by Century Code to increase after publishing the preliminary estimates.

Director has contacted the state library to make them aware of the issue and is currently waiting for a follow up answer.

7. So far Saturday and family library hour have been lightly used.
8. Library purchased additional audio recording equipment (usb microphone, mic stand, sound absorbing baffle) and upgraded speakers on the editing computer to add voice overs to virtual programs and storytime. Funds were taken from the programming budget.

State standards for public libraries 2019 results

Developing:

Adams County Library

Beulah Public Library

Bowman Regional Public Library

Carrington City Library

Casselton Public Library

Cavalier County Library

Cavalier Public Library

Divide County Public Library

Eddy-New Rockford Public Library

Edna Ralston Public Library

Enderlin Municipal Library

Fargo Public Library

Garrison Public Library

Golden Valley County Library

Griggs County Library

Harvey Public Library

Heart of America Library

Kindred Public Library

Lake Region Public Library

Lakota City Library

Lisbon Public Library

Maddock Community Library

Margaret Fraase Public Library

Max Community Library

McKenzie County Public Library

Mohall Public Library

Mott Public Library
Northwood City Center Library
Oakes Public and School Library
Park River Public and School Library
Rolla Public Library
Stanton Public Library
Turtle Lake Public Library
Underwood Public Library
Velva Public and School Library
Ward County Public Library
Williston Community Library

Excelling:

Bottineau County Public Library
Hazen Public Library
Leach Public Library
Valley City Barnes County Public Library

Future-Focused:

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library
Minot Public Library
Morton Mandan Public Library