

WYANDOTTE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

ZOOM MEETING

January 26, 2021

4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Pat Pettey, Chair.

Members attended: Pat Pettey, Jim Jarsulic, Judy Anderson, Jody Boeding, Korri Hall and Micki Hill. **Members absent,** Alvin Sykes, John "Tiny" McTaggart, Don Jolley, Chuck Stites, Vice Chair

Support advisors: Carol Levers, Director of KCK Public Library; Jack Granath, Director of Bonner Springs Library; Aaron Froelich Turner Library, Branch Manager.

UG Support staff: Reggie Lindsey, UG Budget Manager and Lisa Rangel, UG Administrative Support

INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat Pettey announced that Commissioner Ramirez appointed Don Jolley to replace Pat Garmon's resignation. Pat asked that communication be sent to Commissioner Johnson to replace Alvin Sykes; Commissioner Kane to fill Angela Lawson's resignation; and Commissioner Philbrook to replace Chuck Stites. Chuck Stites is the current Library Board Vice Chair but has not been able to attend the Library Board meetings. Pat said she would like to entertain appointing a new Library Board Vice Chair.

NOMINATION OF NEW VICE CHAIR – Micki Hill made a motion to nominate Jody Boeding as Library Board Vice Chair. Judy Anderson seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Micki Hill made a motion to approve 9.15.20 minutes, seconded by Jody Boeding. Motion was unanimous.

New Business

Libraries provided a one-page outline of how the library budget increase benefits their library:

- [Bonner Springs Library – click here for full outline](#) – Purchased PPE, filling of staff positions, outside and inside equipment to continue programs and zoom room which some of those expense will continue. Ebooks cost more than print books which is anticipated to increase.
- [Turner Library – click here and refer to “Year in Review for budget benefit outline](#) – Funding helped expand collection, self-check-out machine and to pay fines, lab refresh with new computers, other technology equipment, PPE and kits.
- [KCK Public Library – click here for full outline](#) - Safety & PPE, Virtual Author Events, Take Home Kits & Curbside Service and E-content & Wi-Fi

Pat asked Reggie to provide an overview of the County Library Mill Levy.

Reggie Lindsey shared the [County Library Mill Levy 2020](#). Reggie said, as requested by the board I am providing a monthly breakdown of the Mill Levy for library services in each Piper, Edwardsville, Turner (PET) areas. The total of Real Property Value is \$413,707,132. The % of Real Property Value for each area reflects the % of the \$413,701,132. The 2020 Real Property Tax Allocation total of \$2,844,739 is the amount of money that's forecasted, which we anticipate going up not down. The last column is the Library Real Property Taxes totaling \$237,062 and is broken down monthly for each of the PET areas.

County Library Mill Levy (2020)

TURNER (USD 202)						
Entity	2020 Tax Rate	Real Property Value	% of Real Property Value	Real Property Tax Allocation	Annual Library Real Property Taxes	Monthly Library Real Property Taxes
County Library	6.129	\$136,372,273	32.96%	\$2,844,739	937,725	78,144
EDWARDSVILLE (USD 204)						
Entity	2020 Tax Rate	Real Property Value	% of Real Property Value	Real Property Tax Allocation	Annual Library Real Property Taxes	Monthly Library Real Property Taxes
County Library	6.129	\$63,211,114	15.28%	\$2,844,739	434,653	36,221
PIPER (USD 203)						
Entity	2020 Tax Rate	Real Property Value	% of Real Property Value	Real Property Tax Allocation	Annual Library Real Property Taxes	Monthly Library Real Property Taxes
County Library	6.129	\$214,123,745	51.76%	\$2,844,739	1,472,361	122,697
Total	6.129017	\$413,707,132	100.00%	\$2,844,739	2,844,739	237,062

Pat asked if the UG has preliminary census data for the county. Reggie said he believes Mike Grimm is working on that information. Pat said, if we look at real property value, I'm not sure how that equates to population when you look at services. I think it may be a continuous question about availability of services and what people are getting for their tax dollars when it comes to the Library Board. Reggie asked, are you speaking of only what the Library Board covers? Pat said yes, only the Piper, Edwardsville, Turner (PET) area. Pat said I'm sure Mike will break it down by commission districts, so it is a piece of information that is relative to services.

Korri said for clarification, this information provides property value broken down to total tax dollars coming from these areas, that then goes to the libraries each month. Reggie said it doesn't go to the taxing entities each month but rather twice a year. At the request of this board, it was broken down by month for a visual. Korri said that is based on the mill levy rate that we voted on. Reggie said that is correct. Pat said when we talk about the money that comes through the PET district to the WyCo Library Board for distribution, there is a percentage set for how that is distributed. As you might remember, it's how the Library Board was reorganized, 79% of what we bring in provides services to KCK; 14% goes to Bonner and a certain percentage to Turner. It's put into a pot and then distributed to the pot. Jody said that's a good point to make to the governing body. That it is not by usage of those residents of a particular piece of the PET area, it can go to any of the libraries. The libraries must also maintain their physical plant, staff, etc. and some of the percentages of the funds can be used for that because they are available to the PET area residents. Korri said I understand when we vote on the 6.1%, that is specifically for the PET area, so that is why we have not listed the actual KCK property value and the tax dollars that come from KCK, is that correct? Pat said, correct. You are sitting on the PET area Library Board, we're outside of the KCK school district but because we're in Wyandotte County, that's what makes up the PET area. Although it doesn't reflect it, if you live in KCK, that 6.129% would be 11.2%. The money would look very different because that figure would be much higher. A KCK homeowner's property tax bill reflects what they're paying for library services as 11.2% rate instead of a 6.129% for anyone that lives in the PET area. Korri said if there are any concerns, the best example would be, the services you receive at this rate vs trying to fund an entire library yourself. Jody said for historical purposes, Bonner Springs is not part of the PET area because Bonner Springs levy a city tax to fund their library. The PET area was not paying a tax for library services, but services were available to them. It's not equal across the board but it's better than what it used to be

when the PET area didn't pay anything for library services. Pat said WyCo is unique in many ways and how we support our libraries is one of them. It makes us an outlier in the country that in one county we have three library structures. One, is KCK but that's because they started the first library, but that did not include the county. Bonner taxes their own residents and then the PET area. That's why this was established, to cover the areas that did not fit in any of the other entities to provide services, but because we don't own any property, we contract for those services and that's why we make those decisions we do every year.

Reggie said, we expect revenues to be up this year. We expected \$3M but what you saw on the screen today was \$2.8M, however, there is enough fund balance where there shouldn't be a big loss. The housing market is hot so the property values will increase which is a positive for the Library Board. Pat said there was a tax bill passed on the Senate side that would take away the tax lid. It replaces it with a reporting process where every taxing entity would have to provide; if this same tax rate was generating more dollars then that would have to be reflected to the voters prior to any budget being passed. It hasn't passed the House, but it could have implications for when and how we make our decisions on our budget. It would not take effect for another year, but it is something to keep in mind. Because we are a taxing entity, we have taxing authority; it's then passed on to the Commissioners, but they can't change it. Jack asked, the reporting is a mailing to every household, not a publication so there would be a cost for that, correct? Pat said yes, the cost would be incurred by UG or Bonner Springs or Edwardsville, but since we're under the UG, we would be reflected on their mailing that they would send it out. The legislation does not speak to that, but there is a cost that must be the responsibility of the local government. Reggie said he thought the tax passed three or four years ago did not apply to the county library. Pat said you are correct, but this new piece of legislation, we are not left out, just the school districts. We will know more in March. Micki said, you said not the school districts but doesn't KCK fall under us. Pat said the KCK libraries are under the KCK school district, the PET is part of the county and not a part of any school district. Micky said, for clarification, you say the "board" is a taxing entity, therefore, the "board" is not exempt, but the school districts are, correct? Pat said, in the legislation, school districts are not part of any reporting requirement that every other taxing entity has currently under this legislation.

LIBRARY UPDATES

KCK Library - Carol Levers

- Provided an [overview report](#) of monthly events and statistics

Bonner Springs Library - Jack Granath

- Provided an [overview report](#) of monthly events and statistics

Turner Library – Aaron Froelich

- Provided an [overview report](#) of monthly events and statistics

Pat said, she and Carol made a presentation to the Edwardsville City Council last night which is the bulk of Carol's overview report. I shared with them that if there was interest in a brick-and-mortar location in Edwardsville, that Library Board does not own any property. The Library Board contracts for services and that the Turner Library was possible because of an interlocal agreement with the UG, Turner School District and the WyCo Library Board. There is a possibility that Edwardsville might bring something forward, I don't know that for sure but wanted to share this information with everyone.

Adjournment

Micki Hill made a motion to adjourn seconded by Korri Hall. Motion was unanimous.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2021 @ 4:00 pm.