

WYANDOTTE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
Special Meeting/Public Hearing
West Branch Library

August 23, 2022

4:00 PM

Attendees: Pat Pettey, Chair, Jody Boeding, Vice Chair, Judy Anderson, Kori Hall, Erica Simpson, Jim Jarsulic, Laura Flores, Susan Martin and Rocki Mayes.

Absent: Micki Hill, Jaqueline Brown.

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

UG Support staff: Debbie Jonscher, Deputy CFO; Reggie Lindsey, UG Budget Manager, Jeff Conway and Nathan Joel, UG Legal Department and Lisa Rangel, UG Administrative Support.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Pat Pettey, Chair. Roll call: Pat Pettey, Jacqueline Brown, Kori Hall, Rocki Mayes, Jody Boeding, Jim Jarsulic, Susan Martin, Erica Simpson, Judy Anderson, Laura Flores. Absent: Micki Hill, Jaqueline Brown.

Order of Business:

Jeff Conway introduced Nathan Joel, UG Legal Department. Jeff provided an overview of this special meeting. He stated, Legislature passed SB-13 last year which requires locals to follow a procedure if they intend to exceed the revenue neutral rate. Part of the procedure is to hold a public hearing for public comment and a resolution stating you intend to exceed the revenue neutral rate. As you know, the tax rates are often expressed as mills. The revenues from last year are also expressed as mills, but as you know, valuations may have risen between last year and this year. Property values if raised, but the mills remain the same, you will probably generate more revenue. The idea behind the revenue neutral rate is to determine your revenues raised last year in comparison to what the valuations for this year are; determines what the revenue neutral rate is. Example, if it was 10 mills last year and the valuations did in fact rise, the revenue neutral rate is the same amount of revenue that was raised last year as expressed as a mill rate. If the same dollar amount was raised and valuations went up, the mill rate would have to be adjusted downward to get you the same amount of revenues from last year. The revenue neutral rate for last year was calculated for all taxing subdivisions in Wyandotte County, including the UG, city and county. We had a resolution at our last meeting that talked about the revenue neutral rate for the library board and what your proposed tax rate would be. You set that, it was published, and notifications were mailed to everyone, which is another part of the SB-13's process, so that is the maximum. Whatever the proposed rate was, you cannot exceed that in today's meeting. Jeff provided the board with the [most recent version of K.S.A 2021 Supp. 79-2988](#). Today's purpose is to decide whether to exceed the revenue neutral rate, hold the public hearing and open for board discussion.

Jeff stated, at the last meeting, the proposed mill levy was 6.130374 and that's what is reflected in the notification sent to all. Pat

Debbie Jonscher – because we believe the median house value is approximately \$160k in the PET district, we are using an estimated single-family home of \$150k. We then received from the appraiser, the median increase within the PET district of 14.9%. So, if your home was valued at \$150k in 2021 and you had a 14.9% increase, your house value in 2022 would be \$172,365. We then list all three tax units, Piper, Edwardsville and Turner, and these are the current mill levies for each of the taxing districts within that tax unit. The entities could make changes when they do their final budget approval, but for comparison we used the current approved mill levies for each taxing district. The county library is 6.130 mills listed for each taxing districts. The third part of the tax bill 2021, was certified last year. The first half of your house payment would have been December 2021 and your second half would have been due May of 2022. So, for example, Piper tax on \$150k home would have been \$2,897; Edwardsville, \$2,952; and Turner, \$2,958. With the 15% increase for 2022, the bill you will receive later this year on that same \$150k home, increased by 14.9% is now \$172k, so your tax bill would be \$3,336 in Piper; \$3,399 in Edwardsville; and \$3,406 in Turner. The reason those are different, even though the same percentage is used, is if you look at each of the taxing entities within those districts, there are some differences based on the school district most likely being the one that changes. Turner has the recreation commission, and all the rest of them should be the same. This example was to show you what kind of an increase a home of \$150K would have in each of those areas. For the library, it's based on the current mill levy that was proposed at the 6.130 mills.

Pat Pettey opened the public comment. There were no public comments.

Rocki Mayes asked if the 6.130374 mills the same as last year. Pat said, no, this is not a revenue neutral rate, this is the maximum.

Pat read into the record, the [Resolution to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate](#). Jody Boeding made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Susan Martin. Roll call, Rocki Mayes, Kori Hall, Jody Boeding, Erica Simpson, Jim Jarsulic, Judy Anderson, Laura Flores, Susan Martin and Pat Pettey. Motion carried unanimously.

Reggie Lindsey – presented the [Budget Allocation Resolution for 2023](#). Hereby allocates \$3,161,970 to KCK Public Library for its operations; \$280,139 to Bonner Springs Library for its operations; \$496,682 to the Turner Community Library with the stipulation that funding for the salaries and benefits of the Schlagle Library employees of \$82,243 be paid from the KCK Public Library allocation. Erica Simpson made a motion to approve, seconded by Judy Anderson. Pat asked all in favor to signify by saying aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Reggie Lindsey – presented a [Budget Setting Resolution](#) for \$4,293,281 with an added reserve of \$354,491 toward an ending fund balance of \$1,971,368 to Wyandotte County District. Jody Boeding made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Erica Simpson. Pat asked all in favor to signify by saying aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Pat stated, because Senate Bill 13 changed, we had to change the timeline in which to meet including the number of times to meet causing the budget process to be moved back later in the year. Within the material provided, it speaks specifically when to certify whether you're going to maintain or exceed the revenue neutral rate. It also speaks to when you must have the public hearing. It's important to know when this board will need to meet so I would suggest scheduling a meeting in November. Jeff reminded that by Charter Ordinance the mayor appoints the Chair and Chair Elect, and the secretary is appointed by the board. Pat stated, there are two dates that will need to fit in the legislative window. One, whether to exceed the revenue neutral rate, which we did in June of this year and another, when to

have a final vote, which is what we did today. You will still need to have a meeting to have the libraries present their proposals and needs and then one to have discussion and move on from there. We normally have four meetings prior to 2022. You may be looking at five now.

Library Board appointments – Jeff said it's confusing because people would assume if they were appointed by a certain Commissioner that they would be part of that district, but according to the Charter Ordinance, appointments are aligned with Edwardsville, Bonner and school districts, rather than just by districts. For example, District 8 will never appointment someone who resides in District 8. District 8 must appoint someone who resides in Edwardsville. Pat provided some background on the library board. Pat said, this is the Library Board for the PET area (Piper, Edwardsville, Turner), so that's why there are six appointees from the PET area which explains District 8's appointment. Jody stated, the other members of the library board is because two libraries in the county are run by USD 500 and the city of Bonner Springs, so those are the other staple version libraries.

Pat stated, there is a video that we developed for the Commissioners and shared with them approximately four years ago. The KCK libraries are run by the KCK School District, they are the library board for the KCK libraries. Bonner Springs has a City County and their own library. Once the new Charter was adopted after we unified, we gave a portion of funds to Bonner so that anyone that lived in the PET area could use the services of the Bonner library, as well as the services of the KCK library. Then Turner, which is in the PET area, petitioned this board for a library which became a joint agreement between the Turner School District, the Library and the UG. The library board did not provide everything. There could be a potential with Edwardsville as well, but they have not come forward with that. Sometimes people think it can be easily changed but it can't because KCK School District owns the buildings except for the Turner building, and for Piper and for Bonner. It's not like this board can say we want to take over everything because we don't own anything. Jody said there is a prohibition against this board owning any property.

Jeff stated, I want to point out a couple of things about SB-13. The statute allows you to have the hearing on exceeding the revenue neutral rate, but it's a short window which we can't do anything about even if we wanted to. If you want to exceed the revenue neutral rate, you have to have a public hearing, which we did, but the window goes from August 20th to September 20th so, in a way that locks that in. If this is going to stay in the books for years, you will probably know if you want to do that, you will have to have a meeting like this to lock that in. The notice that was sent out to 28,000 people in the county, if someone owns more parcels, they get a notice for each parcel. Someone received 200 or so notices this time around. Everyone that is part of that notice, is billed proportionately. I'm not sure how they will determine the sliver of the library board, but whatever that bill is, the library board will have to pay that portion starting in 2024 (it's the first two years). Pat stated, but they can still do one mailing. The state pays for the first two and then after that, the taxing entities must pay so we'll just pay a portion of that mailing. Jeff stated, the UG will pay for that cost and then come back to the separate taxing entities and say you need to pony up for your portion of the mailing.

The board agreed to meet again November 15, 2022, at F.L. Schlagle.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.