

**FLAGG-ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
**Board of Trustees - Regular Session**  
April 17, 2025

**Trustees Present:** Teresa Haggstad, Lanning Nicoloff, Jackie Dickow (via Zoom), Darci Waltrip.

**Absent:** Kelly Johnson, Sheri Klindera, Sue Sevedge.

**Also Present:** Sarah K. Flanagan, Library Director; Juan Martinez, Assistant Library Director.

**Call to Order:** At 7:03pm, Mrs. Haggstad called the Regular Meeting to order.

**Minutes:** Mrs. Haggstad requested a motion to approve the March 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. Mrs. Dickow so made the motion and Ms. Waltrip seconded. Motion carried.

**Finances:** The April 2025 Vendors' Lists was presented, with payments set for Elijah Botts and the LightBeam Players Theatre workshops, to Entré as we've gone through the previous prepaid block of hours, and payment to Sara Pohl for the dirt for our raised beds for 4-H and Green Thumbs' Homegrown Healthy programs. A motion was made by Mr. Nicoloff and seconded by Ms. Waltrip to approve the Vendor's list. Motion carried.

We had sent our information to open our account with The Illinois Funds on March 17, only for the paperwork to come back to us as undeliverable and unable to forward as their office has moved and is no longer at the form's provided address. Sarah will try to contact someone to see if we can resubmit our paperwork online.

March and First Quarter Financials were presented, with Laura Babula at Sikich having gone over the numbers to make sure that they were correct. Our Tax Computation Report showed us as levying for \$713,250.00 and receiving almost as much at \$697,628.17.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**Recognition of Visitors:** None.

**New Business:** For Election Appointments, the swearing in will occur next month as there are still no official results. Teresa Haggstad, Lanning Nicoloff, and Darci Waltrip, having won their races, will not need to run again until 2029. Treasurer Sue Sevedge will have to run in 2027, while Jackie Dickow and Sheri Klindera are slated to be appointed for a two-year term and can run again after that time. As Kelly Johnson is not running again and her seat is available, the Board discussed some potential names to ask if they'd be interested. Ms. Waltrip said that Faten Abdallah had reached out to her regarding getting more involved in our community, so as a business owner, school principal, and accomplished professional, she would be a great fit. The Board asked Ms. Waltrip to please reach out to her to gauge her interest.

Mr. Nicoloff took the opportunity to commend Ashley Capes (Head of Children's Programming) and Sarah Flanagan for their recent Chautauqua presentation held at the Flagg Township Museum. He found it to be informative, thorough, and interesting as there were things that he learned through this event. The Board is and should be proud of the work they're doing here and via outreach in our community.

**Other:** The library has been a safe third space location where Department of Children and Family Services visits can be held as there is no DCFS office in town, and the library staff hasn't encountered any problems until recently when a mother was heard yelling at a social worker



while she was getting critiqued about her handling her four boys at a visit. It had gotten so heated that a staff member had to report it to the director. Both Chris Adams and Sarah Flanagan wrote up a statement of what they had witnessed for our files. Sarah had also talked to the mother and to the DCFS workers to calm the situation down. No further incidents have occurred with the mother in question.

**Librarian's Report:** We were busy this Spring Break season where we had a lot of kids visit the library for programming. Schools are closed, so we need to shine – we had movies, crafts, snacks, and fun. Our Summer Reading theme will be "Level Up At The Library"; this year we will implement a new flier procedure where we will direct people to download a QR Code to get the flier with all the programming notes instead of printing them to pass out to all the students. The staff meeting was cancelled in favor of Sarah attending an important meeting regarding the homeless situation in our community. It was attended by the police and fire departments, as well as the Rochelle Rescue Mission and others in order to brainstorm ideas and sources for funding should budget cuts and other decisions at the federal level affect us. Food pantry visits have increased from 40 families per week to 100 families per week and the biggest concern will be the cuts to Medicaid. PrairieCat Delegates meeting is on April 30th. We received \$3,500 from Rochelle Community Foundation funds for our thingamajigs and sensory boards grant. Master Gardeners and 4H will have gardening programs and promote our seed library for Earth Day as well as begin their Homegrown Healthy program on June 3rd, which is a ten week camp where participants learn to hydroponic garden. We had the Illinois Tollway here to help people set up their new sticker transponders and they had helped 128 people. We will definitely have them here again on May 29th from 1-6 PM.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Ms. Waltrip and seconded by Mrs. Dickow to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm.

Juan Martinez

Recording Secretary

A0pproved: 5/15/25