

**Briggs Public Library**  
**108 E. Railroad Street**  
**St. Johns, MI 48879**  
**December 8, 2015 Special Meeting**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ President R. Bellgowan: \_\_\_\_\_

Called to order: 6:10 pm.

Board present: B. Bellgowan, J. Brewbaker, E. Hufnagel, T. Schultheiss, V. Thelen, J. Ruestman, J. Denovich, S. O'Rourke

Board absent: C. Sackrider,

Staff present: S. Morrison

Public present: R. Rennells, B. Jesse, K. Skorna, V. Sposta

Limited Public Comment: none

Approval of Agenda: President Bellgowan asked for a motion to approve the agenda. E. Hufnagel requested adding Library By-laws to the agenda under Other. J. Ruestman moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by J. Denovich, all in favor.

**Business:**

1. Strategic Plan Reports:

- a. Technology: Recommendations were presented by group facilitator S. Morrison. Presentation is on file.
- b. Community Awareness: Recommendations were presented by group facilitator T. Schultheiss. Presentation is on file.
- c. Capital Maintenance: Recommendations were presented by group facilitator V. Thelen. Presentation is on file.
- d. Modern Facility: Recommendations were presented by group facilitator J. Ruestman. Presentation is on file.
- e. Funding: Recommendations were presented by group facilitator E. Hufnagel. Presentation is on file.

2. Discussion of Goals & Objectives: The group discussed the various reports. Discussion and questions were had about the recommendation of the Funding Task Force. Hufnagel requested that the Board take action on the Funding Task Force's recommendation given the short time frame they were proposing for accomplishing their main objective. There was discussion about whether it was necessary and appropriate to act at this meeting or if action should wait until the Jan. 14, 2016 meeting. J. Ruestman moved to pursue forming a district library on a multi-school district model, seconded by T. Schultheiss. President Bellgowan called the question.  
In favor: J. Brewbaker, E. Hufnagel, T. Schultheiss, V. Thelen, J. Ruestman, J. Denovich, S. O'Rourke  
Opposed: B. Bellgowan Bellgowan stated that he is not opposed to the formation of a district library but is opposing on procedural grounds.

There was discussion about the need to hire legal counsel specializing in library law to assist the Library though the process of forming a district library. Board members recommended that the Director contact the two lawyers in the State of Michigan who specialize in Library law to ascertain their fees and availability. E. Hufnagel moved to authorize up to \$4500 for professional services to create a district library with the individual to be selected by the Board President and Library Director, seconded by J. Denovich, all in favor.

3. Other: Library By-laws: Hufnagel and Ruestman passed out copies of the current Library by-laws and copies of the changes they are proposing to the by-laws. Hufnagel discussed some of the proposed changes including a process for nominating a slate of officers, modifications for the time line for appointment of Board members, limiting individuals to two five year terms, an enhanced and modified committee structure, descriptions of the duties/roles of the officers and committees. Hufnagel and Ruestman asked that their fellow Board members take the documents home and review the proposed changes for discussion at the Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Adjournment: Thelen moved to adjourn 8:40 pm, seconded by Brewbaker, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
S.B. Morrison