Boone County Library District
Minutes, Meeting of August 19, 2010

Board members present were Susan Daly, President; Bridget Canaday; Lyle Johnson; Pat Powell; and Jessica Robinson (by phone). Also present were Elinor Barrett, Amanda Burke, Melissa Carr, Karen Neely, Jim Smith and Mitzi St. John, DBRL staff members. Alex Holley, KOMU-TV reporter, was present for the first portion of the meeting. Dave Griggs, President of REDI Board, and Bernie Andrews, REDI Executive Vice-President, were present as indicated below.

Public Hearing
Daly opened the public hearing and invited comment from the public. No members of the public were present. Daly closed the public hearing.

Call to Order, Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
Daly called the meeting to order at 5:36 P.M. in the Virginia G. Young Room of the Columbia Public Library. All Board members were present (Robinson by phone).

Approval of Minutes
Daly asked for changes or corrections to the minutes from August 12, 2010. Hearing no changes, Daly declared the minutes approved as written.

Setting of 2010 BCLD Operating Tax Rate
Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Discussion: Board members agreed that keeping the tax rate at the current level was prudent in the current economic climate. Compared to other entities, the library is not in the position of having to lay off staff or reduce hours. The Board is very careful and the staff does a good job of managing funds. Carr indicated that the library may have to use more reserves for capital projects until the tax rate can be reassessed in 2012.

ACTION: Powell moved, Johnson seconded motion to set the 2010 Operating Tax Rate at 29.86 cents per one hundred dollars assessed value. The motion passed unanimously.

Holley left the meeting.

Potential 2011 Implementation Strategies
Barrett announced that the Long Range Planning Committee will be meeting in September or October and will begin planning the scope and process for a 2011 strategic properties and facilities study. She asked the Board to give the staff and Committee direction on what issues they were interested in having investigated. Barrett provided the Board with the following information: the current lease price for the SoBoCo facility will terminate in August 2013; the library currently has an agreement with the Columbia City Council for the exclusive right until May 31, 2012, to purchase six to ten acres of property on the Atkins Tract (Waco Road); as of 2011, Library-To-Go and metro book-drop sites will be running and their effectiveness will need to be evaluated; and the library owns a 2.5-acre property on Henry Clay Boulevard in Ashland. Discussion of this item was tabled.

Griggs and Andrews entered the meeting.

Proposed Boone County Chapter 100 Amendment
REDI is attempting to attract a company to Columbia via granting Chapter 100 status, which is an authority granted to government entities in which properties can be purchased with some taxes abated. The proposed facility location currently generates $504 in annual tax revenue zoned as A-1 (agriculture). If a business is recruited to the site, it could generate approximately $100,000 in annual tax revenue even with Chapter 100 abatement. Many surrounding states waive or abate all
property taxes, so offering Chapter 100 status to the business is a key component of attracting them to this area. Griggs also discussed a potential amendment to the Boone County Chapter 100 Policy.

Carr noted that Daly will represent the Boone County Library District on the Boone County Chapter 100 Commission.

Robinson left the meeting.

Griggs and Andrews left the meeting.

**Potential 2011 Implementation Strategies (Continued)**

Discussion regarding 2011 Implementation Strategies was resumed. Carr gave background on Boone County property decisions for the benefit of recently-appointed Board members. In 2007, BCLD lost an election to levy a tax to fund building a facility of approximately 11,000 square feet. In 2008, BCLD conducted a public search for property and reviewed several proposals from developers. All of the proposals had a cost higher than the current lease terms for the Bynum facility. Future direction on the issue was referred to the Long Range Planning Committee. In 2009, one new option was raised and the BCLD Board directed the staff to revisit the proposals from 2008. The Board then asked the staff to include a strategic properties and facilities study in the 2011 Implementation Strategies so that a decision can be made about whether or not the library will conduct a public search to evaluate all options available before renewing the current lease when it expires in August 2013. Powell noted that usage of the SoBoCo facility continues to grow. Johnson inquired what size the current facility is and what size the properties were that were proposed in 2008. Carr responded that the current facility is approximately 3300 square feet and the proposed properties ranged approximately from 4000 to 6000 square feet. Staff believe that moving library operations to gain a small amount of space is not worth it; if a move is made, it needs to be to a space in which the library can add services. Barrett explained that if the Board is in favor, the staff will investigate the implications of moving to or building, equipping and staffing a different, larger location as part of the Strategic Facilities and Properties Study. Powell opined that 2017 is too long to wait for a new facility and she wants the staff to proceed with the research. Barrett asked the Board to consider if the staff should include questions regarding a new library facility on the 2011 community survey; Powell said she was in favor.

Powell left the meeting.

Canaday, Daly and Johnson indicated their approval for staff to investigate options in 2011.

**Miscellaneous**

Carr reminded the Board that the ribbon-cutting for the Hallsville Library-to-Go will be Monday, August 30 at 10:00 a.m. Installation of the system begins on Monday, August 23.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Daly adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Amanda Burke, DBRL staff.

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Pat Powell, Board Secretary