

MATTOON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: March 16, 2020@ 3:00 PM, Kinzel Room, Mattoon Public Library

Board Members Present: Candy Rankin, Teresa Righter, Justin Grady, Phyllis Karpus.

Board members Absent: Jen Bullock, Chris Pilson, Clay Dean, Greg Ray, Laura Glenn

Staff Present: Carl Walworth, Beth Pugh

Discussion Item: Director Walworth outlined discussions in recent weeks regarding the Covid-19 virus. Pace of Covid-related meetings accelerated beginning Friday as multiple developments unfolded, including first positive test in our region and gubernatorial closings of schools, restaurants, bars and gaming facilities. Among other discussions were with city officials and webinar with library directors and Illinois Heartland officials.

As of March 16, our library is offering limited services of checking out a book, returning a book, picking up a hold or help with setting up digital products. Library programs are canceled and meeting room usage suspended. Some Illinois libraries have closed, others offer limited services. Consensus was to continue to offer minimal service while continuing to monitor developments.

Also discussed was whether to pay employees for scheduled hours even when employees don't work those hours. Consensus was to pay employees for scheduled hours for now and review as we go forward.

Library will investigate possibilities such as delivering programming like story time electronically and offering discussion groups options to utilize electronic channels such as Zoom.