



**Forrest City Public Library
Minutes – November 18, 2024**

I. CALL TO ORDER – 4:45

II. ROLL CALL

LINDSAY HODGES, CHAIRPERSON
KAREN HODGES
JEANETTE JENKINS
EVELYN SMITH
SANDRA WRIGHT

III. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES – Meeting called to order, and it was motioned by Jeanette Jenkins and seconded by Evelyn Smith to approve minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- a. **FINANCIALS** –It was motioned by Jeanette Jenkins and seconded by Evelyn Smith to accept the financials as presented, motion carried,

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **AMPHITHEATER SITE PLAN DISCUSSION- ECOLOGICAL DESIGN GROUP, INC.**– Ecological Design Group (EDG) reported negotiating with C&M Builders to get the accepted bid amount lowered from \$525,000 to \$475,000. Some ways to cut costs are buying playground equipment from a coop, which will reduce costs by 15K. EDG is also working on getting fencing reduced by 20K and trying to reduce lighting and electrical for an overall savings of 50K. They would like to get all this taken care of asap so that the project can get started and stay as close as possible to the timeline.
- b. **LAND PURCHASE UPDATE** – The purchase is held up due to arson at the property.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **2025 BUDGET**-Discussed budget; not much change except for slightly increased for mileage and interest. Motioned by Sandra Wright and seconded by Evelyn Smith to approve the 2025 budget, motion carried.
- b. **STAFF BONUSES 2024** – Motioned by Evelyn Smith and seconded by Karen Hodges that the board give year-end bonuses in the amount of \$1,000 for fulltime and \$500 for part time, motion carried,
- c. **BOARD MEMBERS TERM ENDING DEC 31, 2024** – After discussion, the board agreed to recommend that Mayor Bryant re-appoint Lindsay Hodges, who agreed to stay on to assist in the completion of the Amphitheater project.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **DIRECTORS REPORT** –Arlisa attended the Director’s Summit meeting in Little Rock, and it was good and informative. Also, staff are getting ready for tax season and Vita training is coming up for those who will be volunteering. Lastly, Arlisa discussed a library mileage campaign for 2025.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT next meeting Jan 6, 2025

By _____

Minutes approved on _____

Lindsay Hodges, Chairperson