

**Moore Memorial Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes**

August 15, 2011

Present: Hallie Ketchum, Clay West, Nelle Leach, Shirley Mapps, Elaine Schmitz, Mary Ann Reed, Sara Moreno, Gerry Steed and Beth Ryker Steiner

Absent: Stephanie Doyle

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. Minutes from the June 27, 2011 meeting of the Library Board were approved as written.

Librarian Beth Ryker Steiner gave the following report:

1. The library currently has two part-time positions that are vacant – the part-time Children’s Assistant position vacated in May by Kimberly Mann and the part-time shelver’s position vacated by Kristina Garza in August when she took the full time Children’s Assistant position, formerly held by Betty Burns. These positions have been caught in the City-wide hiring freeze and will remain unfilled at this time. The library staff is working on finding ways to cover this workload. The three summer hires did a great job and have returned to their respective colleges.
2. Definitive information has been received from the Texas State Librarian Peggy Rudd about the extensive budget cuts for public libraries which will occur during the next two years. Beth again gave a short review of the major changes and how these will impact library services at Moore Memorial Public Library. Per Ms. Rudd, minimum accreditation standards for Texas public libraries will continue to be enforced regardless of the funding cuts. Mandatory fees for Texshare databases have been increased for the coming year. TExpress courier service fees are also increasing.
3. The ten systems of the State Library (including HALS) will be eliminated during the next fiscal year as a result of the loss of state and Federal funding. HALS staff have begun leaving. Most staff will be gone by the end of 2011.
4. The Galveston County libraries are still waiting for information concerning funding from the Galveston County Commissioners Court for FY 2011/2012. The GALCO Advisory Board submitted a straight-line budget request for the 2012 budget process.
5. All technology due to be replaced during this current fiscal year has been purchased. The large flat screen monitor has been mounted in the Holland meeting room.
6. Summer reading programs were successful. Beth thanked Board members for their participation. She reminded them that the 2011 Texas City Reads discussions will be held in late September. Helen Simondson, the author of Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand, the book selected for this year’s discussion, will have an interactive discussion via Skype with participants in the Monday

evening discussion. The Friends of the Library will provide refreshments and serve as hostesses for the sessions.

A discussion of the budget priorities for FY 2012 occurred. Beth assured the Board the Library will attempt to maintain all possible services, but considers it likely that many patrons will notice the decrease in staffing and in funding. The cost of most library materials and supplies will be increasing, as will building utility costs. Several Board members offered to help out wherever possible with shelving and other library tasks.

Beth announced that Library staff is beginning to work on the proposed Moore Memorial Library Strategic Plan (Oct. 1, 2012 to Sept. 30, 2015). All Board members were invited to submit ideas to Beth during the next two months.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 24th. The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.