

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2012-17 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole September 11, 2012, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Chair Don Gray opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT. [Meeting Convened](#)

The Chair acknowledged those present:

[Those Present](#)

Members present:	Lyle Tjosaas	District #2
	David Erickson	District #3
	Don Gray	District #4
	David Hanson	District #5
Members absent:	Jane Olive	District #1
Also present:	Jim Elmquist	County Administrator
	Becky Lubahn	Deputy County Clerk
	Bonnie Adams	Kasson Public Library Director
	Earlene King	Kasson Public Library Secretary
	Lori Hopkins	Kasson Public Library Chair

Kasson Public Library Director Bonnie Adams provided the Board with a summer activities update.

[Kasson Public
Library Summer
Activities Update](#)

Ms. Adams presented Commissioners Erickson, Gray and Hanson with their own library cards which are good in all Minnesota libraries. Commissioner Tjosaas already had a library card and Commissioner Olive was absent.

Ms. Adams shared the following 2012 summer reading statistics:

- 512 children signed up.
- 216 children turned in reading logs.
- Average of 23 hours read by all children.
- 4,885 reading hours logged. If one child read 24/7 it would take them 204 days.
- Total of 70 programs.
- 2,182 people at programs.
- 254 children came to the library's highly anticipated *Grand Finale in the Park* event to celebrate the end of the summer reading program.
- For two months children read to earn "library bucks" to spend at the library store, items included books, school supplies and many other treasures generously funded by local businesses.
- Through a \$1,500 grant from Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers the library was able to develop thirteen science kits ranging from astronomy, circuits to lasers and lights. These kits include telescopes, stethoscope and dinosaur fossils that guide children through various scientific topics. Kits are free to check out with a library card.

- 205 school-age children took advantage of the library's twice a week summer Arts & Science enrichment classes. Topics included how to make your own volcano out of a soda bottle and using math to determine actual size from a scale model.

Kasson Public
Library Summer
Activities Update -
Continued

Kasson Public Library Secretary Earlene King was available to comment on the programs offered at the library.

It was noted that the Kasson Public Library offers:

- Free books
- Free eBooks
- Free movies
- Free music CD's
- Free computer use
- Free kids' story time
- Free kids' summer reading program
- Free tax forms

The Kasson Library is connected to the libraries in SE Minnesota through the SELCO regional library system. The public can check out, return and request books from any library in their system.

The Kasson Library is also able to connect and request materials from any library in Minnesota (including colleges and universities) through MNLink.

The Library Director shared with the Board information on the Friends of the Kasson Public Library. The Friends of the Kasson Public Library is an active group of volunteers with the common purpose of promoting the public library programs and assisting in the improvement of library services. Friends of the Library membership benefits include:

- Annual membership card.
- Regular communication from the Friends and the Library staff.
- Invitations to special events and activities.
- Knowledge that you support community enrichment programs.

By joining the Friends of the Kasson Public Library, members strengthen that foundation with enhanced programs beyond those supported by the City of Kasson Library budget.

Annual membership in the Friends of the Kasson Library will help support reading enrichment programs designed to help young people develop a love of reading that will last a lifetime.

The following Community Educational Outreach information was briefly discussed:

- Weekly Story Times
- 17 Bi-Weekly Daycare Delivery
- Intergenerational Story Time at Prairie Meadows Senior Living
- Reminiscence at Prairie Meadows Senior Living
- Literacy Night Partnership with KM Schools
- 2 Monthly Book Clubs
- Education Instruction

The Kasson Public Library offers assistance with:

Kasson Public
Library Summer
Activities Update -
Continued

On the spot customized instructions for -

- Resumes
- Job applications
- Applying for unemployment
- Signing up for social security benefits

Technology how to instructions for -

- Social networking
- E Books downloads
- Nooks/Kindles, Smart Phones

Minnesota Legacy Programs –

- Jack Pearson
- Doug Olman
- Maud Hart Lovelace

Educational Programs –

- Zumbro Zoe

Ms. Adams reported that the Friends of the Kasson Public Library, at the request of members, are now publishing a newsletter for their members.

Kasson Public Library Chair Lori Hopkins invited Commissioners to become involved in Kasson Public Library activities and programs that involve reading to children.

The Board thanked Ms. Adams, Ms. King and Ms. Hopkins for the update.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

DON GRAY
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK

DATED: