Baker County Library District

Board of Directors

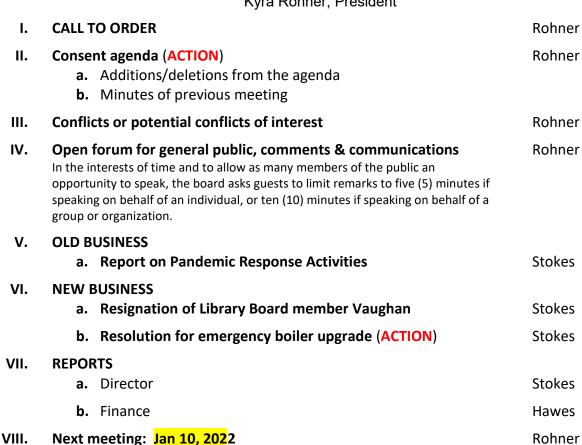
Regular Meeting Agenda

Monday, Jan 10, 2022, 6:00 - 8:00 pm Riverside Meeting Room, Baker County Public Library 2400 Resort St, Baker City

Meeting simulcast via Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84263326583

Kyra Rohner, President

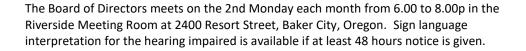


The times of all agenda items except open forum are approximate and are subject to change. Other matters may be discussed as deemed appropriate by the Board. If necessary, Executive Session may be held in accordance with the following. Topics marked with an asterisk* are scheduled for the current meeting's executive session.

IX.

ADJOURNMENT

ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations ORS 192.660 (2) (e, j) Property ORS 192.660 (2) (h) Legal Rights ORS 192.660 (2) (a, b, i) Personnel



BAKER COUNT

LIBRARY DISTRIC

Rohner

Monday, Jan 10, 2022, 6:00 pm

Notes prepared by Library Director Perry Stokes

Annotated Agenda

I. **CALL TO ORDER** II.

Rohner Rohner

- Consent agenda (ACTION)
 - a. Additions/deletions from the agenda
 - b. Minutes of previous meeting

Attachments:

- II.b.i. Board meeting minutes, Dec 13 2021
- III. Conflicts or potential conflicts of interest

Rohner

IV. Open forum for general public, comments & communications Rohner

No public communications to report.

OLD BUSINESS V.

a. Report on Pandemic Response Activities

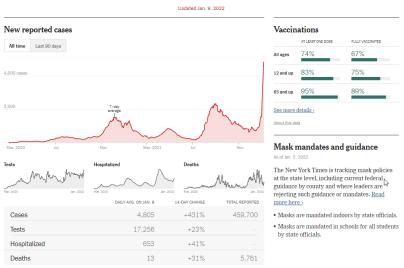
Stokes

Due to the extremely contagious Omicron variant, record spiking of new cases is being reported in Oregon, the nation, and the world. Unvaccinated persons, those with underlying conditions, and people over the age of 80 are reportedly facing the most risk; disease severity is mild for most of those who are vaccinated or have some immunity from a prior infection.

Baker County library services remain unchanged at this point. I am preparing a cost reimbursement claim to submit to FEMA for PPE and COVID-19 related air quality improvements.

With the Delta variant, official health guidance shifted to encouraging use of N95 / KN95 masks whenever possible. BCLD has been providing these and surgical masks for the past year.

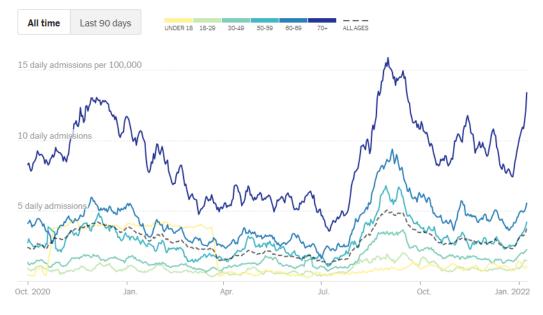
Tracking Coronavirus in Oregon: Latest Map and Case Count

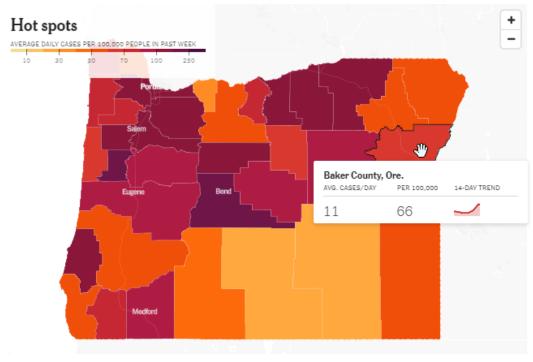


Monday, Jan 10, 2022, 6:00 pm Notes prepared by Library Director Perry Stokes

Daily new hospital admissions by age in Oregon

This chart shows for each age group the number of people per 100,000 that were newly admitted to a hospital with Covid-19 each day, according to data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Dips and spikes could be due to inconsistent reporting by hospitals.





Monday, Jan 10, 2022, 6:00 pm Notes prepared by Library Director Perry Stokes

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resignation of Library Board member Vaughan

Stokes

Last week I received notice from Frances Vaughan that due to personal reasons she will be tendering her resignation from the Library Board before the February meeting. Her term ends June 2023.

According to the Board bylaws, "Vacancies on the Board due to resignation or incapacity to serve are to be filled by the remaining members of the Board in accordance with ORS 198.320." The statute states:

"Except as otherwise provided by law, a vacancy in an elected office in the membership of the governing body of a district shall be filled by appointment by a majority of the remaining members of the governing body. If a majority of the membership of the governing body is vacant or if a majority cannot agree, the vacancies shall be filled promptly by the county court of the county in which the administrative office of the district is located."

Frances has represented the Pine-Eagle Valley communities. For continued representation of that area, I have approached Linda Collier, who serves on our Library Budget. At the time of distribution of this packet, she has responded with a request for more information about the duties.

b. Resolution for emergency boiler upgrade (ACTION)

Stokes

Attachments

VI.b. Resolution No. 2021-22.04

Due to the recent failure of the primary boiler unit at the Baker branch library, I am proposing Resolution 2021-22.04 to declare that an emergency condition exists sufficient to warrant exemption from standard public contracting rules.

Last week, a primary "controller board" component of the boiler at the main branch was discovered to have failed on Wednesday, 1/5/22. Without that component, the boiler does not function and the building is heated only in peripheral rooms by the 3 rooftop Trane units that were installed with the renovation in 2000. Ambient heat pulled from the peripheral spaces is keeping indoor temperatures tolerable, between 63 – 68 degrees F. Portable space heaters are being used at the circulation desk. Should temperatures not be sustainable to at least 63 degrees and above, the library would consider a reduction of public hours or closure for the well-being of staff.

The informal estimate provided by Ed for repair of the boiler controller board is approximately \$5,000, and would take approximately two weeks. Replacing the boiler with one of the new, more energy-efficient units we have been exploring will cost about \$30,000 and is estimated to take 3 or 4 weeks. The district does already have \$12,000 earmarked from prior project energy rebates towards a boiler upgrade. The Capital Improvement fund has \$186,500 available to draw from, as well.

Monday, Jan 10, 2022, 6:00 pm Notes prepared by Library Director Perry Stokes

According to ORS 279.015 Competitive bidding; exceptions; exemptions,

- (4) A public contract also may be exempted from the requirements of subsection (1) of this section if: (a) Emergency conditions require prompt execution of the contract;...
- (5) The director or board shall adopt rules allowing the governing body of a public agency and the officer of a public agency for contracts under \$50,000 to declare that an emergency exists and establishing procedures for determining when the conditions in subsection (4)(a) of this section are present. The rules shall prescribe that if an emergency is declared, any contract awarded under this subsection and subsection (4)(a) of this section must be awarded within 60 days following declaration of the emergency, unless the director or board grants an extension.

ORS 279.029 Award of contract; bond; waiver of bond in case of emergency states:

(5) In cases of emergency, or where the interest or property of the public contracting agency probably would suffer material injury by delay or other cause, the requirement of furnishing a good and sufficient bond for the faithful performance of any public contract may be excused, if a declaration of such emergency is made and concurred in by all members of the governing board of the public contracting agency.

This declaration of an emergency condition will enable district facilities staff to replace the boiler as quickly as possible and resolve the issue with less risk to interruption of our operations and services. A competitive bidding process is expected to add an additional 4 to 6 weeks to the procurement timeline. This resolution establishes that although district staff have recently been exploring replacement options for the boiler for energy-efficiency purposes, this sudden failure constitutes an emergency circumstance that could not have been reasonably foreseen and now creates "a substantial risk of loss, damage, interruption of services or threat to the public health or safety that requires prompt execution of a contract to remedy the condition." (ORS 279.011(4))

VII. REPORTS

a. Director Stokes

Facilities

- HVAC system repairs controller board failure at both Baker and Haines branch units.
- Fire Alarm System repairs Recent testing has revealed malfunction of some of the strobe light alarms. Ed is working with Alpine Alarm and local electricians on fixing the issue.
- VOIP Public Courtesy Phone The project is currently pending setup of SIP and VOIP services. Ed and Jim are working with external consultants on finalizing setup of the service. Once functional, the phone and hood will be installed and I'll make a press release announcement.

Monday, Jan 10, 2022, 6:00 pm Notes prepared by Library Director Perry Stokes

Personnel

• Staff resignation – Tech Services specialist BoDean Warnock recently announced she will be ending her employment with us in order to pursue a teaching degree. We are seeking to fill the vacant benefits-qualifying position with an internal staff candidate.

Safety & Security

- Disruptive youth A certain group of middle-school youth have been responsible for multiple incident reports recently involving noise disruptions, recklessness, property damage, and suspected vaping in library restrooms. Library disciplinary practice is to penalize individuals whenever possible for specific violations of the Code of Conduct, with penalties increasing in severity for subsequent offenses. Parents are notified if I have their contact information. Two of the group are currently excluded for periods of one month and 3 months.
- Ice and snow I have asked facilities and regular staff to assess hazards each day from snow and ice both on sidewalks and from the roof, and to use mitigation tools such as ice-melt products as necessary.

b. Finance Hawes

Report documents to be distributed at the meeting.

VIII. Next meeting: Feb 14, 2022 Rohner

IX. ADJOURNMENT Rohner



Dec 13, 2021

Call to Order	The meeting was held in the Riverside conference room at the Baker County Public Library, 2400 Resort Street, Baker City, Oregon, the administrative building for the District. Those attending the meeting in person are Directors Kyra Rohner, and Betty Palmer. Also attending are Perry Stokes, Director and Christine Hawes, Business Manager. One person attending online via Zoom, Beth Bigelow, Director. The meeting was made publicly available via Zoom; a link is provided from the agenda page and is easily accessible. President of the board, Kyra Rohner, called the meeting to order at 6:06pm. The is a quorum present with 3 board members in attendance.
Consent Agenda	Rohner asked for any additions or deletions to tonight's agenda or to the minutes from the previous meeting. Stokes has added one item to New Business: SDIS Longevity Credit. No changes to the minutes were given. Bigelow made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as corrected; Palmer seconded; motion passed (3 yea) unanimously.
Conflicts of Interest	Rohner asked if there were any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest to be declared. There were none.
Public Comment	No members of the public were present in person or on Zoom. Stokes had no public communications to report.
OLD BUSINESS: Public Complaint Policy	Stokes said that in response to the discussion at the November meeting, he is proposing a streamlined version of the Public Complaints Policy which describes the basic complaint process and requirements. Dielman had expressed concern that the public guide was too long. On review, Stokes said that while all the information should be included in the policy, the public guide could be simplified with the rest retained for internal use. He crafted a summarized version to use for basic complaint inquiries, this enables the district to provide patrons with just two sheets of paper: Public Complaints Policy and Public Complaints Form (2-sided). Internally, we can use the larger document. It is also available upon request or for escalated complaints, patrons may also be provided a copy of the Public Complaints Procedure, and the Library Board Referral Guide documents, which outline processes in more detail for different complaint types. The documents are primarily intended to clarify responsibilities and procedures for district staff and the Library Board.



Dec 13, 2021

These documents and processes have been adapted from models used by the Baker School District 5J and the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.

Rohner said that she was satisfied with the policy. Palmer said that most complaints will be resolved with the first step. Palmer reiterated that it is imperative the district has a policy laid out not only for legal liability purposes, but to be sure we are being diligent, consistent, and can show we take a person's complaint seriously. Rohner agreed and gave an example of how that can help the District legally. She agrees that a process is there so that all are treated the same. She said that when the complaint happened, as Board Chair she had no idea of how to handle the complaint. Stokes said that he is happy with the policy and the appeal process. Palmer feels that this lays the groundwork to treat each complaint the same, and we have something to go forward should a complaint need more serious consideration. Everyone agreed the procedures were important.

Palmer made a motion that the board approve the Public Complaint Policies and supplementary documents, as amended; Bigelow seconded; motion passed (3 yea) unanimously.

Rohner said that she has still not heard back from Special Districts for assistance to review the policy. She will try again as she would like to have closure from them.

NEW BUSINESS: 2022 Holiday Closures

Rohner moved to Holiday Closures. Stokes said it is a best practice for districts to annually approve the holiday closures. In 2022, there is a new federally recognized paid holiday, Juneteenth which is June 19. He is recommending the board add Juneteenth to the district's roster of paid holidays for employees. Discussion on handling a floating holiday.

Stokes is also proposing to add Indigenous People's Day (IPD, aka Columbus Day) as a paid holiday for staff. IPD is now recognized by Oregon and observed by the Federal administration, but is not currently established as a paid holiday. He believes that it will eventually be a Federal holiday. Stokes reported that he contacted representatives from the County, City, and school and all indicated that IPD were not currently being considered as a paid holiday but could be part of their next union contract negotiation. With no union contract, the district has the ability to be more flexible and proactive compared to its sister agencies. By reverently honoring Juneteenth and Indigenous Peoples Day as closed, paid holidays, Stokes said the district has an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in awareness of --and commitment



Dec 13, 2021

to—anti-racism principles of equity, diversity and inclusion. If not approved, the district will continue to recognize IPD but will remain open to the public on this date.

At a previous meeting, Palmer had expressed concern about a clustering of closures in October and November due to holidays and the annual staff training event. For 2022, Stokes has scheduled the annual staff training on August 11 to take the pressure off of October. He said the day after Thanksgiving should be kept a paid holiday, even though it was originally a trade for working on Columbus Day. The benefit is a tradition the district can and should continue for staff.

Stokes said with the addition of these two days, the number of holiday increases from 10 to 12. With 3 planned closure days for "observed holidays" and staff training, this makes a total of 15 planned closures for the 2022 calendar year. Rohner said that in the course of a year, and the fact that the library is open 7 days a week, 15 is not that many days to be closed. She supports give staff the 2 additional paid days. Bigelow said she agrees with Rohner that the district should add these two holidays. Palmer said with the training day being moved, she his satisfied. Rohner asked for a motion. Bigelow made a motion to approve the 2022 Holiday Closure list as presented, adopting two new paid holidays Juneteenth and Indigenous Peoples' Day aka Columbus Day, and planned closures; Palmer seconded; motion passed (3 yea) unanimously.

SDIS Longevity Credit acceptance

Stokes said that the district received an email from Clarke & Clarke Insurance with an offer of the bi-annual Longevity Credit and Rate Lock Agreement. This time the credit being offered is \$4,315 (compared to 2 years ago \$2,851; an increase of \$1,464). The District agrees to continue its liability insurance with SDIS for 2 years with a guaranteed maximum annual rate increase of 5%. The District also received the preliminary insurance renewal showing a total increase of \$1,430 over the prior year. The increase in longevity credit almost covers the increase in insurance. Stokes said that he noticed in the letter they mentioned large losses this year and that Special Districts has bought down the rate for its members. This non-profit, government services focus is a significant benefit of being with this insurance carrier as compared to being on the open market.

Hawes brought attention to the preliminary insurance billing; we did get the 10% Best Practices Credit of \$2,176 and a Multi-line credit of \$888 (total credits of \$3,064) on the renewal summary. The District receives its liability insurance invoice in January. We will receive an actual check for the credit, one each January of \$2,157.50.



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Palmer said the School District uses PACE, it's a similar insurance for schools, the district is given credit for showing that you are following safe and best practices.

Rohner said this item needs action. Palmer asked if Bigelow had any questions. Bigelow said that she is fine with whatever the group decides.

The board approved, Palmer moved that we accept the SDIS longevity agreement; Begelow seconded; motion passed (3 yea) unanimously.

REPORTS: Director

Stokes reviewed the report:

Administration - none

Friends & Foundation - none

Facilities & Vehicles:

Haines Library – Staff at the Haines branch report ongoing heating system issues, making it very cold in the building. Ed replaced a faulty sensor and the indoor temperature is back to normal. The HVAC functionality will continue to be monitored.

Hollywood Room converted to IT storage – Stokes has authorized conversion of one of the tutor rooms on the north side of the Baker building to be a storage closet primarily for IT equipment. As a Tutor Room, it didn't get much use and didn't have a computer in it. The room is across the hall from the IT office which will make the equipment and backstock materials easily accessible for Jim. The other storage area in the Facilities workspace was very dusty, which is not good for IT equipment.

Marketing & Publicity - none

Operations & Services - none

Programs & Public Services - none

Registration Card File Weeded – a long-overdue comprehensive weeding of the registration card file has been completed. The cards were compared to the online accounts one-by-one, a labor-intensive process which took about 3 months. Stokes applauded Ya-Wen for doing most of the work; we all appreciate her diligence in getting that done. Some of the cards went back a couple decades. We now have more space in our patron registration card drawers.



Finance

board members.

Baker County Library District Library Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Dec 13, 2021

New Rotary Paper Trimmer - after receiving public requests, we now offer a paper trimmer for public use. It is stored next to the fax machine. The unit has rotary blade safety features that make it suitable for public use. Library of Things - the collection is growing, Heather has put together a binder with pictures and a list of items available. A computer webcam was recently checked out by someone needing it for an online college course. Youth programs - different Holiday Take & Make Kits are being offered weekly until Christmas. We also have Storytime bags ready. Winter Reading Challenge - the reading challenge will take place after the first of the year. There are eBook reader prizes that will be funded by the Friends. Non-fiction signage - has been updated and replaced in the library aisle. These signs are made in-house and include helpful subject headings. Winter book sale - the last weekend of January. The Friends will help with it. Personnel & volunteers - none Annual Saturday shift schedule shuffle - the staff has drawn for the Saturday shifts for the upcoming year. There are 2 individuals on duty each Saturday. The new schedule takes effect after the first of the new year. The system has worked well. Safety & Security - report Stokes caught two adult males using a library restroom for illicit drug use. The two were verbally trespassed at the time, but have been observed briefly returning to the library which is Criminal Trespassing. Stokes expects he will need assistance from local law enforcement to convey the library takes the matter seriously. Sidewalk tripping hazard fixed - a clean-out drain pipe that sticks up in the middle of the Adler pathway was identified as a tripping hazard. Ed was able to trim down the pipe so that it is now flush with the sidewalk. Hawes has distributed copies of the finance reports for those attending in

person. A scanned electronic copy was sent to Stokes which he emailed to the

General fund received tax turnovers of \$50,070.87 on December 9th. In Personnel Services, the December PERS payment will be posted December 27.



Dec 13, 2021

Personnel Services is on target with the budget in total. In Materials and Services, noteworthy checks include Ingram \$4,320.93 for the monthly book order, World Book \$999.00 for an encyclopedia reference set, Landmark Construction \$1,580 for roof maintenance and shelving project in library storage, Miller's Lumber \$1,173.24 for book drop area counter top, DocuLynx \$1,245 for ScanPro on-site service agreement, and Port 53 Technologies \$1,064.80 for security software, and finally, Ed Staub & Sons \$1,648.95 for heating fuel delivered to two locations. A few highlights from the VISA payment of \$9,335.83; charges included \$1,437.21 in DVD movie purchases, a payment to RotoRooter of \$1,072.00 for sewer emergency services in November, a payment to Tech Soup \$2,600 for 50 software licenses for District-wide update of MS Office, ALA \$278 membership, and to State of Oregon Audit Division \$250 for the audit filing fee. On November 30, the library also sent a check to the City of Baker City of \$1,000 for the bi-annual debt payment as scheduled. A separate cash report is behind the General Fund financial report.

In addition, the Tech Soup purchase of 50 licenses was subsidized by a discount offered through Microsoft, a discount of \$32,400 (software donation) was awarded to the District; this is a district wide update of Microsoft Office Software.

In other news, the ECF Funding has been approved; the District will receive reimbursement for the Kajeet subscription renewal of \$6,577 and has been awarded funds to purchase additional hot spots to loan to patrons for educational purposes.

The *Other Funds* wrote one check to Visa for \$66.93 for Amazon book shipping. We have not received the bank statement for November so book sales income has not been posted. Hawes will contact the bank tomorrow for a copy of the bank statement. A separate cash report is behind the Other Funds financial report.

The *Sage Funds* received membership revenues to-date of \$194,195 or 85% of budgeted income. Checks written include four checks to small couriers totaling \$1,684.74 and a check to EOU for \$1,500 a new annual lease agreement to host the Sage equipment. In addition, a check was written on December 1st to a courier of \$1,025. The monthly tech contract invoice of \$5,573 was paid electronically; as you recall, this goes through the payroll module, which means that it goes through the General Fund checking account, then Sage writes a check to reimburse the General Fund each month. This fund also did not receive a November bank statement; a copy will be requested. A separate cash report is behind the Sage Fund financial report.



Dec 13, 2021

Checks were signed by those board members present at the meeting. In addition, the Approved Bills Lists for 3 funds were approved and returned.

Hawes told the group that she has been going through required posted materials and policies related to HR, updating the materials and making packets available for staff as needed. These materials include Worker's Comp instructions & forms packet, Mandatory Reporting information, and Branch Petty Cash procedures & forms. There is a set of folders on the mail desk for staff reference materials and the staff bulletin board that was also updated for these items.

Other Discussion

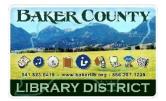
Stokes said that he is currently serving as Co-Chair on the OLA Intellectual Freedom Committee and shared a statement recently issued in response to an organized campaign of challenges objecting to materials in school and library collections. The statement emphasizes that libraries make materials available for its diverse communities. For many years, some taxpayers have been marginalized and excluded from having their communities and views fairly represented in library collections. In the past decade, libraries have been correcting such disparities in both collections and programming, particularly in regards to LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities. This has resulted in a backlash by some in the dominant culture who object to the viewpoints and lifestyles represented. Stokes said that libraries are staunch advocates of individual rights, especially as guaranteed by the First Amendment, the freedom of expression and thought, which we call Intellectual Freedom. For a free society, one must be able to freely explore ideas. It is up to each individual and family to choose for themselves what they want to read and look at. The statement is not yet on the OLA website, but will be soon. Last week it was emailed to the Oregon library community by listsery. Bigelow asked for the statement to be forwarded to her to read.

Stokes asked if the school is having these challenges. Palmer didn't think the school was receiving challenges, but talked about what the school is doing and how parents are responding. The biggest misunderstanding is that people expect that materials and viewpoints will be forced on them. But libraries simply provide access to information and stories; "exposure" to certain ideas or images is actually something readers independently choose. Of course not every book is for every reader, but government must remain neutral in its representation and services. Ironically, even while claiming to be pro-Constitution and against "big government" overreach, some individuals want to take away independence and decision-making power for others by having government representatives label, restrict, or even remove certain ideas. There are various degrees of censorship, but the library profession is committed to oppose censorship of any degree. Discussion ensued on library



	values and practices.
Next Meeting	The next regular board meeting will be January 10, 2022.
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm. Respectfully submitted, Perry Stokes Secretary to the Board PS/ch





BAKER COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD

Resolution No. 2021-22.04

Establishing emergency conditions requiring prompt execution of procurement

Jan 10 2022

WHEREAS the primary boiler heating unit at the Baker County Public Library has ceased to function due to unexpected failure of an electronic "controller board"; and

WHEREAS the boiler failure has resulted in difficulty and uncertainty with keeping the building interior spaces at a temperature conducive to continued public operations; and

WHEREAS compliance with a competitive bidding process to resolve the issue according to public contracting rules will cause substantial delay that extends risk to employee and facilities safety and public operations; and

WHEREAS according to ORS 279.015, the Board must determine that an emergency condition exists sufficient to warrant exemption from public contracting rules;

Now, therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Baker County Library District declares that emergency conditions are present sufficient to warrant emergency procurement of contracts to restore heating functionality to the main branch library of the district.

AYES: NAYS: ABSTAINED:

FOR THE BOARD:

Signature
Presiding Officer, BCLD Board

ATTEST:

Signature: Perry Stokes

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Baker County Library District this 10th day of

January, 2022 by the following vote:

District Secretary