

Carthage Library Board of Trustees
September 22, 2025
Special Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 by President John Dittmer. Those present were director Amy Gee, board members Ann Thompson, Dean McHugh, and Rose Fisher. Andy Bastert entered the meeting at 4:45. The purpose of this special meeting was to view the presentation of the furniture proposal for the new library. The presentation was made virtually by Darren Schretter of Studio GC.

- Cost sheets were not available until shortly prior to the meeting, so there was no time to review them.
- The library's budget for these furnishings was \$276,000. Darrin's proposal was listed as \$368,686.08. One item was listed twice, so that amount (\$820) can be subtracted from the final amount.
- Ancillary furniture was budgeted at \$133,000 and the bid came in at \$110,000, a savings of \$22,000.
- The cost could be reduced with the vendor discounts, but the savings would not be substantial.
- There are inexpensive modifications that could be made to furniture pieces to reduce the cost. These modifications could be metal legs, laminate tops, or use of existing items in the current library, etc.
- Some items (the table in the children's area) were thought to be too expensive. Substitutes will be researched.
- The board suggested to Darrin a total price of \$300,000 as opposed to his bid.
- The prices are vetted through the consortium, more research may be done to obtain other bids.
- The board discussed refinishing the antique hutch to be included in the new build. The price of refinishing as compared to purchasing new shelving to take its place was a point to consider.
- All decisions were tabled until a later date.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, October 13th at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Fisher
Secretary
Carthage Library Board of Trustees.