

**\*\*\*\*\*AT THIS TIME A BUDGET REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 FROM FIRST REGIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE OXFORD-LAFAYETTE COUNTY LIBRARY, ASKING \$538,890.00 FOR OPERATION COST. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN\*\*\*\*\***


**ORDER: MOTION TO RETURN BID TO ROBERTS BUILDERS FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF RESPONSIBILITY**

Motion was made by Chad McLarty, duly seconded by Larry Gillespie, to return bid Roberts Builders for non-submission of Responsibility.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Supervisor Brent Larson, voted yes  
Supervisor Larry Gillespie, voted yes  
Supervisor David Rikard, voted yes  
Supervisor Chad McLarty, voted yes  
Supervisor Mike Roberts, voted yes

After the vote, President Roberts, declared the motion carried, this the 1<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

  
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Mike Roberts, President  
Board of Supervisors

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk



FIRST REGIONAL LIBRARY  
370 West Commerce Street  
Hernando, MS 38632  
*where discovery begins...*

July 13, 2022

Ms. Lisa Carwyle, Administrator  
Lafayette County Supervisors  
300 N. Lamar Blvd.  
Oxford, MS 38655

Dear Ms. Carwyle and Lafayette County Supervisors,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Staff of First Regional Library System (FRL), let me thank all of you for the support we have received in FY 2022. This has been a successful year at FRL, and we owe tremendous thanks to you for all we have been able to accomplish this year because of your annual appropriation. We have seen our patrons come back to our libraries in huge numbers this year, post Covid 19. The major successes we have experienced this year include:

- The funding of ARPA grants in the amount of \$60,729, used to create five Teen STEAM Centers throughout the system, including the Lafayette County-Oxford Public Library.
- We have seen hundreds, if not thousands, of children come take part in the free 2022 Summer Reading Programs held this summer in all libraries.
- FRL staff are planning and implementing programs for all ages in our libraries year round, and our patrons are attending these programs in record numbers.
- Our materials are in high demand - both in-library materials and digital materials are very popular with patrons.
- We developed a new service called "Top Shelf", which assures that patrons coming into our libraries will have several popular, new best-selling books and DVDs available for them to check out when they come to the library.

These are just a few of our major accomplishments this year. And, as we are proud and grateful for this progress, it has also been a difficult year for the library system. We have had major obstacles in two areas. These include: 1 - **Increase costs** - everything (gas, books, supplies, etc.) has increased tremendously, and 2 - **Hiring staff** - we are having a difficult time hiring staff due to our low wages, as we are not competitive with local employers. Because of these financial impediments, I am requesting an increase of funding in FY 2023 to **\$538,890.00**. We respectfully ask for this increase in the library's annual appropriation.

FRL staff are very happy to announce a planned increase in services for FY2023. We anticipate offering free computer classes for those in need of basic computer skills. We see the need for this in our communities all the time, and this will help with job readiness and technological advancement for our residents. We also want to be in a position to increase, or at least maintain, the hours of operation we currently provide to our patrons; the increase in hours we have had this year has been well-received by our patrons, so we would like to be able to consider increasing our hours of operation even more during FY 2023.

As always, we thank you for everything you do, and we appreciate your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information for you...I will be happy to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Barnes, MLS  
Library Director