

## **Algansee Move**

As originally envisioned, we'd be renting the special boxes used by Mulder's Moving to move the books from the old library to the new, and a community effort would have been undertaken to move all the shelving and furniture. Had the move taken place in October, this might have worked out, but late in December it's a different story. The weather turned early this year, and with it being so late in the year, we'd be asking our volunteers to move things in the dark.

With that in mind, we asked our longtime partners in library moves, Mulder's Moving and Storage, to provide an estimate for just doing the move and securely installing all shelving, including the additional new shelving. They last moved the Algansee library, in fact, in 2021, only they moved it right back inside after the carpeting was replaced. This time they'll move us 2 miles up the road to our new home. We have them reserved for Monday and Tuesday, December 29th and 30th.

My preference would be to not use the remainder of the Morton Trust for this move so that those donated funds could be reserved for more permanent benefit. With this in mind, **I am requesting to approve the quote of \$16,828.50 from Mulder's Moving and Storage, to be paid the unassigned fund balance for this purpose.**

Please note that Mulder's always estimates on a worst-case basis. In 2021, they estimated \$8,037.50 when we moved everything out for the carpeting. They ultimately billed us for only \$6,569.50. This current estimate is almost certainly similarly "worst case", even with the inflation of the last 4 years.

## **Branch Camera System**

We started using a camera system at the Coldwater Branch about 12 years ago that never lived up to its promises for dealing with the large number of cameras we have there. About 7 years ago we switched to using Verkada, a hybrid local storage/cloud retrieval system that has a lot of powerful features and has worked really well for us. They record to the cameras themselves (no local server required), they make searching for people or events a breeze, and emergency responders can be granted temporary remote access. We renewed the system last year with another 5-year license.

For the smaller branches, we have used a home/small-business system successfully for many years, but recently they had a major software change that makes them much more prone to failure. One such failure happened recently with branch cameras going offline and us unable to retrieve video of the break-in at Sherwood. I have actually been unsuccessful getting the system back online at all since. I have also tried a competitive offering with limited success.

Additional, as part of their audit of our emergency procedures, BHS Tactics recommended that a system whereby any staff in the district could easily view the camera feed at any location would be beneficial. That way if any staff used our office messaging system to alert colleagues to potential trouble, many more eyes would be on the situation and could contact emergency responders.

It is with all of this in mind that I feel it would be best to go county wide with the system that works so well at our largest branch. **I request to spend \$24,511.44 from the unassigned fund balance** to purchase 19 Verkada cameras with a 5-year license. If approved, I will update the [Technology Plan](#) to reflect this added expense, and we will probably need a budget amendment a year from now since this would be expensed in 2026. Five years from now, as it was last year in Coldwater, it will be just a software renewal for another 5 years at about half the above price.

I will demonstrate the Verkada system at the meeting, and I think you'll appreciate all the value we get for that price.