

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: May 21, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Regina Reed, Library Director

THROUGH: Dr. Crystal Caldera, City Manager

SUBJECT: Presentation and Discussion on an Ordinance of the City of Leon Valley Accepting Grant Funds from the 2024 J. Frank Dobie Trust and Amending the General Budget of the City of Leon Valley, Texas Municipal Budget for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 in the Amount of \$3,610 to Provide Funding for the Leon Valley Public Library to Purchase Additional Nonfiction Books for the Juvenile Collection.

SPONSOR(S): N/A

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

The Leon Valley Public Library applied for the J. Frank Dobie Library Trust Grant in December 2023 to help rebuild and fill gaps within the Juvenile Nonfiction Collection.

The J. Frank Dobie Library Trust has selected the Leon Valley Public Library to receive a grant in the amount of \$3,610.

From the J. Frank Dobie Trust:

J. Frank Dobie was a legendary folklorist, writer, and newspaper columnist best known for his many books depicting the richness and traditions of life in rural Texas during the days of the open range. Mr. Dobie, born in 1888, loved reading and books from an early age. Growing up on a ranch in rural Live Oak County in southwest Texas he learned firsthand how vital public library in small, particularly rural, areas are to their communities.

The J. Frank Dobie Library Trust was established by Mr. Dobie in 1963, when he wrote his will such that the majority of his substantial estate would go to the support of small Texas libraries for the express purpose of purchasing books.

When he established the trust, Mr. Dobie said, "Just think. Years from now, a book bought with Dobie Trust funds may open the mind of some young person and change the direction of his life.

Multiple grants have been awarded each year since 1976. A major criterion for the grants, which are quite competitive, is the extent to which the library is supported by its community. Being selected to receive a Dobie grant thus reflects not only the importance of the library to the community it serves, but also the strength of the entire community.

FISCAL IMPACT

The grant will increase the library’s materials budget by \$3,610; the library will dedicate the funds to purchasing materials for the Juvenile Nonfiction Collection.

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the grant funds from the J. Frank Dobie Library Trust.

Approve the amendment to the ordinance for a budget adjustment.

APPROVED: _____ DISAPPROVED: _____

APPROVED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:

ATTEST:

SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
City Secretary