PROCLAMATION OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMING APRIL 7 -13, 2024 NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

WHEREAS, libraries are an essential public good and fundamental institutions in democratic societies, protecting the right to education and literacy, ensuring equitable access to information, and promoting the free exchange of ideas for all; and

WHEREAS, libraries provide opportunities to connect with others in the community, learn new skills, access important resources, and pursue their passions; and

WHEREAS, libraries are inclusive places that serve all members of the community, regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, gender, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, five Seminole County Library branches serve residents countywide, with more than 2,000,000 customer transactions annually; and

WHEREAS, last year, participation in both Youth and Adult Programs more than doubled at Seminole County Libraries; and

WHEREAS, Youth Summer Reading participation increased at every Seminole County Library branch and in every age group from 2022 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, libraries adapt to the ever-changing needs of their communities, with Seminole County Library Services planning expansion and future growth to meet the needs of all County residents; and

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, and library workers are joining library supporters and advocates across the nation to celebrate National Library Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida, proclaim the week of April 7th through 13th, 2024 as:

"National Library Week"

and encourage all residents to visit their local library or use online library services to explore the wealth of resources available.

ADOPTED this 9th day of April, 2024

Jay Zembower, Chairman Seminole County, Board of County Commissioners