

Library Board Meeting Minutes

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026, 8:00 a.m.

BENNETT MARTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Present: Lisa Hale, Morgan Gerteisen, Patty Beutler, Marilyn Moore, Terri Dunlap, Joe Shaw

Absent: Jackie Ostrowicki, Nichole Bogen

City of Lincoln Staff present: Libraries, Ryan Wieber, Jodene Glaesemann, LeeAnn Sergeant, Jennifer Hatfield, Sarah Dale; Senior Atty for City Law Dept, Jocelyn Golden; Foundation for LCL Executive Director, Tiffani Hill; Project Control Project Manager Anthony Fitzgerald.

CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSTING OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Vice President Lisa Hale called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and announced the Open Meetings Law and today's agenda were posted and available for review.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA*

Hale noted that the Agenda was posted according to the Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska. Gerteisen moved approval of the Agenda. Beutler seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler, Dunlap, Shaw, Moore – AYE. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Public Comment.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 20, 2026 MEETING MINUTES*

Moore moved to approve the January 20, 2026 meeting minutes. Gerteisen seconded. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Hale, Beutler, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen – AYE. Dunlap -- ABSTAIN. Motion passed 5-0 with one abstention.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Administration

Met on February 2, 2026 to discuss Strategic Plan metrics, Foundation for LCL annual payout and Central Library project.

Committee on Buildings and Grounds

Did not meet.

Committee on Technology

Did not meet.

Committee on Finance

Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures

Treasurer Dunlap reported that the Operational Expenditures for January 2026 were \$917,467.58. The Total of Expenditures of Other Funds was \$456,961.34 for Total Expenditures of \$1,374,437.92. Beutler motioned approval. Moore seconded. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beutler, Dunlap, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen, Hale – AYE. Motion carried 6-0.

Library Accountant Hatfield reported on expenditures for 25-26, compared to last two fiscal years. Currently within our budget means. Brief discussion followed.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

Executive Director Tiffani Hill shared while the payout to LCL is less than normal, FLCL voted last month to supplement to those funds so the library isn't shorted. The new FLCL website rollout is scheduled for March 3. A Fundraiser is being planned for this fall, and the membership drive in the spring. Hill's intern, Ava is on the lookout for volunteers, and planning for direct mail and social media marketing for Give to Lincoln Day. Volunteer UNL students will create billboard and marketing plan. She gave an update on current Central Library fundraising. The public fundraising campaign will begin in May. Brief discussion followed.

Central Library Update

Director Wieber reviewed the budget and discussed how the project is being updated and adjusted as it moves forward. Savings and costs were addressed. Naming opportunities are being discussed. A meeting with the Urban Design Committee is scheduled for April 7th. Thanks to Atty. Golden for her behind-the-scenes work on the project. Brief discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

*Approval of Custom Edges contract renewal for Lawn Care not to exceed \$50,520.

Wieber shared that they've been working with LCL now for two years, have added to the scope of their work at Bethany and their work has been very good. There's no cost increase for the renewal. Shaw moved approval. Gerteisen seconded. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Dunlap, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler – AYE. Motion carried 6-0.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No Report

ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Glaesemann shared that the two new Bookmobiles have arrived! They're being loaded with their new collections and test driven by the four Bookmobile drivers. Their official introduction by the Mayor will be held on April 7th. Glaesemann provided some examples of the eight Innovation Grant winners' proposed programs, including a Collaborative Reading Marathon of *The Hobbit* with crafts and activities, Binoculars and field guides for bird watching programs, a Mobile Sensory tool kit for Sensory Storytimes to be shared among the branches

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Wieber presented a final draft copy of the FY 2024-2025 Annual Report, and shared that it will be posted to the website shortly. He then reviewed the Strategic Plan priorities and the Strategic Plan Metrics for FY 2025-2026, with the reminder that this information is already posted on the Library website. Brief discussion followed.

BOARD OBSERVATIONS

No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.