

MEETING NOTICE

DATE: September 11, 2026
TO: Library Board, Mayor, City Clerk, and City Attorney
FROM: Ryan Wieber, Library Director
SUBJECT: Library Board Meeting

DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING:

Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Bennett Martin Public Library
136 S. 14 St., Lincoln, NE 68508

STARTING TIME OF MEETING: 8:00 a.m.

CHAIR OF MEETING: Lisa Hale, President

PURPOSE OF MEETING: Monthly Business Meeting

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Announcement of Open Meetings Law
2. Approval of Agenda*
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items
4. Approval of August 18, 2026 Minutes*
5. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Committee on Administration
 - b. Committee on Buildings & Grounds
 - c. Committee on Technology
 - d. Committee on Finance
 - i. Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures for August 2026*
6. Other Reports
 - a. Foundation for LCL: Tiffani Hill
 - b. One Book One Lincoln: Morgan Gerteisen
 - c. Central Library: Ryan Wieber
 - d. Digital Collection Development: Rebecca Aracena
7. New Business
 - a. Board Meeting Date Change
8. President's Report
9. Assistant Library Director's Report
10. Director's Report
11. Board Observations
12. Public Comment – Anyone wishing to address the board on a matter not on this agenda may do so at this time.

*Action Item

Proposed agenda kept continually current and available for inspection at the Administrative Office of the Bennett Martin Public Library. The Board shall have the right to modify the agenda at said public meeting when convened.

ACCOMMODATION NOTICE The City of Lincoln complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 guidelines. Ensuring the public's access to and participating in public meetings is a priority for the City of Lincoln. In the event you are in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to attend or participate in a public meeting conducted by the City of Lincoln, please contact the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights at 402-441-7624, or the City Ombudsman at 402-441-7511, as soon as possible before the scheduled meeting date in order to make your request. *Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska posted in meeting room.*

Library Board Meeting Minutes

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

GERE BRANCH LIBRARY

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Present: Jacki Ostrowicki, Morgan Gerteisen, Patty Beutler, Terri Dunlap, Joe Shaw, Marilyn Moore, Lisa Hale and Nichole Bogen.

City of Lincoln Staff present: Libraries; Ryan Wieber, Jodene Glaesemann, Jennifer Hatfield, Sarah Dale, Brenda Ealey. Other City Staff: Jocelyn Golden, Senior Atty. Foundation for LCL President, Dutch Bell.

CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSTING OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

President Ostrowicki called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced the Open Meetings Law was posted and available for review.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA*

Ostrowicki noted that the Agenda was posted according to the Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska. Beutler moved approval of the Agenda. Gerteisen seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler, Ostrowicki, Dunlap, Shaw, Moore – AYE. Motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Public Comment.

APPROVAL OF JULY, 2026 MEETING MINUTES*

Hale noted a correction on the Minutes from July. (Approval of “May” minutes should read “June”) Moore moved approval of the corrected July Minutes. Shaw seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beutler, Ostrowicki, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen – AYE. Hale and Dunlap - ABSTAIN. Motion carried 5-0 with 2 Abstentions.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Administration

Did not meet.

Committee on Buildings and Grounds

Did not meet.

Committee on Technology

Did not meet.

Committee on Finance

Met two weeks ago to review year end budget projections. Will discuss in new business.

**Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures*

Treasurer Dunlap reported that Total Operational Expenditures from July 2026 were \$933,921.03, Total Expenditures from Other Funds were \$550,243.24 for a Total of \$1,484,164.27. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beutler, Ostrowicki, Dunlap, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen, Hale – YAY. Motion passed 7-0.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

Foundation for LCL Board President, Dutch Bell, shared the Foundation event, *Booked for the Night*, happens Saturday the 29th, 170 tickets have already been sold. He shared that the Central Library fundraising fund is currently at \$23.5 million. Brief discussion followed.

Central Library Update

Director Wieber gave an update on Central Library progress. The value engineering work continues. The goal is to wrap up this stage by the end of August. Private fundraising dinners are scheduled in the next weeks. Discussion followed.

Year-end Budget Projections

Wieber noted that he and Library Accountant Jennifer Hatfield reviewed the budgets and carryover with the Committee on Finance. Hatfield went step by step through the budget projections and the funds that supply each. She reviewed the following reports – 1. Fiscal Year 25-26 Projected Expenditures as of 7.31.26, 2. Summary of Library Media Budget and Expenditures for Fiscal Year 25-26, 3. Fiscal Year 25-26 Estimated End of Year Carryover and Reappropriations and 4. Estimated End of Year Carryover and Reappropriations from Keno for Fiscal Year 25-26. There was brief discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

**Approval of Frye Frazee Contract for Security Services, not to exceed \$148,590*

Assistant Director Glaesemann spoke to the Frye Frazee's past performance and shared that the guards' understanding of library rules and vision continues to be excellent. Their last contract was briefly extended while the bidding process was carried out, and Frye Frazee continues to be the Library's first choice. There was brief discussion. Hale moved approval. Gerteisen seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ostrowicki, Dunlap, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler – AYE. Motion passed 7-0.

**Approval of Allocation of Special Funds for FY 26-27*

Director Wieber reviewed allocations for the following amounts for the following purposes:

1. Hompes Fund Allocation - \$35,000 for collections support primarily for the Heritage Room and for general materials for adults.
2. Lincoln Cares Allocation - \$15,000 for activities related to LCL's 150th Anniversary in 2027.
3. Book Sales Funds - \$26,608 for 50% children/teen and 50% adult media.
4. Foundation Unrestricted Funds - \$39,868
 - a. \$8,368 Staff furnishings
 - b. \$11,000 Programming
 - c. \$10,000 Staff Innovation
 - d. \$10,500 Urban Libraries Council membership
5. State Aid Revenue - \$53,837
 - a. \$15,000 Technology
 - b. \$18,000 Conferences
 - c. \$20,837 Library media (digital)

Brief discussion followed. Shaw moved approval. Dunlap seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Dunlap, Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler, Ostrowicki – AYE. Motion passed 7-0.

**Approval of Slate of Board Officers for FY 26-27*

Hale, Chair of the Nominating Committee, provided the following slate of officers:

- President: Lisa Hale
- Vice President: Terri Dunlap
- Treasurer: Morgan Gerteisen

Shaw moved approval. Beutler seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Shaw, Moore, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler, Ostrowicki, Dunlap – AYE. Motion passed 7-0.

**Approval of Resolution in Honor of Joe Shaw*

President Ostrowicki read the following:

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the Library Service of Joe Shaw

WHEREAS, Joe Shaw has faithfully and thoughtfully served Lincoln City Libraries as a member of the Library Board of Trustees for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Joe has served the Library Board as president, vice president and treasurer and contributed his leadership to numerous committees, including Administration, Nominations, Technology, Branch Improvements, Finance, Central Library and Buildings and Grounds, as well as serving as liaison to the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries, where he has enthusiastically supported the Central Library project; and

WHEREAS, Joe has been a vocal supporter and champion of library staff, consistently attending library activities and recognizing the contributions of employees; and

WHEREAS, Joe lent his artistic knowledge and experience to the process for an installation of the Mural at South Branch Library; and

WHEREAS, Joe has been a constant and stalwart defender of the Freedom to Read,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln City Libraries Board of Trustees expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Joe Shaw and adopts this resolution in recognition of his distinguished service and lasting contributions to Lincoln City Libraries.

Each board member shared their thoughts and fond memories of Joe's term. Hale moved approval of the Resolution. Moore seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Moore, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler, Ostrowicki, Dunlap – AYE. Motion passed 6-0.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ostrowicki shared a poem titled, "The Raincoat" by Ada Limón. She reviewed the Board's goals for the year, expressing pride in what has been accomplished. Shaw thanked Ostrowicki for making the meetings better and more intentional.

ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Glaesemann gave a staffing update, sharing that new staff will soon be selected for positions at NESU (Northeast Service Unit), Walt and Gere branches. Gere manager interviews are beginning and the application for the new maintenance worker will close August 25. Some discussion followed regarding the Centerpointe Liaison, and Glaesemann shared that he's having 35-40 interactions monthly, and creating relationships with patrons and guards.

She invited the board to Brenda Ealey's retirement celebration, scheduled for September 3. She also invited members to Library's Annual Staff Inservice Day on September 18. This year's featured speakers include a panel of local booksellers and a guest speaker from Ponca Tribe of Nebraska among others.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Wieber shared the history of Gere Manager, Brenda Ealey's career including 13 years with the Southeast Library System bookended by stints with LCL – 12 years and 13 years respectively. She's been a mentor to many staff and librarians in development.

He shared that the budget process is proceeding on schedule, and will go to the City Council next week for final vote. The changes to the Municipal Code were approved, thanks to Jocelyn Golden. He commended Glaesemann and Bennett Martin Manager LeeAnn Sergeant and staff for their good work on quashing a unique pest issue quickly with assistance from County Extension and the Health Department, as well as additional assists from Building Superintendent Miller and the cleaning crews.

BOARD OBSERVATIONS

Ostrowicki opened the floor for observations. Shaw shared a poem he'd written, expressing his early joys in libraries and his pleasure at serving the Board. Gerteisen shared the voting numbers thus far for One Book One Lincoln and encouraged folks to vote. The last day is August 31st. Beutler shared that she'd attended the United for Libraries conference as part of her Board Continuing Education. She was pleased to see how well run LCL's board and Administration are run and encouraged the Board to take advantage of the learning opportunities. Bogen recommended author Timothy Egan, nonfiction that reads like a drama.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Memo to the Library Board

September 2026

Please note: this month's Board meeting is on September 15 at Bennett Martin at 8am.

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET: The actual percent of budget expended year to date is 95.38%, compared to the budgeted 100%. Annual adjusted expenditures to date are 97.03%.

APPROVAL OF August 20, 2026 MINUTES

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Administration

The committee did not meet.

Committee on Buildings and Grounds

The Committee did not meet.

Committee on Technology

The committee met on August 25 and discussed the Virtual Services Workshop, which was held with VS staff on August 21.

Committee on Finance

The Finance Committee did not meet.

**Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures—Action Item*

Reports are attached. The Board will consider approval of August expenditures.

OTHER REPORTS

Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries update: Executive Director, Tiffani Hill, will provide a Central Library fundraising report and general news.

Morgan Gerteisen will update the Board on OBOL news.

With Project Control's Anthony Fitzgerald, I'll give a status update on the library project, specifically the latest information on project costs and next steps.

Support Services Coordinator, Rebecca Aracena, will report on collection development trends, focusing in on our digital collection and strategies the Library is using to balance rising costs and increasing patron demand for digital content.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. October Board Meeting Date Change.

Next month's regular board meeting date of October 20, 6pm Gere now conflicts with the newly-scheduled author visit with Bruce Holsinger at 7pm at Lincoln High. I'm recommending we switch the October and November locations and times. Proposed: October 20 at Bennett Martin at 8am, and November 17 at Walt, 6pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jodene Glaesemann will provide a staffing and operations update.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I'll review items from my written Director's Report and share other news.

BOARD OBSERVATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

CONTRACTS FILED

Business Name	Description	Date Received
Emelia (Emory) Brown, Salt Creek Zine Fest	To present a workshop on making "Zines" on Sept. 12, 2026 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Walt Branch Library for \$75.	8/27/2026
Dr. David Miers	To give a presentation to library patrons on the positive and negative impacts of Artificial Intelligence at Gere Branch Library on September 9, 2026 from 6-7:00 p.m. at no cost.	8/27/2026
Lisa Guill, Author	Author will bring contributors and provide a recorded presentation and live reading for the Ames Reading Series at the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors, 136 S. 14th St., Lincoln, NE at no cost.	8/28/2026
Becky Faber, Author	To provide a recorded interview and live reading for the Ames Reading Series on Sunday, November 1, 2026 at no cost.	8/21/2026
Necronomica	To present, "Things That Go Bump in Nebraska" about ghosts and the paranormal to patrons at Gere Branch Library on Monday, October 26, 2026 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at a cost not to exceed \$125.	8/21/2026
Lisa Knopp, Author	To present a recorded interview and reading for the Ames Reading Series, on Sunday, October 4, 2026 in the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library at no cost.	8/28/2026
Brainfuse, LLC	For a one-year renewal of Brainfuse Help Now and Job Now databases for library patrons through 9/27/27 for \$12,000.	8/27/2026
Lincoln City Libraries	To give a presentation to library patrons on the positive and negative impacts of Artificial Intelligence at Gere Branch Library on September 9, 2026 from 6:00-7:00 pm. at no cost.	8/25/2026
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission - Monica Macoubrie	To provide two programs at Gere Branch Library including ambassador animals for: Family Fun Night and for an Art Program helping young patrons create entries for the Reptile Art Competition on October 6th and 19th, 2026 at no cost.	8/25/2026
University of Nebraska State Museum Outreach	Presenter Katelyn McMullin, Anthropology Collection Manager at UNL State Museum will share information about cuneiform tablets in celebration of One Book One Lincoln finalist, "There are Rivers in the Sky" by Elif Shafak at Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 S. 14th St. on Sunday, October 4, 2026 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. at no cost.	8/25/2026
Alfredo's Helping Hand, LLC	To lease stack moving equipment at a cost of \$200/day if held for less than two weeks, and \$150/day if held for more than two weeks.	8/20/2026
Bahr Vermeer & Haecker Architects, Ltd, a Nebraska corporation (BVH)	Amendment No. 5 between the City of Lincoln and Bahr Vermeer & Haecker Architects, Ltd, a Nebraska corporation (BVH) in the amount of \$19,500 related to right-of-way survey and atrium modeling third party review for the new central library.	8/19/2026
Transparent Language	Renewal of "Transparent Language Online" database for Library customer use for one year through 8/31/2027 at a cost not to exceed \$9,187.50.	8/10/2026
Foundry Community Foundation	For a UNL Honors student as intern to Lincoln City Libraries from January 11, 2027 through April 30, 2027 at a cost not to exceed \$3,600.	8/1/2026



LINCOLN
City Libraries

MEMORANDUM

TO: Library Board

FROM: LCL Business Office

RECAP OF EXPENDITURES - Aug 2026

Library Operational Budget - FY 2025-26	\$	959,485.35	
Library Enc/Reapp - From FY 2024-25		-	
Heritage Room Fund - FY 2025-26		2,947.06	
Polley Music Library - FY 2025-26		9,563.74	
Total Operational Expenditures	\$		971,996.15
Grants	\$	13,413.02	
Hompes Fund		-	
Keno		68,535.24	
Miscellaneous Library Donations Funds		52,574.24	
Capital Improvements		14,761.50	
Total Expenditures - Other Funds			149,284.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$		1,121,280.15

Library Director Approval: _____

Library Board Approval: _____



LINCOLN

City Libraries

- Vision: LCL: Literacy, Community, and Lifelong learning
- Mission: Lincoln City Libraries provides access to information, ideas, books and lifelong learning opportunities that inform, enrich and empower every individual in our diverse community.
- Priorities:
1. Maximizing Access
 2. Communicating our Offerings
 3. Strengthening our Potential
 4. Growing our Support

Director's Report for August 2026

- Our staff had a busy summer with programming, outreach, and welcoming patrons of all ages to library locations and demonstrating every day the **power a library card can offer**. August provides a blip of time with a bit of reduced programming that allows staff to recoup, reenergize, and plan ahead for activities and services that reach our neighborhoods and community. I'm thankful and immensely proud of how our teams pull together during the crazy summer season with heart-led love for service to patrons.
- We bid fond farewell and **happy retirement** to Gere-South Manager, Brenda Ealey, with a moment of celebration in her honor at Gere last week. Staff and patrons are grateful for her many years of authentic, caring, and empathetic service to patrons—and to the Nebraska librarian community, too! She was a long-time leader here and across the state. She was a strong voice and advocate for public libraries, her staff, and for fairness and equitable services.
- One Book One Lincoln winning author **Bruce Holsinger** is visiting Lincoln High School on Tuesday, October 20 at 7pm for a dialogue with Librarian Jen Jackson on his book, *Culpability*. We're excited to welcome Bruce, who is also an English professor at the University of Virginia, and expect another great audience to celebrate this year's top selection. Please mark your calendar—and the regularly scheduled board meeting for that evening has been switched to 8am that morning at Bennett Martin Library.
- As you know, the Central Library's team of architects at MSR and BVH received an "**On the Boards**" interior design award from IIDA/ALA at the American Library Association annual conference in late June. Our profession's regular magazine publication, American Libraries, featured images of Lincoln's Central Library as part of its annual Library Design issue this month! I expect more recognition to happen down the road.
- We're embarking on a **parking lot expansion** at Bethany Branch. Project Control will assist as owner's rep and work with Buildings Superintendent Dan Miller and designers at Olsson to bring it to fruition. The plan is not only to greatly increase the number of parking stalls, but also add some green space for the ability to have occasional outdoor programming.

- A reminder that **Staff Inservice Day** is scheduled for September 18, which means the system will be closed to the public that day. Board President Lisa Hale will provide the opening welcome, and our planning committee has put together an excellent lineup of sessions and activities.
- Staff interview teams have been busy the past month with **new hires** and getting the new Library Service Associate positions filled at Gere, Walt, NESU, and Williams locations. The new Maintenance Worker position has interviews scheduled for this month.
- We've partnered with the City-County HR Department in promoting our **LinkedIn Learning** catalog of streaming video courses. This is a great resource for online learning not only for library patrons but also for city and county employees. In order to use LinkedIn, you of course only need a library card, so we're sending library staff over the next month to various departments to conveniently offer library card signup opportunities.

Examples of the Strategic Plan in action:

- Kim Shelley, Branch Manager for NESU (Anderson & Bethany reports "All LCL employees who provide storytime sessions were invited to training with Alyssa Jewell on Monday, August 24. The *La La Librarian* presented an all-day training entitled "Leveraging the Power of Play in Storytime." The training was funded by the Nebraska Library Commission through a Youth Grant for Excellence. Nearly 30 LCL storytellers participated in the training. Following the session, several employees commented that they found the training fun and informative. One stated, "I really enjoyed it, and I came away with some really great information and ideas that I will be implementing!" A couple of attendees said the training reinvigorated them. Nearly everyone stated that they enjoyed the camaraderie with their colleagues – as well as the great snacks!
- At the end of the month, Stephanie E. and Karrie S. and Harris L. (Bookmobile) represented NESU and LCL at Summerfest – a maker festival held in University Place on Saturday, August 29. Karrie and Stephanie saw 270 people during the event. They said that attendees were really interested in the bookmobile. We say that "Libraries are more than books." Even our mobile library is more than books – the bookmobile awning served as a nice dry spot for Karrie and Stephanie during the intermittent downpours that took place.
- During the summer, Anderson Branch Library featured a tent and "camping supplies" in the middle of the youth area. (Archeologists needed someplace to stay when digging up all those dinosaur bones during the *Unearth a Story* summer reading challenge.) Many children were disappointed to discover that the tent was gone, but it is highly likely that the popular play area will make another appearance in the future.
- Karrie S. (NESU) shared that "The Puppet Stand has turned into an Ice Cream stand for the months of August and September. The kids are always so excited to come in and see what's new."
- From Selena S. (Eiseley): Vivian S. and I had a lot of success at the Saltdogs game outreach on August 9th. Ali B. had sent us a box filled with maybe about 300 fans and those drew crowds back to our table. Initially, game goers would stop by, pick up a few items and quickly scurry off but, as the heat rose, we had more families circling back to our table for a fan. It was almost like a conversation starter that led into them asking more questions about the library and our services which we we're happy to tell them about. With the amount of people coming back to our table we ended staying a bit

longer than our scheduled time. We were able to hand out all of our outreach swag and share a decent amount of library information with visitors.

- Lisa Olivigni at Eiseley writes: "Recently, I was working at Williams and a Mom came up to the circ desk to check out. As I checked out her books, she held up some National Geographic animal books (JF PBs) and said her son loved them. She then told me that her young son was autistic and didn't talk very much. However, once she started taking home the "animal books" and reading them with him, he started speaking the animal names. She said their family recently went to the Children's Zoo and her son would talk out loud and identify the animals he knew.
- Tami B. (Eiseley) set up a fun display in the Blue Room that's appealed to a variety of ages, not just children. ZOOMED IN! Can you guess the book? Tami noticed one afternoon that even a group of teens were having a great time guessing and talking about the books they read as children.



- Chrystal D. (BMPL) said "We had a patron come in to pick up sheet music for his wife. His library account had been deleted due to inactivity, so we were able to sign him up for a new card. He also needed some help locating the item that he was looking for. Despite the item being shelved in the wrong place, Lauren E. found 'the needle in the haystack', as he said. He raved about us going the extra mile to ensure that he and his wife got the music she needed for one of her classes, and talked about what a great resource Polley Music Library is for music students in Lincoln."
- Walker D. (BMPL) shared this delightful interaction: A patron came in with her two young granddaughters and explained that they had just showed the girls Star Wars for the first time and were wondering if I could point them in the direction of some Star Wars kid's books. I found several different spots where they could browse Star Wars books and the patron could be heard remarking to her granddaughters, "Isn't this place wonderful? The librarians here are so helpful!" They checked out several books and left with smiles on their faces.
- Caralyn K. (BMPL), "I spoke with one of our Home Patrons on the phone. She asked if it would be possible to have some children's books sent to her in her blue bag. She explained that she has a little neighbor girl, about 3 years old that comes to visit her and she would love to be able to share some reading time with the little girl. I emailed our Storyteller team to get some recommendations and gathered together a few picture books I thought they might enjoy. I also looked on Novelist to find a list of age appropriate books, which I modified to only include books owned by Lincoln City Libraries. This is such a fun idea and I can't wait to hear back on how it went!"
- Laura N. (BMPL) relayed, "I checked out a couple of books to a high school student who had her keychain library card on a short necklace around her neck, something I hadn't seen before. She said

she runs to the library (about a half mile) and walks back with the book she checks out, whenever she needs a break from doing homework and wants to get out and get some exercise. The current temperature was 93 during this conversation. I was impressed and loved that someone made the library part of their decompression and exercise routine, even on the hottest of days."

- Amber S. (BMPL) relayed this interaction: "A woman came in with her children so they could all charge their devices. She said their power was cut off, so they came here to cool off and charge. I heard her say something along the lines of 'it's okay, the library people understand what it's like.' I made sure the family was comfortable and didn't hurry them out the door so they could get as much charge as possible."
- Lauren E. (BMPL) said, "A Freshman Art History class came into the library with their professor to tour the building and learn about the library. I notified Kim that they were here and she came down to give them an in-depth run through of the building's history and artists represented. Prior to her coming down from second floor, I gave a brief run through of how to sign up for a library card and advertised our digital services and many items available for check out. Two of the students came back after their class and signed up for library cards that same day!"
- Deb A. reports the inventory, organization, and rehousing non-book collection items in the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors to improve long-term preservation and retrieval is almost complete. The next step is working with support services to get items not currently listing in the online catalog included.
- The list of 250 authors that relates to the *Nebraska Voices: 250 Authors* exhibits (in the HR and on the 2nd floor), has been made available on the HR webpage. All of these author profiles in Nebraskaauthors.org were updated in preparation for this exhibit.
- Ronda H. (Gere) worked on the interactive concert with LaLa Librarian, with 30 people attending. "This was a fun night. It was fun for me to see Alyssa (La La Librarian) perform before our training. The kids were great and enjoyed the concert. She does a great job engaging the crowd."
- Gere Library had 1079 books shared through 172 youth book bundles.
- Gere Library had the following displays this month: Find Your Inner Nerd; Back to School – Film Edition; Late Summer Lawlessness; Gothic Novels; Relaxation; Music in the Margins; Physical Activities (Youth Items); and Plan of Snack. They were put together by various staff, and for the month there were 519 checkouts from the displays.
- Diane V. (Gere) led one Baby and one Toddler Time to kick off the new fall session of storytime on August 31. The theme for both was Hello World. "We waved and said hello to our new friends and old and everyone was excited to be back at Storytime. One parent commented "It feels like it's been years!" There were 86 in attendance.
- Cally O (Gere) reported that we welcomed the Theater Arts Academy for their last show preview, *We are Monsters*, on August 7, with 60 attending, and the La La Librarian for a family concert on 8/24 with 30 attending.
- Scott S. in the Polley Music Library reports: "One of my more interesting reference requests this month regarded some questions about support for hearing-impaired artists working in large spaces as artists-in-residence. I have a bit of background both from musical and hearing-tech perspectives

that came in handy toward making some suggestions to check into for this patron and their organization.”

- The Polley had the good fortune to have one of the longest-running chamber-pop ensembles in Lincoln perform at the library this month: Floating Opera, who have been playing since the 90s, and have had a roster that reads like a who's who of Lincoln musicians of the last 30+ years, came by to play and talk about their long history. We had 30 attendees, great questions from the audience, and it never hurts to have a band in the library named after a book (their name is a reference to John Barth's first novel, *The Floating Opera*).

Ryan Wieber

9/10/2026

Lincoln City Libraries
August 2026 Use Report

Location	Loans/Circulation			Visits			August 2026 Other Use					August 2025 Other Use					Change: Total Other Use
	Aug 2026	Aug 2025	Change	Aug 2026	Aug 2025	Change	Computer Reservations	Program & Outreach Attendance	Meeting Room Attendance	Study Room Attendance	Total Other Use	Computer Reservations	Program & Outreach Attendance	Meeting Room Attendance	Study Room Attendance	Total Other Use	
Bennett Martin Public Library	13,617	14,189	-4.03%	10,181	11,400	-10.69%	2,618	201	82	61	2,962	2,967	802	232	53	4,054	-26.94%
Anderson Branch Library	13,272	12,259	8.26%	6,672	6,275	6.33%	938	1,197	98	0	2,233	717	795	174	0	1,686	32.44%
Bethany Branch Library	9,316	7,787	19.64%	3,240	2,970	9.09%	248	19	0	0	267	274	30	0	0	304	-12.17%
Eiseley Branch Library	25,366	22,417	13.16%	9,598	9,348	2.67%	1,672	691	246	364	2,973	1,396	90	267	259	2,012	47.76%
Gere Branch Library	61,199	56,222	8.85%	18,917	16,207	16.72%	2,618	486	482	377	3,963	1,164	311	444	268	2,187	81.21%
South Branch Library	10,010	9,285	7.81%	4,271	4,160	2.67%	526	10	0	0	536	502	0	0	0	502	6.77%
Walt Branch Library	44,758	43,791	2.21%	14,977	14,485	3.40%	1,116	890	250	507	2,763	1,659	2,207	270	355	4,491	-38.48%
Williams Branch Library	1,110	912	21.71%	952	998	-4.61%	143	54	0	0	197	172	158	0	0	330	-40.30%
Lied Bookmobile	1,899	1,162	63.43%	467	194	140.72%	0	1,062	0	0	1,062	0	115	0	0	115	823.48%
InterLibrary Loan	130	157	-17.20%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	1,730	0	0	1,730	0	925	0	0	925	87.03%
SUBTOTAL	180,677	168,181	7.43%	69,275	66,037	4.90%	9,879	6,340	1,158	1,309	18,686	8,851	5,433	1,387	935	16,606	12.53%
DownloadStream Audio	58,010	51,366	12.93%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBooks	38,149	35,661	6.98%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	1,216	1,207	0.75%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Download SUBTOTAL	97,375	88,234	10.36%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	278,052	256,415	8.44%	69,275	66,037	4.90%	9,879	6,340	1,158	1,309	18,686	8,851	5,433	1,387	935	16,606	12.53%

Holdings Report	PRINT		NON PRINT		Total	REGISTRATIONS	2026	2025	Change
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth		Purged	2,232	723	208.71%
Owned	342,276	305,637	69,810	30,274	747,997	Active			
Added	2,436	3,126	456	192	6,210	Resident	118,847	148,665	-20.06%
Withdrawn	-1,127	-2,571	-65	-104	-3,867	Library OneCard	43,094	56,659	-23.94%
Current	343,585	306,192	70,201	30,362	750,340	County	6,999	8,785	-20.33%
						NonResident	865	989	-12.54%
						Reciprocal	358	494	-27.53%
						Limited Use	9,361	10,612	-11.79%
						Total Active	179,524	226,204	-20.64%

	2026	2025	Change
WiFi Sessions	127,474	134,370	-5.13%
WiFi Users	8,864	9,137	-2.99%
Website Users	88,775	71,764	23.70%
Website Sessions	139,859	128,182	9.11%
Database Use	11,448	7,867	45.52%

August 2026 Use Compared to August 2025
Lincoln City Libraries

Location	Print Checkouts		Print Loan Change	Non-Print Checkouts		Non-Print Loan Change	Total Checkouts		Total Loan Change
	2026	2025		2026	2025		2026	2025	
BMPL	11,097	11,579	-4.16%	2,520	2,610	-3.45%	13,617	14,189	-4.03%
Anderson	11,385	10,513	8.29%	1,887	1,746	8.08%	13,272	12,259	8.26%
Bethany	8,356	6,882	21.42%	960	905	6.08%	9,316	7,787	19.64%
Eiseley	22,483	19,899	12.99%	2,883	2,518	14.50%	25,366	22,417	13.16%
Gere	54,696	49,791	9.85%	6,503	6,431	1.12%	61,199	56,222	8.85%
South	8,748	8,060	8.54%	1,262	1,225	3.02%	10,010	9,285	7.81%
Walt	40,261	38,852	3.63%	4,497	4,939	-8.95%	44,758	43,791	2.21%
Williams	1,004	817	22.89%	106	95	11.58%	1,110	912	21.71%
Bookmobile 1	1,347	1,049	28.41%	78	113	-30.97%	1,425	1,162	22.63%
Bookmobile 2	400		0.00%	74		0.00%	474	0	0.00%
InterLibrary Loan	130	157	-17.20%	0	0	0.00%	130	157	-17.20%
Subtotal Checkouts	159,907	147,599	8.34%	20,770	20,582	0.91%	180,677	168,181	7.43%
Download/Stream Audio	0	0	0.00%	58,010	51,366	12.93%	58,010	51,366	12.93%
Download/Stream eBook	0	0	0.00%	38,149	35,661	6.98%	38,149	35,661	6.98%
Stream Video	0	0	0.00%	1,216	1,207	0.75%	1,216	1,207	0.75%
TOTAL CHECKOUTS	159,907	147,599	8.34%	118,145	108,816	8.57%	278,052	256,415	8.44%

Location	Youth Checkouts		Youth Loan Change	Adult Checkouts		Adult Loan Change	Visits		Visits Change
	2026	2025		2026	2025		2026	2025	
BMPL	6,022	5,448	10.54%	7,595	8,741	-13.11%	10,181	11,400	-10.69%
Anderson	7,875	6,592	19.46%	5,397	5,667	-4.76%	6,672	6,275	6.33%
Bethany	6,045	4,661	29.69%	3,271	3,126	4.64%	3,240	2,970	9.09%
Eiseley	17,085	14,632	16.76%	8,281	7,785	6.37%	9,598	9,348	2.67%
Gere	37,663	33,502	12.42%	23,536	22,720	3.59%	18,917	16,207	16.72%
South	5,892	5,478	7.56%	4,118	3,807	8.17%	4,271	4,160	2.67%
Walt	31,102	30,240	2.85%	13,656	13,551	0.77%	14,977	14,485	3.40%
Williams	861	711	21.10%	249	201	23.88%	952	998	-4.61%
Bookmobile 1	866	645	34.26%	559	517	8.12%	347	194	78.87%
Bookmobile 2	372		0.00%	102		0.00%	120		0.00%
InterLibrary Loan	0	0	0.00%	130	157	-17.20%	0	0	0.00%
Subtotal Checkouts	113,783	101,909	11.65%	66,894	66,272	0.94%	69,275	66,037	4.90%
Download/Stream Audio	7,891	7,713	2.31%	50,119	43,653	14.81%	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBook	10,789	8,259	30.63%	27,360	27,402	-0.15%	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	0	0	0.00%	1,216	1,207	0.75%	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL CHECKOUTS	132,463	117,881	12.37%	145,589	138,534	5.09%	69,275	66,037	4.90%

Location	Program & Outreach Attendance - Youth		P&O Att - Youth Change	Program & Outreach Attendance - Adult		P&O Att - Adult Change	Computer Use		Computer Change
	2026	2025		2026	2025		2026	2025	
BMPL	100	648	-84.57%	101	154	-34.42%	2,618	2,967	-11.76%
Anderson	903	795	13.58%	294	0	0.00%	938	717	30.82%
Bethany	0	0	0.00%	19	30	-36.67%	248	274	-9.49%
Eiseley	400	83	381.93%	291	7	4057.14%	1,672	1,396	19.77%
Gere	189	71	166.20%	297	240	23.75%	2,618	1,164	124.91%
South	0	0	0.00%	10	0	0.00%	526	502	4.78%
Walt	426	1,840	-76.85%	464	367	26.43%	1,116	1,659	-32.73%
Williams	49	34	44.12%	5	124	-95.97%	143	172	-16.86%
Bookmobile 1	29	40	-27.50%	425	75	466.67%	0	0	0.00%
Bookmobile 2	195		0.00%	413		0.00%	0		0.00%
System Outreach	406	425	-4.47%	1,324	500	164.80%	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	2,697	3,936	-31.48%	3,643	1,497	143.35%	9,879	8,851	11.61%

Location	Meeting Room Attendance		Meeting Room Att Change	Study Room Attendance		Study Room Att Change			
	2026	2025		2026	2025		2026	2025	
BMPL	82	232	-64.66%	61	53	15.09%			0.00%
Anderson	98	174	-43.68%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Bethany	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Eiseley	246	267	-7.87%	364	259	40.54%			0.00%
Gere	482	444	8.56%	377	268	40.67%			0.00%
South	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Walt	250	270	-7.41%	507	355	42.82%			0.00%
Williams	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Lied Bookmobile	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
TOTAL	1,158	1,387	-16.51%	1,309	935	40.00%	0	0	0.00%

Lincoln City Libraries
August 2026 FYTD - End of Fiscal Year

\	OTHER USE					
	Loans/Circulation			Visits		
Location	Loans/Circ			Visits FYTD		
	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	Change
	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change
	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change
	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	FYTD Change
nett Martin Public Library	150,679	164,011	-8.13%	121,237	134,271	-9.71%
Anderson Branch Library	150,099	154,047	-2.56%	78,423	74,981	4.59%
Bethany Branch Library	96,127	99,537	-3.43%	35,289	35,982	-1.93%
Eiseley Branch Library	267,695	270,988	-1.22%	113,126	119,045	-4.97%
Gere Branch Library	660,206	682,264	-3.23%	214,822	227,288	-5.48%
South Branch Library	114,019	111,440	2.31%	49,503	48,811	1.42%
Walt Branch Library	506,000	496,751	1.86%	174,886	169,287	3.31%
Williams Branch Library	15,360	12,848	19.55%	14,823	15,147	-2.14%
Bookmobiles	18,728	17,349	7.95%	3,983	3,737	6.58%
InterLibrary Loan	1,919	1,925	-0.31%	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
SUBTOTAL	1,980,832	2,011,160	-1.51%	806,092	828,549	-2.71%
DownloadStream Audio	623,475	583,705	6.81%	0	0	0.00%
ownload/Stream eBooks	420,867	417,534	0.80%	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	13,598	13,389	1.56%	0	0	0.00%
Download SUBTOTAL	1,057,940	1,014,628	9.17%	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	3,038,772	3,025,788	0.43%	806,092	828,549	-2.71%

Holdings Report	PRINT		NON PRINT		Total
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth	
Owned	339,354	300,089	70,574	32,272	742,289
Added	2,436	3,126	456	192	6,210
Withdrawn	-1,127	-2,571	-65	-104	-3,867
Current	340,663	300,644	70,965	32,360	744,632

	FY 25-26 YTD	FY 24-25 YTD	YTD Change
Online Registrations	1,545	1,529	1.05%
*Overall Registrations	15,909	14,955	6.38%

	25-26 FYTD	24-25 FYTD	Change
WiFi Sessions	1,511,473	1,472,619	2.64%
WiFi Users	110,054	110,288	-0.21%
*Website Users	926,762	996,065	-6.96%
Website Sessions	1,575,513	1,506,520	4.58%
Database Use	122,265	94,519	29.35%

2026-2027 Lincoln City Libraries Board Officers & Committee Assignments

Board Officers

President	Lisa Hale
Vice President	Terri Dunlap
Treasurer	Morgan Gerteisen
Secretary	Ryan Wieber

Liaison

Lisa Hale

One Book One Lincoln (OBOL)

Participant	Patty Beutler
Participant	Morgan Gerteisen

Committee on Finance

Chair	Morgan Gerteisen
Member	Terri Dunlap
Member	Jeff Yost

Committee on Administration

Chair	Lisa Hale
Member	Jackie Ostrowicki
Member	Morgan Gerteisen

Committee on Buildings & Grounds

Chair	Marilyn Moore
Member	Patty Beutler
Member	Terri Dunlap

Committee on Nominations

Chair	Terri Dunlap
Member	Patty Beutler
Member	Nichole Bogen

Technology Committee (special)

*Removing this committee and replacing it with
Operations Committee*

Operations Committee (special)

Chair	Lisa Hale
Member	Jeff Yost
Member	Nichole Bogen

Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

Liaison	Jackie Ostrowicki
Liaison	Terri Dunlap

LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES

Monthly Categorical Report

August 31, 2026

	Budget Amount	Budgeted Year-to-Date	Expended Year-to-Date	Balance	Current Month Expended
Administration-Div. 1					
Personnel	\$ 1,039,673.00	\$ 1,039,673.00	\$ 958,194.03	\$ 81,478.97	\$ 76,478.56
Supplies	33,000.00	33,000.00	6,270.28	26,729.72	251.93
Services & Charges	176,549.00	176,549.00	169,610.11	6,938.89	1,080.62
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,249,222.00	\$ 1,249,222.00	\$ 1,134,074.42	\$ 115,147.58	\$ 77,811.11
Percent Expended		100.00%	90.78%		
Buildings & Grounds-Div. 2					
Personnel	\$ 141,745.00	\$ 141,745.00	\$ 141,845.50	\$ (100.50)	\$ 11,165.01
Supplies	27,000.00	27,000.00	91,081.09	(64,081.09)	7,842.47
Services & Charges	1,211,499.00	1,211,499.00	1,156,364.89	55,134.11	65,635.24
Other	163,396.00	163,396.00	90,831.64	72,564.36	-
Total	\$ 1,543,640.00	\$ 1,543,640.00	\$ 1,480,123.12	\$ 63,516.88	\$ 84,642.72
Percent Expended		100.00%	95.89%		
Public Service-Div. 3					
Personnel	\$ 6,608,087.00	\$ 6,608,087.00	\$ 6,295,017.08	\$ 313,069.92	\$ 489,172.24
Supplies	90,250.00	90,250.00	67,783.98	22,466.02	4,970.44
Services & Charges	61,700.00	61,700.00	55,976.18	5,723.82	2,665.95
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 6,760,037.00	\$ 6,760,037.00	\$ 6,418,777.24	\$ 341,259.76	\$ 496,808.63
Percent Expended		100.00%	94.95%		
Support Services-Div. 4					
Personnel	\$ 1,365,832.00	\$ 1,365,832.00	\$ 1,268,562.36	\$ 97,269.64	\$ 104,067.74
Supplies	62,000.00	62,000.00	110,002.44	(48,002.44)	12,783.21
Services & Charges	452,923.00	452,923.00	490,707.02	(37,784.02)	22,147.05
Other	992,472.00	992,472.00	949,790.92	42,681.08	161,224.89
Total	\$ 2,873,227.00	\$ 2,873,227.00	\$ 2,819,062.74	\$ 54,164.26	\$ 300,222.89
Percent Expended		100.00%	98.11%		
Total Library Operational					
Personnel	\$ 9,155,337.00	\$ 9,155,337.00	\$ 8,663,618.97	\$ 491,718.03	\$ 680,883.55
Supplies	212,250.00	212,250.00	275,137.79	(62,887.79)	25,848.05
Services & Charges	1,902,671.00	1,902,671.00	1,872,658.20	30,012.80	91,528.86
Other	1,155,868.00	1,155,868.00	1,040,622.56	115,245.44	161,224.89
Total	\$ 12,426,126.00	\$ 12,426,126.00	\$ 11,852,037.52	\$ 574,088.48	\$ 959,485.35
Percent Expended		100.00%	95.38%		
Other Library Fund Appropriations	Amount Appropriated		Expended Year-to-Date	Balance	Current Month Expended
FY 2024-25 Reappropriated	\$ 301,992.00		\$ 301,992.00	\$ -	\$ -

LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES - FUND BALANCES
August 2026

	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expended	Ending Balance
<u>GRANT FUNDS</u>				
Net Lender Fund	\$ 2,724.50	\$ 210.33	\$ -	2,934.83
NLC Misc Grants	\$ 4,998.92	\$ -	\$ -	4,998.92
NLC Youth Grant 2024	11,810.14	-	8,283.70	3,526.44
NLC NE eReads Grant 2025	1,599.32	-	1,599.32	-
State Aid 2025	42,004.19	-	3,530.00	38,474.19
State Aid 2026	53,837.00	-	-	53,837.00

DONATED FUNDS

Heritage Room	\$ 215,100.95	\$ 509.11	\$ 2,947.06	212,663.00
Polley Music Library	252,630.31	613.18	9,563.74	243,679.75
Joseph J. Hompes	170,787.27	385.39	-	171,172.66
Misc. Library Donations	877,318.81	2,105.97	52,574.24	826,850.54
Alice Nielsen	92,320.75	215.46	-	92,536.21
Dorothy Holland	132,799.07	309.93	-	133,109.00
Glennis Leapley	6,531.58	15.24	-	6,546.82
Lincoln Cares	36,138.36	401.89	-	36,540.25

APPROPRIATED FUNDS

	Budget	Aug 2026	Expended Exp-to-Date	Balance
Heritage Room FY 2025-26	\$ 38,438.00	\$ 2,947.06	\$ 38,726.13	(288.13)
Polley Music Library FY 2025-26	128,527.00	9,563.74	123,951.57	4,575.43
Keno FY 2025-26	988,657.00	68,535.24	871,959.62	116,697.38
Capital Improvement Projects				
FY 2022-23 Bennett Martin Elevator 1-4	179,359.15	-	-	179,359.15
FY 2024-25 Bennett Martin Improvements	250,000.00	-	-	250,000.00
FY 2025-26 BMPL Building Upgrades	250,000.00			250,000.00
FY 2025-26 New Central Library	29,248,424.30	14,761.50	7,745,677.28	21,502,747.02