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.