

MEETING NOTICE

DATE: May 16, 2025
TO: Library Board, Mayor, City Clerk, and City Attorney
FROM: Ryan Wieber, Library Director
SUBJECT: Library Board Meeting

DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING: Tuesday, May 20, 2025
Bennett Martin Public Library
136 S. 14th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508

STARTING TIME OF MEETING: 8:00 a.m.
CHAIR OF MEETING: Joe Shaw, 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 April 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes*
5. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Committee on Administration
 - i. 4/28/25 Committee meeting summary
 - b. Committee on Buildings and Grounds
 - c. Committee on Finance
 - i. Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures for April 2025*
6. Special Committee Reports
 - a. Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries
 - b. One Book One Lincoln
7. New Business
 - a. Summer Reading Challenge Report: Ali Bousquet
 - b. Resolution to Recommend the Purchase of 1111 "O" Street for a New Downtown Library*
8. President's Report
9. Assistant Library Director's Report
10. Library Director's Report
11. 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, APRIL 15, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

EISELEY BRANCH LIBRARY

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Present: Joe Shaw, Dan Sloan, Morgan Gerteisen, Patty Beutler. Terri Dunlap, Nichole Bogen. Absent: Lisa Hale, Jackie Ostrowicki.

CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSTING OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

President Shaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced the Open Meetings Law and today's agenda were posted and available for review.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA*

Shaw noted that the Agenda/Meeting Notice was posted according to the Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska. Director Wieber announced the Closed Session planned for the meeting would be cancelled and rescheduled for a later date. Gerteisen moved to amend the agenda by removing the closed session. Sloan seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Gerteisen, Beutler, Dunlap, Shaw, Sloan – AYE. Motion carried 5-0.

Beutler moved approval of the amended Agenda. Gerteisen seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beutler, Dunlap, Shaw, Sloan, Gerteisen – AYE. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Public Comment.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2025 MEETING MINUTES*

Sloan motioned approval of the March minutes. Beutler seconded. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beutler, Dunlap, Shaw, Sloan, Gerteisen – AYE. Motion passed 5-0.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Administration

Director Wieber noted the committee plans to meet soon at discuss the annual new Board Member process.

Committee on Buildings and Grounds

Director Wieber shared that the Buildings & Grounds committee met on March 26th. Topics discussed included elevator issues at Bennett Martin, a soffit replacement project at Anderson, the replacement of tile with carpet in the entryways at Walt and Eiseley, and a review of the Custom Edges contract.

Committee on Finance

Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures

In Treasurer Hale's absence, member Morgan Gerteisen reported that the Total Operational Expenditures for February were \$898,136.87. The Total Expenditures from Other Funds were \$69,930.96 for a Total of \$968,067.83. Beutler moved approval. Sloan seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Dunlap, Shaw, Sloan, Gerteisen, Beutler – AYE. Motion carried 5-0.

Keno Funds Report

Accountant Ali Larson indicated that Keno funds typically account for approximately \$1,000,000 of the annual budget. By comparison property taxes provide \$13,000,000. She noted that the distribution of Keno funds was established in 1993 for community betterment. Of those funds, designated Special Revenue Fund #175, Libraries receive 30% of the total, Parks 65% and the remaining 5% goes to fund grants to small human services organizations. Funds are allocated monthly.

Of the funds the Library receives, 80% goes to library media and 20% to technology improvements with a priority for serving individuals with disabilities. All the spending is patron-centered. Any overage in the estimated income is appropriated to Capital Improvement Program (CIP) expenses. These overages have funded projects like parking, roofs, HVAC systems, Bookmobile, energy efficiency upgrades, and recently – the Williams Branch Library. There is currently \$120,000 set aside for the two new bookmobiles.

Larson informed the Board that a significant portion of the e-book and e-audio budget comes from Keno funds. She noted that although the anticipated reduction in Keno funds due to Lincoln's new casino has been less significant than planned for, it's not an entirely secure or predictable number, so its use must be monitored closely. Brief discussion followed.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

One Book One Lincoln

One Book One Lincoln (OBOL) Board Liaison, Morgan Gerteisen reported the final committee meeting is scheduled for the week of April 14th to pick the top three titles. She shared that there are a great variety of genres this year, including sci fi and mystery. The committee will start filming top ten videos Friday. The top three titles will be announced at the Memorial Day event at The Mill. Brief discussion followed.

Dan Sloan gave a brief update on the hiring process for a new Foundation for LCL Executive Director.

NEW BUSINESS

*Approval of Custom Edges Lawn Care Contract Renewal not to exceed \$50,520**

Director Wieber shared that this first renewal is for the same amount as the original contract. Custom Edges has done a great job for the branches they work on - Anderson, Bethany, Eiseley, Gere and Walt – this past year and LCL would be pleased to have them continue. There was no discussion. Sloan moved approval of the contract. Dunlap seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Dunlap, Shaw, Sloan, Gerteisen, Beutler – AYE. Motion carried 5-0.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Shaw reported that he was pleased to speak along with Councilman Beckius at the Volunteer Appreciation Banquet. He expressed his appreciation for LCL's volunteers, noted how strongly we depend on their service each year, and how good it is to be part of that celebration.

ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Glaesemann shared a hiring report and details about Outreach, Summer Interns, and Summer Temps who help make the Summer Reading Challenge happen every year. In addition to Interns and Temp staff, five shadowing positions will be made available via the Career Academy at Southeast Community College. The students will shadow staff at Walt, in the Heritage Room and in Support Services. Six applications have been received for the Staff Innovation grant. The applications will be reviewed and funds provided via Foundation for LCL funds.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Wieber introduced new Mayoral aide Amanda Callaway, who will act as the library's liaison to the Mayor's office. Brief discussion followed.

Wieber gave the floor to Eiseley/Williams Manager, Lisa Olivigni who reported that Eiseley has begun its first session of technology basics classes, made possible by a grant that Walt Manager, Wyatt Packard received from the Public Library Association (PLA). Eiseley/Williams staff are gearing up for Summer Reading. Williams changes to its regular summer hours on May 23rd, and staff are excited to see what this year brings since last summer was so successful at Williams.

Director Wieber encouraged the gathering to take the opportunity while at Eiseley to go view the Eddie Dominguez torso, and also mentioned the display of Loren Corey Eiseley materials created by Heritage Room Curator, Deb Arenz, to celebrate the completion of the new Eiseley memorial at Irvingdale Park.

Wieber shared that the Downtown Lincoln Association (DLA) in partnership with, among others, Polley Music Librarian, Scott Scholz is opening the Music Box across 14th Street to the west from Bennett Martin. It's a space where local musicians can practice, rehearse, and record. Libraries will be able to use the space for performances. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for April 24. DLA is also involved in the repaving project for the alley to the north of Bennett Martin. That work is scheduled to take place in July or August. Lighting and drainage is also being addressed. Due to the ongoing street improvements project, the annual Zoo Fest celebration will be moved south a couple of blocks to the south and will be held in front of Bennett Martin on July 11-12.

Director Wieber noted that the elevators at Bennett Martin continue to cause problems for staff and customers, and it's a constant project to keep them running safely. The soffits at Anderson are deteriorating and replacement is being considered. The Bethany parking lot space is expected to be improved by the end of 2025. Finally, the old tiled entryways at Eiseley and Walt are being replaced with carpet that's more affordable and will mute sounds better.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



LINCOLN

City Libraries

Memo to the Library Board

May 2025

Please note: this month's Board meeting is at **Bennett Martin Library, at 8am.**

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET: The actual percent of budget expended year to date is 60.61%, compared to the budgeted 66.67%. Annual adjusted expenditures to date are 63.92%.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Administration

The Committee met on 4/28/2025 to discuss the board member appointment process, and to hear an update on downtown library planning.

Committee on Buildings and Grounds

The committee did not meet.

Committee on Technology

The committee did not meet.

Committee on Finance

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

The committee did not meet.

Reports are attached. Treasurer Lisa Hale will bring forward a motion to approve.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

OBOL update- M. Gerteisen will provide this.

Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries update: new Executive Director, Tiffani Hill, will introduce herself and outline her immediate plans.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Summer Reading Challenge Report: Ali Bousquet
- b. *Resolution to Recommend the Purchase of 1111 "O" Street for a New Downtown Library**

In anticipation of future action by the City of Lincoln, it is recommended the Library Board consider support for the building purchase and overall project by way of a resolution.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jodene Glaesemann will provide a staffing update, and other operational news.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I'll provide updates on library planning and strategic initiatives.

CONTRACTS FILED

Business Name	Description	Date Rev
Music Studio, LNK and Lincoln Arts Council	To provide a music exploration experience, using a hands-on approach to explore a variety of instruments, musical styles, and movement for children at Bennett Martin Public Library at the dates and times in the agreement. City will pay \$300 to the Lincoln Arts Council, which will then pay Music Studio LNK their full \$600 fee.	4/22/2025
Cole Kempcke, Musician	To present a duo musical performance with Kendall Wooden on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at Bennett Martin Public Library at a cost not to exceed \$200.	4/14/2025
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Big Gumdrop Outdoors	To present the program, "Exploring Insects with Big Gumdrop Outdoors" on Monday, June 30, 2025, at Bennett Martin Public Library at no cost.	4/17/2025
Stuff Creative Reuse Store owner, Kashoan Ward	Provide a team to lead an open-ended collage workshop, inspired by classic collage illustrations from picture books, on Sunday, May 4th, 2025, at Bennett Martin Public Library for a cost not to exceed \$75.	4/9/2025
UNL Extension	To present two "Babysitting Basics" classes at Gere and Walt Branch Libraries, at the dates and times in the agreement at a cost not to exceed \$300.00.	4/9/2025
Alena Bruzas, Author	To provide a recorded interview and a public reading for the Ames Reading Series at the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors inside Bennett Martin Public Library on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at no cost. The author will provide books for sale at the event, 10% of which sales will be gifted to Lincoln City Libraries.	4/8/2025
Allison Bitz, Author	To provide a recorded interview and a public reading for the Ames Reading Series at the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors inside Bennett Martin Public Library on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at no cost. The author will provide books for sale at the event, 10% of which sales will be gifted to Lincoln City Libraries.	4/8/2025
Evan LeBouef	The Evan LeBouef Quartet will perform and participate in the program, "The History of Fakebooks" at the Polley Music Library inside Bennett Martin Public Library on Saturday, May 10, 2025 at a cost not to exceed \$200.	4/8/2025
Dean Settle, Author	To provide an author talk on his new book at Bennett Martin Public Library at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2025 at no cost.	4/10/2025
Centerpointe	Centerpointe will provide five (5) sessions of de-escalation training to library staff on the dates and times listed in the agreement at the Centerpointe Campus for Health and Wellbeing at 2202 S. 11th St., Lincoln, NE 68502 at a cost of \$300 per session, for a total of \$1,500.	4/1/2025
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Theater Arts Academy	To perform four (4) previews of upcoming shows at Gere Branch Library at the dates and times in the agreement at no cost.	4/1/2025
American Midwest Ballet	To participate in Library Storytimes with movement and a dance demonstration at the dates/times/locations in the agreement.	4/4/2025
Wildlife Encounters	To provide book-related wildlife conservation programs as part of the Library's Summer Reading Challenge at the dates, times and library locations listed in the agreement at a cost not to exceed \$4,675.	4/1/2025
Roddy Humeniak	To present a 4-part Mahjong class at Anderson Branch Library on the dates and times listed in the agreement at no cost.	4/1/2025



LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES
136 S. 14th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508-1899

MEMORANDUM

TO: Library Board

FROM: Ali Larson, LCL Business Office

RECAP OF EXPENDITURES - APR 2025

Library Operational Budget - FY 2024-25	\$ 799,408.26	
Library Enc/Reapp - From FY 2023-24	-	
Heritage Room Fund - FY 2024-25	2,482.62	
Polley Music Library - FY 2024-25	9,234.11	
Total Operational Expenditures		\$ 811,124.99
Grants	\$ 1,572.19	
Hompes Fund	-	
Keno	126,082.38	
Miscellaneous Library Donations Funds	12,760.85	
Capital Improvements	-	
Total Expenditures - Other Funds		140,415.42
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 951,540.41



LINCOLN
City Libraries

Director's Report for April 2025

Our new bookmobiles cannot arrive soon enough. BKM staff are working admirably to provide service during continued down times with our Lied Bookmobile. Major repairs continue to sideline it and affect service to residents, and staff are making special trips via other vehicles to deliver books. We recently repaired the compressed air brake system, however, a significant issue with the generator is keeping it out of service. We'll know more soon as the extent of the issue with the generator and costs soon.

The newer vehicles are still on target for delivery this summer and fall. Designs for the art-wraps are being coordinated with help from our LCL team and City Communications. The posting for the new 20-hr outreach staff person assigned to the new bookmobile is currently posted.

The Staff Innovation grant process went very well with many submissions from across the system delivered by the April 18 deadline. Jodene Glaesemann will provide an update at the Board Meeting.

Virtual Services staff wrapped up the systemwide upgrades and installation of 45 wireless access points across the library system. Additionally, they updated our "Envisionware" pc's which control printing and time management for public computer use. A recent accessibility enhancement: self-check machines now have audio instructions to assist patrons in remembering to enter their PIN number when checking items out. This has resolved some checkout issues and is appreciated by patrons and staff!

Forthcoming facilities work includes improvements to the front entryways at Eiseley and Walt Branches with new carpet and tilework; new exterior lighted signage at Anderson; soffit repairs at Anderson; and a fire panel replacement at Eiseley. The 3-floor service elevator at Bennett Martin continues to give staff headaches with down time. Our service technicians have visited several times recently yet it continues to break down. We have determined for the time being to only use it a service elevator for transporting materials and supplies to the basement level, and restrict it from staff and patron use.

The Urban Libraries Council (ULC) is conducting a webinar series titled "Creating a Culture of Belonging" that is 8 sessions long, running from February 25, 2025, through August 12, 2025. Office Specialist Heath Gewecke presented the third session with Damara Blincoe, Manager of Library Experience with the Louisville Free Public Library in Kentucky. The session was titled "Auditing for Change: Understanding Systemic Inequities." They discussed formal and informal audits of policies and procedures, and included an emphasis on hiring processes. ULC reported that each session has had about 125 registrations.

SRC begins June 1, and things are lining up nicely due to filled positions, timely preparation and systemwide coordination with our team members. To create better awareness of summer signups and activities, the library will also have a series of ads on local tv stations in May and June.

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*

Examples of the Library's Vision, Mission and Priorities in our daily work:

- Meagan M. shared that "A new Spanish speaking patron came in with her daughter to register for an account and to find materials for learning English. We were able to get her registered and she was so tickled when I handed her the Spanish version of our 'Welcome' card. She said, 'En Espanol? Bueno!' She was very pleased to have that in hand without needing it translated. I was able to locate the first item in the 'English without Barriers' learning"
- Vicki C. shared that "A 12-year-old boy, who is homeschooled, and his dad were checking out the 3D printer, which led to a discussion where I showed him the Collaborative Learning Lab. I explained that the Lab was open for use to anyone and they could use the items in the cabinets in the library. Dad said "Really? We could come here and work on our math on the whiteboard?" He was optimistic because stopping at the library fit in between the boy's occupational and physical therapy sessions."
- Vicki C. hosted Memory Café on 4/17 with 12 attending. She reported that "The first session of our renewed Memory Café program was attended by a group from CountryHouse (70th and O St.) After settling in and enjoying cookies and lemonade, we watched a short clip of historic footage from early days of Lincoln City Libraries, as well as some short videos about unique libraries in celebration of National Library Week. Then, we took a stroll down the spine to look at the garden in the backyard and stopped for a group photo in the youth department. One woman, who had been a school guidance counselor, clapped her hands and exclaimed, 'This is my place!' Another person, who was a trained astrophysicist, was directed to a display about books on the cosmos and took an interest. Due to the fact that these participants are living with memory loss and dementia, it is hard to get a feel for their level of engagement and interest, but we did hear 'This was a good outing!' on their way out of the building. Looking forward to more visits, especially when two other CountryHouse locations join us next time."
- Andrea C. shared that she "facilitated Mindful Movements, which had 13 people in attendance. The group was a part of a mom's group. They had fun, and I encouraged them to come back."
- Teen Advisory Boards at LCL exist to give teens a voice about library collections, facilities, and events. Librarian Karrie S. commented, "The Anderson Branch TAB [Teen Advisory Board] went to Barnes & Noble in April for their monthly meeting. We looked around the youth and teen areas and wrote down books we thought the library should buy. Then we stopped by the café for a treat. This is always the thing teens list as their favorite part of being on the Teen Advisory Board." Also this

month, TAB members from throughout the LCL system gathered at Anderson Branch Library for a "mixer" on 04/04/2025. Karrie shared, "We played board games and got to mingle with teens from all of the other Teen Advisory Boards. We had 35 teens attend."

- NESU Librarian Karrie S. shared, "On Monday, April 28, Ali Bousquet [Youth Services and Outreach Coordinator] and I were guests on channel 10/11's First at Four program. We promoted the Summer Reading Program, including all the work that goes into it and all the great things to come out of it."
- From Polley Music Library's Scott S.: The Polley Music Library Show on KZUM had four episodes in April, which featured a fascinating book about Elliott Carter's first string quartet and the unusual circumstances that bolstered its reception, a book by jazz legend Alice Coltrane, a new book about the nature of new guitars and songwriting by Triumph guitarist Rik Emmett, and a pair of recent books that dig into the history of Van Halen the band and Edward Van Halen the guitarist.
- The monthly display in Polley this month featured lots of guitar books for International Guitar Month, and by the end of the month, the display had moved to its new, larger home. Lots of these books made it into patrons' hands!
- The Music Box (MBX) had a mayoral ribbon cutting ceremony on April 24th. This facility is the first piece of finished work to move forward from the Downtown Lincoln Music Advisory Group, of which Scott S. is a (non-voting) member. It's a partnership between the city, which donated the use of the space, and the Downtown Lincoln Association, who have been in charge of our Advisory Group since the pandemic, and who also secured grant funding to build out the space, purchase equipment and furnishings, and hire staff to run it. Next steps are selecting artists for phases of painting murals along the alley entrance of the space, determining how it will operate on a daily basis, which will involve memberships, and the Advisory Group is meeting in May, now as an Advisory Council, for whatever that name change will mean, where several other downtown music initiatives will start to take shape.
- Chad S. (Gere) shared this interaction: "Helped a woman who was new to Lincoln and was going to host her husband's Persian family for the first time since they had moved here. She was looking for Persian cookbooks and was nervous that we may not have any. Luckily, we had three very good, relatively new options that she liked. She was so relieved and very thankful."
- Leanne D., and Yoel S. worked with Wyatt Packard (Walt) and Selena S. (Eiseley) for the Technology Basics workshops. Topics this month were Videoconferencing Basics led by Selena at Gere on the 4th with 15 attending; Mobile Device Basics led by Wyatt & Leanne at Gere on the 11th with 18 attending; Computer Basics at Eiseley led by Yoel on the 15th with 20 attending; Internet Basics led by Leanne at Eiseley on the 22nd with 17 attending; and Email Basics led by Yoel at Eiseley on the 29th with 17 attending. Yoel shared: "We got really positive feedback for this session. We seem to be hitting our stride with content and pacing. This would be a great program to continue; it seems like there really is a need in the community." Leanne shared this from the Videoconferencing class: "The class had a lot of fun learning about and seeing each other's faces online when they created a chat room."
- Marcy G.(Gere-South) shared this interaction: "Customer came in to Gere on April 16th, he reminded me I'd reserved a study room for him back in March and got out the Zoom Computer so he could use it for an interview. He then went on to tell me that because of our help he actually got into the nursing program he had applied for. He thanked me and seemed very happy."
- Family Fun Night at Gere on April 1st featured guests from Community Crops. They set up stations for garden planning, playing in the dirt, microgreens, and talked with families about gardening and the Community Crops organization. There were 50 attending. Cally O. created and posted a Creepy

Crawlies scavenger hunt with pictures of bugs that 200 kids enjoyed throughout the month. Cally and Ronda H. hosted.

- Diane V. at Gere hosted 9 Baby Storytimes with 217 attending and themes of: Raindrops; Chicks; Farm; and Up Pops a Flower.
- Pam C. shared these two interactions at Williams Branch: A customer came in to Williams on a Thursday afternoon and was excited because we had a "Trash Truck" book that she wanted to read to her nephew. She was super excited to get a library card and kept exclaiming about the apps when I explained what the various ones were for. She was amazed at all the Wonderbooks we have at Williams and thought her nephew would love those as well! She left with a new card, a couple of books and a happy smile on her face and said " I will definitely be back and I will advocate for libraries!"
- During programming in April, Pam C. reached 37 children through two storytimes at Project Future in Air Park. Celeste W. provided storytime for 30 children at Project Future in the Highlands. Pam C. also provided Family Storytime and Stay and Play to 54 Williams' patrons. Catherine S. provided programming for 30 Arnold students with our After School Special program at Williams. Williams staff checked out resources to 40 Park & Rec Students during their biweekly visits. At Eiseley, Tami B. reached 207 children through pre-school storytime. Susan S. reached 235 toddlers through toddler storytime. Susan S. also provided storytime programming to 32 children at Belmont Preschool. Stay and Play at Eiseley was attended by 356 children. Maddie O. provided interactive storytimes to 79 children during Wee Workout Sessions. Celeste W. provided Baby Storytime to 18 participants. Kara G. worked with 29 students as part of Campbell Elementary's CLC library program.
- At BMPL, Caralyn K. presented an ELL "learn about the library" tour which she is working on building as a regular program to have. Caralyn reported, "A young woman from Vietnam and new to our city was interested in learning more about our library and what she needed to do to get a library card. Her English skills were limited, so I helped her fill out a simplified Library Card Application form, and then we took it to the front desk, where Lauren registered her first library card. Being just one to one, I was able to provide a low stakes introduction into the library, and an opportunity for her to practice English as well as get a library card and learn about all that we have to offer. She was very excited to take home the Vietnamese/English version of the Oxford Picture Dictionary!"
- Claire S. (BMPL) hosted her first School Night with Elliott Elementary. About the event, Claire said, "We provided dinner for everyone and set up a variety of fun activity stations—including crafts, board games, chalk art, and building blocks. We had a fantastic turnout with 55 people attending, including both the school principal and vice principal. Throughout the evening, we signed up 10 new library cardholders. It was a wonderful chance to get to know the families, chat about the library, and see kids and parents enjoying time together in a relaxed, welcoming space."
- Cindy K. relayed this interaction, "A man stopped at the first-floor desk and wanted to thank the BMPL staff. He said he had been down on his luck a couple weeks ago and the staff had been very kind to him and had helped him out. He looked as if he was doing well now, and was clean and well groomed. He just wanted to stop and say thank you because we had helped him out during a time that he had really needed it."

- Jen J. (BMPL) hosted the monthly Bring Your Own Book club, discussing books where the main character has a disability, as well as the monthly Crafternoon where origami crane wall hangings were made.

Top Twenty Website Pages for April 2025:

Page title	Views
Home	47,526
Locations and Hours	4,995
Events Calendar	1,270
Databases and Research	1,067
Get a Library Card	993
Due and Renew	798
Storytimes	797
Meeting Rooms and Study Rooms	746
eBooks and Audiobooks	655
New Books and DVDs	545
Print, Scan and Copy	518
Author Alerts	488
Reading Challenges	463
Kids	430
3D Printing Request	419
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	362
Holds	328
One Book One Lincoln	326
Suggest a Title	284
Book Groups	267

Ryan Wieber,
Library Director
5.16.25

Lincoln City Libraries
April 2025 Use Report

Location	Loans/Circulation			Visits			April 2025 Other Use					April 2024 Other Use					Change: Total Other Use
	Apr 2025	Apr 2024	Change	Apr 2025	Apr 2024	Change	Program & Outreach		Meeting Room		Total Other Use	Program & Outreach		Meeting Room		Total Other Use	
							Computer Reservations	Attendance	Attendance	Study Room Attendance		Computer Reservations	Attendance	Attendance	Study Room Attendance		
Bennett Martin Public Library	12,774	14,430	-11.48%	10,729	11,630	-7.75%	2,455	817	187	46	3,505	2,256	697	332	0	3,285	6.70%
Anderson Branch Library	12,245	11,715	4.52%	6,649	5,863	13.41%	896	412	273	0	1,581	855	683	252	0	1,790	-11.68%
Bethany Branch Library	8,295	7,065	17.41%	2,899	2,917	-0.62%	257	281	0	0	538	278	220	0	0	498	8.03%
Eiseley Branch Library	21,365	21,872	-2.32%	9,619	9,950	-3.33%	1,252	1,252	281	331	3,116	1,500	1,090	350	0	2,940	5.99%
Gere Branch Library	55,392	58,290	-4.97%	17,803	19,582	-9.08%	1,349	2,376	713	335	4,773	1,262	1,849	792	0	3,903	22.29%
South Branch Library	8,612	8,868	-2.89%	4,280	3,765	13.68%	504	450	0	0	954	461	285	0	0	746	27.88%
Walt Branch Library	37,137	39,703	-6.46%	12,856	13,839	-7.10%	1,294	1,636	431	354	3,715	1,256	2,201	510	0	3,967	-6.35%
Williams Branch Library	1,153	796	44.85%	1,488	710	109.58%	366	369	0	0	735	107	107	0	0	214	243.46%
Lied Bookmobile	1,786	1,474	21.17%	693	437	58.58%	0	360	0	0	360	0	41	0	0	41	778.05%
InterLibrary Loan	182	189	-3.70%	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	837	0	0	837	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SUBTOTAL	158,941	164,402	-3.32%	67,016	68,693	-2.44%	8,373	8,790	1,885	1,066	20,114	7,975	7,173	2,236	0	17,384	15.70%
DownloadStream Audio	49,017	43,415	12.90%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBooks	34,701	30,494	13.80%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	1,014	1,067	-4.97%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Download SUBTOTAL	84,732	74,976	13.01%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	243,673	239,378	1.79%	67,016	68,693	-2.44%	8,373	8,790	1,885	1,066	20,114	7,975	7,173	2,236	0	17,384	15.70%

Holdings Report	PRINT		NON PRINT		Total	REGISTRATIONS	2025	2024	Change
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth		Purged	790	755	4.64%
Owned	345,568	304,718	73,417	32,453	756,156	Active			
Added	2,102	3,036	216	156	5,510	Resident	148,562	147,696	0.59%
Withdrawn	-3,207	-2,280	-154	-226	-5,867	Library OneCard	53,361	48,185	10.74%
Current	344,463	305,474	73,479	32,383	755,799	County	8,865	9,028	-1.81%
						NonResident	967	934	3.53%
						Reciprocal	489	489	0.00%
						Limited Use	10,394	9,665	7.54%
						Total Active	222,638	215,997	3.07%

	2025	2024	Change
WiFi Sessions	106,986	131,952	-18.92%
WiFi Users	9,645	9,814	-1.72%
Website Users	87,747	101,399	-13.46%
Website Sessions	121,885	138,153	-11.78%
Database Use	8,269	8,568	-3.49%

**April 2025 Use Compared to April 2024
Lincoln City Libraries**

Location	Print Checkouts		Print Loan	Non-Print Checkouts		Non-Print	Total Checkouts		Total Loan
	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Loan Change	2025	2024	Change
BMPL	10,531	11,732	-10.24%	2,243	2,698	-16.86%	12,774	14,430	-11.48%
Anderson	10,047	9,647	4.15%	2,198	2,068	6.29%	12,245	11,715	4.52%
Bethany	7,460	6,255	19.26%	835	810	3.09%	8,295	7,065	17.41%
Eiseley	19,002	19,273	-1.41%	2,363	2,599	-9.08%	21,365	21,872	-2.32%
Gere	48,659	51,171	-4.91%	6,733	7,119	-5.42%	55,392	58,290	-4.97%
South	7,446	7,861	-5.28%	1,166	1,007	15.79%	8,612	8,868	-2.89%
Walt	32,863	34,725	-5.36%	4,274	4,978	-14.14%	37,137	39,703	-6.46%
Williams	907	605	49.92%	246	191	28.80%	1,153	796	44.85%
Lied Bookmobile	1,637	1,317	24.30%	149	157	-5.10%	1,786	1,474	21.17%
InterLibrary Loan	182	189	-3.70%	0	0	0.00%	182	189	-3.70%
Subtotal Checkouts	138,734	142,775	-2.83%	20,207	21,627	-6.57%	158,941	164,402	-3.32%
Download/Stream Audio	0	0	0.00%	49,017	43,415	12.90%	49,017	43,415	12.90%
Download/Stream eBook	0	0	0.00%	34,701	30,494	13.80%	34,701	30,494	13.80%
Stream Video	0	0	0.00%	1,014	1,067	-4.97%	1,014	1,067	-4.97%
TOTAL CHECKOUTS	138,734	142,775	-2.83%	104,939	96,603	8.63%	243,673	239,378	1.79%

Location	Youth Checkouts		Youth Loan	Adult Checkouts		Adult Loan	Visits	Visits	Visits
	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change
BMPL	4,367	5,219	-16.32%	8,407	9,211	-8.73%	10,729	11,630	-7.75%
Anderson	6,127	5,797	5.69%	6,118	5,918	3.38%	6,649	5,863	13.41%
Bethany	5,289	4,074	29.82%	3,006	2,991	0.50%	2,899	2,917	-0.62%
Eiseley	14,052	13,966	0.62%	7,313	7,906	-7.50%	9,619	9,950	-3.33%
Gere	32,215	33,614	-4.16%	23,177	24,676	-6.07%	17,803	19,582	-9.08%
South	4,753	4,990	-4.75%	3,859	3,878	-0.49%	4,280	3,765	13.68%
Walt	24,519	26,877	-8.77%	12,618	12,826	-1.62%	12,856	13,839	-7.10%
Williams	792	518	52.90%	361	278	29.86%	1,488	710	109.58%
Lied Bookmobile	1,239	937	32.23%	547	537	1.86%	693	437	58.58%
InterLibrary Loan	0	0	0.00%	182	189	-3.70%	0	0	0.00%
Subtotal Checkouts	93,353	95,992	-2.75%	65,588	68,410	-4.13%	67,016	68,693	-2.44%
Download/Stream Audio	6,997	6,210	12.67%	42,020	37,205	12.94%	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBook	8,739	5,374	62.62%	25,962	25,120	3.35%	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	0	0	0.00%	1,014	1,067	-4.97%	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL CHECKOUTS	109,089	107,576	1.41%	134,584	131,802	2.11%	67,016	68,693	-2.44%

Location	Program & Outreach Attendance - Youth		P&O Att - Youth	Program & Outreach Attendance - Adult		P&O Att - Adult	Computer Use		Computer
	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change
BMPL	637	481	32.43%	180	216	-16.67%	2,455	2,256	8.82%
Anderson	408	676	-39.64%	4	7	-42.86%	896	855	4.80%
Bethany	228	194	17.53%	53	26	103.85%	257	278	-7.55%
Eiseley	1,177	1,057	11.35%	75	33	127.27%	1,252	1,500	-16.53%
Gere	2,053	1,783	15.14%	323	66	389.39%	1,349	1,262	6.89%
South	434	280	55.00%	16	5	220.00%	504	461	9.33%
Walt	1,409	1,910	-26.23%	227	291	-21.99%	1,294	1,256	3.03%
Williams	361	92	292.39%	8	15	-46.67%	366	107	242.06%
Lied Bookmobile	313	0	0.00%	47	41	14.63%	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	200	0	0.00%	637	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	7,220	6,473	11.54%	1,570	700	124.29%	8,373	7,975	4.99%

Location	Meeting Room Attendance		Meeting Room Att Change	Study Room Attendance		Study Room Att Change	2025	2024	
	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change			
BMPL	187	332	-43.67%	46		0.00%			0.00%
Anderson	273	252	8.33%	0		0.00%			0.00%
Bethany	0	0	0.00%	0		0.00%			0.00%
Eiseley	281	350	-19.71%	331		0.00%			0.00%
Gere	713	792	-9.97%	335		0.00%			0.00%
South	0	0	0.00%	0		0.00%			0.00%
Walt	431	510	-15.49%	354		0.00%			0.00%
Williams	0	0	0.00%	0		0.00%			0.00%
Lied Bookmobile	0	0	0.00%	0		0.00%			0.00%
TOTAL	1,885	2,236	-15.70%	1,066	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%

Lincoln City Libraries
April 2025 Fiscal Year To Date Use Report

Location	Loans/Circulation			Visits		
	Loans/ Circulation FY 24-25 YTD	Loans/ Circulation FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	Visits FY 24-25 YTD	Visits FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change
Bennett Martin Public Library	104,436	110,844	-5.78%	86,503	86,530	-0.03%
Anderson Branch	95,831	90,128	6.33%	46,980	42,654	10.14%
Bethany Branch	62,767	58,724	6.88%	22,418	23,007	-2.56%
Eiseley Branch	171,025	177,455	-3.62%	77,785	72,935	6.65%
Gere Branch	431,755	458,627	-5.86%	150,849	146,978	2.63%
South Branch	70,322	72,238	-2.65%	30,664	27,771	10.42%
Walt Branch	302,530	313,338	-3.45%	103,194	99,247	3.98%
Williams Branch	7,674	7,609	0.85%	10,090	13,161	-23.33%
Lied Bookmobile	11,976	11,343	5.58%	2,889	2,647	9.14%
InterLibrary Loan	1,340	1,585	-15.46%	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
SUBTOTAL	1,259,656	1,301,891	-3.24%	531,372	514,930	3.19%
DownloadStream Audio	381,416	338,520	12.67%	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBooks	277,090	261,611	5.92%	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	8,613	7,246	18.87%	0	0	0.00%
Download SUBTOTAL	667,119	607,377	9.84%	0	0	0.00%
Total	1,926,775	1,909,268	0.92%	531,372	514,930	3.19%

	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change
Online Registrations	907	1,374	-33.99%
Overall Registrations	7,585	8,372	-9.40%

	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change
WiFi Sessions	931,371	970,923	-4.07%
WiFi Users	73,332	75,772	-3.22%
Website Users	697,890	780,482	-10.58%
Website Sessions	969,100	1,045,725	-7.33%
Database Use	61,674	66,218	-6.86%

Year-to-Date Holdings Report	PRINT		NON PRINT		Total
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth	
Owned 9/1/2024	372,148	329,191	80,850	34,144	816,333
Added YTD	16,912	15,711	2,063	1,400	36,086
Withdrawn YTD	-44,597	-39,428	-9,434	-3,161	-96,620
Current - 4/30/2025	344,463	305,474	73,479	32,383	755,799

Location							Other Use								
	Computer Reservations FY 24-25 YTD	Computer Reservations FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	Program & Outreach Attendance FY 24-25 YTD	Program & Outreach Attendance FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	Meeting Room Attendance FY 24-25 YTD	Meeting Room Attendance FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	Study Room Attendance FY 24-25 YTD	*Study Room Attendance FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	Total Other Use FY 24-25 YTD	Total Other Use FY 23-24 YTD	YTD CHANGE
Bennett Martin Public Library	19,369	17,347	11.66%	4,340	6,882	-36.94%	1,703	1,451	17.37%	463	0	0.00%	25,875	25,680	0.76%
Anderson Branch	6,356	5,871	8.26%	6,089	4,930	23.51%	1,620	1,603	1.06%	0	0	0.00%	14,065	12,404	13.39%
Bethany Branch	1,792	1,964	-8.76%	1,527	1,506	1.39%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	3,319	3,470	-4.35%
Eiseley Branch	10,758	10,930	-1.57%	10,067	7,853	28.19%	2,726	2,702	0.89%	2,433	0	0.00%	25,984	21,485	20.94%
Gere Branch	9,604	9,841	-2.41%	13,071	12,788	2.21%	5,011	5,160	-2.89%	2,319	0	0.00%	30,005	27,789	7.97%
South Branch	3,529	3,589	-1.67%	1,669	1,727	-3.36%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	5,198	5,316	-2.22%
Walt Branch	8,993	8,379	7.33%	10,733	12,656	-15.19%	3,128	3,803	-17.75%	2,734	0	0.00%	25,588	24,838	3.02%
Williams Branch	1,908	1,426	33.80%	2,021	1,300	55.46%	20	24	-16.67%	0	0	0.00%	3,949	2,750	43.60%
Lied Bookmobile	0	0	0.00%	771	444	73.65%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	771	444	73.65%
InterLibrary Loan	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	2,392	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	2,392	0	0.00%
Total	62,309	59,347	4.99%	52,680	50,086	5.18%	14,208	14,743	-3.63%	7,949	0	0.00%	137,146	124,176	10.44%

*Study Room Attendance tracking began 9/1/2024

LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES

Monthly Categorical Report

April 30, 2025

	Budget Amount	Budgeted Year-to-Date	Expended Year-to-Date	Balance	Current Month Expended
Administration-Div. 1					
Personnel	\$ 992,911.00	\$ 661,940.67	\$ 611,858.72	\$ 381,052.28	\$ 72,578.97
Supplies	33,000.00	22,000.00	21,444.71	11,555.29	1,677.97
Services & Charges	170,885.00	113,923.33	156,437.62	14,447.38	7,450.38
Other	7,000.00	4,666.67	-	7,000.00	-
Total	\$ 1,203,796.00	\$ 802,530.67	\$ 789,741.05	\$ 414,054.95	\$ 81,707.32
Percent Expended		66.67%	65.60%		
Buildings & Grounds-Div. 2					
Personnel	\$ 133,429.00	\$ 88,952.67	\$ 85,288.08	\$ 48,140.92	\$ 10,316.80
Supplies	26,000.00	17,333.33	59,974.76	(33,974.76)	9,079.87
Services & Charges	1,459,636.00	973,090.67	721,959.51	737,676.49	70,172.20
Other	258,900.00	172,600.00	130,388.04	128,511.96	-
Total	\$ 1,877,965.00	\$ 1,251,976.67	\$ 997,610.39	\$ 880,354.61	\$ 89,568.87
Percent Expended		66.67%	53.12%		
Public Service-Div. 3					
Personnel	\$ 6,287,345.00	\$ 4,191,563.33	\$ 3,604,988.74	\$ 2,682,356.26	\$ 437,644.53
Supplies	81,900.00	54,600.00	43,300.77	38,599.23	10,276.72
Services & Charges	62,900.00	41,933.33	47,907.28	14,992.72	12,542.52
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 6,432,145.00	\$ 4,288,096.67	\$ 3,696,196.79	\$ 2,735,948.21	\$ 460,463.77
Percent Expended		66.67%	57.46%		
Support Services-Div. 4					
Personnel	\$ 1,300,778.00	\$ 867,185.33	\$ 814,027.43	\$ 486,750.57	\$ 98,117.66
Supplies	62,000.00	41,333.33	64,080.87	(2,080.87)	3,693.65
Services & Charges	434,203.00	289,468.67	404,395.15	29,807.85	24,381.63
Other	1,005,000.00	670,000.00	699,079.95	305,920.05	41,475.36
Total	\$ 2,801,981.00	\$ 1,867,987.33	\$ 1,981,583.40	\$ 820,397.60	\$ 167,668.30
Percent Expended		66.67%	70.72%		
Total Library Operational					
Personnel	\$ 8,714,463.00	\$ 5,809,642.00	\$ 5,116,162.97	\$ 3,598,300.03	\$ 618,657.96
Supplies	202,900.00	135,266.67	188,801.11	14,098.89	24,728.21
Services & Charges	2,127,624.00	1,418,416.00	1,330,699.56	796,924.44	114,546.73
Other	1,270,900.00	847,266.67	829,467.99	441,432.01	41,475.36
Total	\$ 12,315,887.00	\$ 8,210,591.33	\$ 7,465,131.63	\$ 4,850,755.37	\$ 799,408.26
Percent Expended		66.67%	60.61%		
Other Library Fund Appropriations	Amount Appropriated		Expended Year-to-Date	Balance	Current Month Expended
FY 2023-24 Reappropriated	\$ 706,661.00		\$ 312,416.84	\$ 394,244.16	\$ 132,790.80

LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES - FUND BALANCES

Apr 2025

	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expended	Ending Balance
<u>GRANT FUNDS</u>				
Net Lender Fund	\$ 1,729.65	\$ -	\$ -	1,729.65
NLC Misc Grants	\$ 5,752.37	\$ -	\$ -	5,752.37
NLC Youth Grant 2024	323.29	-	-	323.29
NLC NE eReads Grant 2024	48,815.80	-	-	48,815.80
State Aid 2023	10,446.33	-	446.33	10,000.00
State Aid 2024	47,293.40	-	1,125.66	46,167.74
State Aid 2025	53,144.00	-	-	53,144.00

DONATED FUNDS

Heritage Room	\$ 200,893.25	\$ 639.78	\$ 2,482.62	199,050.41
Polley Music Library	307,038.97	1,091.75	9,234.11	298,896.61
Joseph J. Hompes	141,148.74	8,590.36	-	149,739.10
Misc. Library Donations	882,368.45	4,086.81	12,760.85	873,694.41
Alice Nielsen	87,317.88	301.78	-	87,619.66
Dorothy Holland	125,602.67	434.10	-	126,036.77
Glennis Leapley	66,811.19	230.91	-	67,042.10
Lincoln Cares	32,627.32	454.18	-	33,081.50

APPROPRIATED FUNDS

	Budget	Expended Apr 2025	Exp-to-Date	Balance
Heritage Room FY 2024-25	\$ 36,153.00	\$ 2,482.62	\$ 13,466.77	22,686.23
Polley Music Library FY 2024-25	124,459.00	9,234.11	75,080.82	49,378.18
Keno FY 2023-24	135,060.52	-	135,060.52	-
Keno FY 2024-25	1,039,500.00	54,720.54	400,063.26	639,436.74
Capital Improvement Projects				
FY 2021-22 Bookmobile	587,148.76	-	-	587,148.76
FY 2022-23 Bennett Martin Elevator 1-4	200,000.00	-	20,640.85	179,359.15
FY 2024-25 Bennett Martin Improvements	250,000.00	-	-	250,000.00



LINCOLN

City Libraries

A RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDING THE CITY OF LINCOLN PURCHASE THE SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACILITY AT 1111 O STREET FOR THE FUTURE CENTRAL LIBRARY LOCATION

Whereas, Bennett Martin Public Library on 14th and N Streets has served as the Central location for the Lincoln City Libraries system since 1962; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees for Lincoln City Libraries, together with the City of Lincoln, have taken actions for over twenty years to identify a solution for the improvement and modernization of its Central Library; and

Whereas, those actions have included architectural and service studies, space needs plans, facilities master plans, and community engagement sessions with residents; and

Whereas, an opportunity to purchase and adaptively reuse a facility owned by Southeast Community College (SCC), known as “Education Square” or the former “Centrum Mall” at 1111 O Street as the future Central Library; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of Lincoln City Libraries recognizes the SCC Education Square facility as an ideal location for modern library services that would provide valuable services, collections, activities, and impact for residents of the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County; and

Therefore, be it Resolved, that the Library Board recommends the City of Lincoln proceed with all required due diligence to purchase the facility at 1111 O Street as the future Central Library location for Lincoln City Libraries.