

Minutes of the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library Board of Directors

Location: BVMPL Missouri River Room; 515 North Fifth Street

Present: Library Board of Directors (Library Board) Members: Justin Hughes, President; Mike Fladeland, Vice President; Bob Bartosh, Dianna Kindseth, and Nancy Guy

Also Present: Christine Kujawa, Library Director; Elizabeth Jacobs, Assistant Library Director; Bea Kaiser, Administrative Office Manager

The February 26, 2026, Library Board meeting was called to order by J. Hughes, President, at 12:00pm.

There were no appearances for public comment.

The January 22, 2026, minutes had been mailed out in advance. D. Kindseth moved to approve the amended minutes. Seconded by N. Guy. Motion carried.

The vendor invoices for February 2026, along with the January financial reports, had been mailed in advance. Following discussion, N. Guy moved to approve the February 2026 vendor invoices. Seconded by B. Bartosh. Motion carried. Following discussion, D. Kindseth moved to accept the January financial reports. Seconded by B. Bartosh. Motion carried.

Library Director's report:

- A restroom renovation project progress report was shared, including construction and financial statuses and photographs. Phase I is nearing completion, but issues have caused a setback for the project's completion. C. Kujawa stressed the importance of doing the work correctly and of handling professional service provider communication issues.
- The Bismarck Citizen Academy group will tour the library tonight, and representatives from departments will explain library functions and answer questions.
- In March C. Kujawa will present the 2025 year-end budget and library fund review. As she receives schedules and information for the 2027 budget from the city and county, she will share it with the Library Board. She will also inform them when the 2026 ND Public Library Survey is submitted, which contains 2025 data and statistics, a requirement to receive State Aid to Public Libraries funding.
- The City of Bismarck will create an annual report for the first time and will include library statistics as well.
- Bluey Bash, a family event, was attended by 189 patrons. Teen Services Librarian Jennie Archer and teen volunteers organized and hosted the event.
- Families Around the World event will be held on Monday, April 27, 2025. Various cultures will be represented with dancing, food samples, and information tables.
- KFYR aired a news story yesterday regarding the generous \$10,000 unrestricted grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. The story will be shared online and in the library

newsletter. In appreciation and to mark the Carnegie Library 250 initiative, Carnegie era photos were recreated and will be shared with the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

For the Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc. (BLF), B. Bartosh and J. Hughes reported:

- To date, the Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc. (BLF) has raised almost \$415,000 for the project, \$362,610.73 already received, and the remainder in pledges.
- On Tuesday, several BLF members made organized efforts to extend thanks and appreciation to donors through calls and thank-you notes.
- B. Bartosh will again be handling the wine service for the Novel Night fundraising event.

For the Friends of the Bismarck Public Library (FOL), E. Jacobs reported:

- The vintage used book sale raised over \$7,000, and a 2-hour children's book sale raised \$800.
- The spring book sale will be held March 3 through March 5, 2026. Volunteers begin setting up tomorrow.

Other Business:

- B. Bartosh shared a couple of upcoming El Zagal Shriner events.

The next regular Library Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 12:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 12:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bea Kaiser
Administrative Office Manager

Christine Kujawa
Library Director