

**NORTH LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, August 26, 2025**

Present: Allen Bone, Maggie Newman, George Simpson, Brooke Wegner

Absent: Valerie Rogers

Others: Abbi Dooley, Mallory Witham, Paula Aznoe

PUBLIC HEARING:

Chairman Allen Bone called the Public Hearing on the FY2026 Preliminary Budget to order at 5:30 p.m. No public were in attendance. Abbi reviewed changes that had been made to the budget since the last meeting. Trustees discussed mill value options. The hearing closed at 5:42 p.m.

OPEN REGULAR MEETING: Chairman Allen Bone called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Brooke moved and George seconded the *motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting and budget workshop of Tuesday, July 22, 2025 as written.* **The motion passed unanimously.**

Trustees then approved minutes of the Executive Session from July 22, 2025. The minutes are sealed in an envelope.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT: Paula reported that the book sale made approximately \$1,500. Abbi reported that Diane Farquhar has left the Friends Board and they are looking for more directors.

FOUNDATION REPORT: There was no meeting in August. Allen will attend the September 23rd meeting at 3:45 p.m. Abbi added that Foundation members helped with food at the SRP Block Party, offering hot dogs, chips and water for donations. They were able to cover their costs while showing their support of the library and patrons.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Highlights of the written report include:

- The summer reading program had 1071 registrants and a 33% completion rate. The Bug Race was a success with the Kiwanis as judges. The Block Party was moved inside due to thunderstorms, but it worked out okay.
- The Library has several exciting programs coming up this fall. Julie will do a special Story Time at Sacajawea park in collaboration with the City of Polson. We are partnering again with MSU Extension office for fall gardening tips and more, as well as offering an 8-week Master Gardener Class.
- The Board Game Club has been opened up to all ages, encouraging multi-generational play.
- Jenn and Julie will kick off the Democracy Project Soft-Launch for teens with a grant provided by Humanities Montana.
- Abbi updated the members on the changes in staffing.
- Angela is celebrating her 10th anniversary at the Library.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Financial:

July 2025 Financial Report: Maggie moved and Brooke seconded the *motion to accept the July 2025 Financial Report as presented.* **The motion passed unanimously.**

Unfinished Business:

Friends of the Library (FOL) Memorandum of Understanding: The FOL approved the provided draft. Maggie moved and George seconded the *motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Friends of the Library as presented*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

New Business:

Monthly Statistics Report: July 2025 – view dashboard online: <https://lookerstudio.google.com/s/qlsxxWihWqY>. There was a request that we fill the East Shore Smokehouse Little Free Library on a more regular basis.

North Lake County Library Foundation Memorandum of Understanding: The Foundation did not have a quorum at their meeting to approve the MOU, therefore will do so after the Trustees. Brooke moved and George seconded the *motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the North Lake County Library Foundation as presented*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Materials Donation Policy Revision: Abbi explained to the members that she just updated this policy to reflect what is actually happening with donations. Maggie moved and Brooke seconded the *motion to approve the Materials Donation Policy Revision*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution Establishing the Method of Levying Voted Mills per HB231 and SB542 Passed in the 2025 Montana Legislature: Abbi read resolution 2026-01 aloud. George moved and Maggie seconded the *motion to approve Resolution 2026-01 Establishing the method of levying voted mills per HB231 and SB542 passed in the 2025 Montana Legislature*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution to Adopt FY2026 Budget: Abbi read resolution 2026-02 aloud. George moved and Maggie seconded the *motion to approve Resolution 2026-02 to adopt a budget for the North Lake County Public Library District of Polson, MT for fiscal year 2025-2026*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Mallory announced that she will be retiring on November 7, 2025. She thanked Abbi and the Board members for wonderful years of working together.
- In order to have sufficient time to train, the Assistant Director position will be posted soon. Abbi recommended a panel interview including a trustee. George volunteered.
- Abbi gave an update on the patron who has filed a complaint against the library. No further action is necessary at this time.
- The November meeting will take place a week early on November 18 to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving travel.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Canceled.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the North Lake County Public Library District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23 at 5:30 p.m. in the library community room.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Abbi Dooley, Director

Minutes taken by Mallory Witham, Assistant Director