

**NORTH LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, January 27, 2026
Library Community Room**

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

Others: Abbi Dooley, Stephanie Dale

OPEN REGULAR MEETING: Chairman Allen Bone Called the Meeting to order at 5:30 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: George moved and Maggie seconded the *motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2025 as presented.* **The motion passed unanimously.**

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT: George reported that the FOL received approximately \$2,000 in donations from the fall mailer and has a balance of roughly \$5,000. There will be no meeting in February, as the book sale is February 20 & 21. They brainstormed ideas for reducing the number of books stored after the sale, including giving books to local schools and libraries. They are still in need of volunteers.

FOUNDATION REPORT: Maggie reported on today's meeting. Adam Heggelund has taken over as the Edward Jones rep from Mark Vergeront. They are pursuing an author event as a fundraiser for this summer. There was a proposal presented for a change to the way the Foundation provides funds to the library. Rather than the library submitting requests, the Foundation would automatically give the library 75% of the investment income every year up to a maximum. They would also require a minimum retention of the principal in the account. The Bingo fundraiser made about \$1,500 and the Foundation is hoping to do this again. They may switch to monthly online meetings, with quarterly in-person meetings in hopes of getting better attendance.

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

- Adult programs continue including another session of the Master Gardener's program.
- Bookfest has added a second discussion date due its popularity.
- Connect @ the Library is a new teen club that will start in February, and will meet every Thursday at 4 p.m. This is a pre-session to the Democracy Project which is a teen-led, non-partisan initiative supported by local libraries, community partners, and Humanities Montana. A new teen book club has also been formed.
- The Library will be closed for half a day for Staff Development February 4 from 9a.m. to 1p.m.
- The Library will be closed for President's Day on February 16.
- Four new PCs were installed for the staff. These replaced PCs installed in 2020. One was repurposed and placed on the desk in the circ support room for off-desk time for the staff.
- Purchase, delivery & installation of a two-drawer fire and water resistant filing cabinet. This is the only one the library owns and is needed for storing sensitive/permanent records and items.

- A second microphone was added to the community room with a private donation.
- The Library received our annual Clarkson distribution for \$9,959.62.
- The Foundation bought dinner for the staff 2025 Christmas party.
- Glacier Bank is now charging ACH initiation fees monthly.
- ALA Case Study is live: case study is now up at <https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/librariestransforming-communities/access/casestudies/NorthLake>
- A Martel Construction crew volunteered at the Library on January 24th. They installed shelving, touch up paint, washed windows, hung up the original donor plaque and pictures. They have offered to install the outdoor musical instruments later this year.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Financial:

November and December 2025 Financial Report: George moved and Brooke seconded the *motion to accept the November and December 2025 Financial Report as presented*. There was a question regarding two entries for Montana Silversmiths – one is a charge and the other is a refund. This was for a retirement gift but was returned. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Clarkson 4th Quarter 2025 Report

Beginning market value 9/30/25	470,497.87
Income & Capital Gain Distributions	6,544.32
Withdrawals and fees	(11,496.68)
Change in account value	4,410.55
Market value on 12/31/25	469,956.06

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Monthly Statistics Report: November & December 2025 – view dashboard online: <https://lookerstudio.google.com/s/qlszzWihWqY>. The numbers seemed a bit off from year-to-year. They will be reviewed to ensure they are accurate.

Review Survey Results: There were approximately 37 responses to the library survey. The feedback was good, and it appeared that the people who responded to the survey have come into the Library.

RM88 Records Destruction Document: George moved and Maggie seconded the *motion to approve form RM88 Records Destruction Document as presented*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Schedule Director’s Annual Review and determine format: The Director’s Annual Review will take place at the next meeting on February 24 with a roundtable discussion of the Trustees and the Director.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- MLA Conference 2026: This will take place April 15-18 in Great Falls, MT. Trustees are able to attend the conference which counts for CE credits. Pre-conference is on Wednesday, Thursday-Friday are full days of sessions, and Saturday is a half day schedule. Details of the conference have not been posted at this time.

- Tamarack Federation Retreat: This will take place April 24-25 in Polson.
- Continuing Education: Abbi reported that the MSL Commission has voted to move forward with changes to the continuing education program. They did clarify that approved courses will not only include those taught by the MSL, but rather that all courses must be approved in advance by the Commission. This may include courses that are submitted by libraries and are taught by other entities/persons. This is separate from the Public Library Standards board training annual requirements and only affects gaining certification.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the North Lake County Public Library District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Library Community Room.

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Dooley

Abbi Dooley, Library Director

Minutes taken by Stephanie Dale, Assistant Director