

# MINUTES OF THE MARY J. BARNETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 24, 2026

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### **\*\*Board Meeting Minutes\*\***

#### **\*\*Members Present:\*\***

Steven Bascom          Becky Carico          Dale Menning  
Lacy Hall              Brandon Monaghan  
Karen Kelly, Library Aide      Jerri Hawkins, Library Director

#### **\*\*Call to Order:\*\***

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order by President Steven Bascom at 5:56 PM.

#### **\*\*Approval of Minutes:\*\***

Becky Carico moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 27, 2026. The motion was seconded by Dale Menning and carried unanimously.

#### **\*\*Financial Report:\*\***

Steven Bascom moved to approve the financial report as presented. Becky Carico seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

#### **\*\*Director/Staff Reports:\*\***

Director Jerri Hawkins provided an update on library statistics and events:

- The Friends of the GC Library are scheduled to meet at 6:15 PM on Monday, September 7, 2026.
- July programs included:
  - 71 attendees for the Bridge and Cribbage groups
  - 4 participants in the afternoon book club
  - 7 in the evening book club
  - 22 patrons in Canasta
  - 10 attendees in the Card Making Club
  - 8 in Craft & Connect
  - 4 participants in the Cookbook Club
  - 34 attendees at the Friday Story Hour

Total attendance for Youth STEM programs was 6 for LEGO Mania, with no participation recorded for Creation Corner.

For the fiscal year to date, in the SILO system, 30 items were borrowed and 32 items loaned. The Libby/Bridges platform reported 572 total checkouts, encompassing audiobooks, e-books, and magazines for FY27. FY27 year-to-date circulation totals 1,195, including renewals and auto-renewals. The library gained 2 new patrons and recorded 9 renewals, bringing the total number of patrons to 1,526.

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### **\*\*Director's Notes:\*\***

Director Hawkins shared statistics from FY26 with the board. She reported that the ILA Conference is scheduled for October 7-9 in Cedar Rapids. Currently, she is working on the ALA LTC #4 Grant Interim report, due on August 31, 2026. The theme for the Festival of Trees will be "Merry Christmas, America 250." Planning is underway for the Li-BOO-ary Bash, Festival of Trees, and the Summer Reading Program for 2027, titled "Reading Expands Our Universe." Grant research has commenced, and the Iowa Public Library General Information Survey is due by October 31, 2026.

### **\*\*Unfinished Business:\*\***

The terms of Board Members Menning and Bascom were confirmed for renewal.

### **\*\*New Business:\*\***

The board completed a yearly evaluation of the Library Director. Discussion ensued regarding holidays and holiday hours for FY27. Becky Carico moved to approve the holiday hours as discussed; Lacy Hall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The Annual County Library Trustee meeting in September was also addressed, as MJB Library will serve as the host and is responsible for event planning.

### **\*\*Public Presentations:\*\***

President Bascom shared a resignation letter from Peterson Cleaning Service regarding library cleaning services. The Library Board approved Director Hawkins' proposed plans for library maintenance.

### **\*\*Agenda Items for Next Meeting:\*\***

The agenda will include the Guthrie County Annual Library Trustee Meeting scheduled for September 28, 2026, at 6:30 PM.

### **\*\*Adjournment:\*\***

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM. The next board meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

### **\*\*Recording Secretaries:\*\***

Jerri Hawkins and Karen Kelly