MINUTES OF THE MARY J. BARNETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 26, 2026

Board Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

- Steve Bascom
- Becky Carico
- Brandon Monaghan
- Lacy Hall
- Library Director Jerri Hawkins
- Karen Kelly, Library Aide

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order by President Bascom at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Hall moved to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2026, meeting. The motion was seconded by Monaghan and carried unanimously.

Financial Report:

Bascom motioned to approve the financial report as presented. Hall 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's next meeting is scheduled for 6:15 p.m. on April 6, 2026. January programs included 54 attendees for the Bridge and Cribbage groups, six participants in the afternoon book club, and 12 in the evening book club. The Card Making Club had 10 attendees; the Cookbook Club had five participants. The Friday Story Hour attracted 30 attendees in the month of January. Attendance for Youth STEM programs included five for LEGO Mania and 13 for Creation Corner. On Friday, January 16, Karen read stories to two classes at the Guthrie Center Elementary Preschool at 9:30 a.m.

For the fiscal year to date, in SILO 229, items were borrowed, and 164 were loaned. Libby/Bridges reported 3,510 total checkouts, including audiobooks, e-books, and magazines. FY26 YTD circulation is 8,173 with renewal and auto-renewal. We have added 5 new patrons and had 18 renewals to bring the total number of patrons to 1,499. Hawkins noted that the change in the number of patrons is because she performed the state-required purge of inactive cards as required for the accreditation. The library cards expired in May 2022, and those that haven't been used for five years were removed.

<u>Director Notes:</u>

Hawkins notified the board that she had submitted the Dollar General Summer Reading Program Grant.

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****Unfinished Business:****

- Bascom reported that the city accepted the proposed library budget for FY27, including a 4% salary increase for staff to be implemented in July 2026.
- Members will consider new and revised goals for the MJB Library Strategic Plan.

****New Business:****

- Discussions were held regarding the enhancements to the exterior of the library grounds and landscaping, which are to be implemented before the arrival of RAGBRAI.

****Agenda Items for Next Meeting:****

- Updates to the Strategic Plan
- Landscaping and grounds improvements
- RAGBRAI and library services

****Adjournment:****

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for March 23, at 6:00 p.m.

****Recording Secretaries:****

Jerri Hawkins and Karen Kelly