

Gibson Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 2, 2026

I. Call to Order:

II. Roll Call:

Present:

GML Board Members:

Steve Chamberlain, Ann Coulter, Steve Guthrie, Steve Lane, Sue Rusk, Becca Slick, Melissa Levine, and Connie Maxson.

Library Director: Danielle Dickinson Thaden

Assistant Library Director: Jordan Foote

City Council Liaison: Josh Thompson

Creston News Advertiser: Erin Henze

Absent: Angel Sorden

III. Adoption of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda: Connie Maxson, second: Steve Chamberlain, motion carried

IV. Public Forum: No Public Comment

V. Approval of Minutes: Connie Maxson made a motion to approve the minutes of December 1, 2025 as amended and January 5, 2026. Second by Becca Slick, motion carried.

VI. Finance Report

- a) Bills and Finances: Staying on track with budgeted expenses. Worked with the city crew in January on projects and the city crew worked on the mechanisms in the toilet tanks and replaced cracked toilet in the men's restroom after it cracked during resealing. Magazine subscriptions from EBSCO to Magazines of Florida due to the cost reduction of a third of the price. Renewed Mt. Ayr Record News and other typical bills along with elevator maintenance contract. First carpeting expense came out along with adopted author expenses. Motion made to pay the bills by Steve Guthrie, second Sue Rusk, motion carried.

VII. Director's / Circulation Report:

- a) Number was steady to slightly down in print circulation, with continued gains in online circulation. In January, programming was adjusted to focus on activities that would encourage maximum participation. Tai Chi for arthritis and other offerings for the aging population, wellness classes, children's times, and other outreach in January.
- b) ILL bags were unavailable.
- c) January Danielle met with the County Supervisors and asked for \$35,000 for support of the budget. City Council work session was last Tuesday and Danielle thought it went well. We will find out in the coming months how both budget request and overall budget will be set for the next year.

- d) First two quarters of E Rate filed with a deposit of \$2,750 E Rate that will be reflected in deposit next month.
- e) Open bidding window for IT and internet service, the board will review bids that come through next month.
- f) J&A Flooring is ready to install next section in mid-February. City Crew plans to help repair the ceiling in the same period, fixing and putting up a new coat of paint while the scaffolding is rented for the repair. Scaffolding will also be used to clean light fixtures.
- g) Applied for Penguin Random House Grant for a \$500 amount for graphic novels for adults to pair with the money given by the friends.
- h) The Friends of the Library Valentine cookies are still on sale.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- a) Policy 18: Request for Reconsideration and Form: Motion to approve Policy and Form as amended by: Steve Lane, second by Steve Chamberlain, motion carried.
- b) Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Updates: 3.4% CD set up for the \$400,000 amount. Taking into consideration the masonry bid that was received back.

IX. New Business

- a) Board Education: Current legislative session: Senate File Obscenity Exemption for public libraries. Trustees encouraged to contact their legislature and share your view. Weekly updates are available, and link was shared with the board via email. It is good for the library board to stay abreast of the situations as they come up across the state.
- b) Strategic Plan 2025-27 biannual updates: Director gave updates on status of goals and plans for the upcoming year.
- c) A masonry estimate was received from Berry Brothers: The metal from the faux window has been contracting and expanding with seasonal temperatures causing cracks and allowing water to enter behind the bricks. The original estimate was around \$1,000, but the estimate is higher based upon what changes have occurred since Kriby first assessed the cracks. Dainelle thinks it needs to be addressed before the end of the fiscal year. Connie suggested proceeding with the work, Danielle will research alternate bids for the masonry. Motion to approve in this fiscal year's budget before June 30th by Steve Chamberlain, seconded by Steve Guthrie, motion carried being paid out of the 411 account. Budget amendment will be requested if the 411 goes over the budgeted amount for the fiscal year.
- d) Board education: Library Confidentiality and Policy 17 Review: Libraries have tightened confidentiality and attendance to the library is confidential. The Policy will be reworked to include the Iowa Code reference that supersedes what is

included within the policy and that the statements are all up to date. Will review amended draft at the next meeting.

X. Adjournment: 6:01 PM: Next Meeting: Monday, March 2, 2026, at 5:15 PM.