Sweetwater Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting - Thursday, August 27, 2026
5 PM

Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by Chairperson Pam Haislip. Members in attendance included: Pam Haislip, Karen Denison, Mary Seals, Patrick Gaines, Gail Sensibaugh, Kathy Barger and Tania Rich (Library Director), and Nikki Branam-Snyder (Regional Library Representative).

Approval of Minutes – Minutes of the May 14 Regularly Scheduled BOT Meeting and the Estate Committee meeting of the same day were reviewed and approved on a motion by K Denison and second by P Gaines.
Public Comments – None.
Reports – Treasurer's Report was supplied by G Sensibaugh.
Director's Report by T Rich reviewed library usage, volunteer time, city improvements and repairs, Summer Reading Program and new signage.
Regional Library Report by N Snyder reviewed this fiscal year's training opportunities and upcoming deadlines for service and board reports.
Friends of the Library by T Rich reported Lauren Palmer as the new President of FOL. The group currently has 7 members. FOL received a $1500 award from the Mayor of Sweetwater's Hog Ball. The past year and proposal for coming for FOL assistance services were presented.
Old Business – On second reading, the BOT approved a change to the size of the board from 9 to 7 members. Motion by M Seals, with second by K Denison. A quorum (required for business meetings) will now be 4 board members. Committee assignments previously approved (based on board size change) were reviewed:
Executive: P Haislip (chair), G Sensibaugh, K Denison, M Seals.
Budget and Finance: G Sensibaugh (chair), P Gaines, T Wade
Personnel, Planning and Policy: K Denison (chair), K Barger, P Haislip
Estate: M Seals (chair), K Denison, K Barger
Jennifer Hicks was nominated for the open position on the Monroe County Library Board, on a motion by K Barger with a second by K Denison.
New Business – T Rich reviewed the proposals for changes to the funding formula for county libraries. The formula was not changed for the current 26-27 fiscal year, but discussions continue. Proposed policy changes for committee membership size due to change in board size were identified. All committees except Executive will now be sized at 3 members including the chair. Job Description changes were identified based on MTAS requirements. These changes were approved on a motion by G Sensibaugh with a second by M Seals. A proposed change to the circulation policy limiting the checkout renewal to 2 times was presented. Also, a change to the return policy requiring STEAM kits to be returned to the library front desk, while all other items should be returned to the outside book drop. Fines for improper returns of video games and other Library of Things would be removed. Both these changes were approved on a motion by K Barger with a second by K Denison

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM. The next regularly scheduled BOT meeting will be Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 5 PM