

## Dickinson Public Library Board Meeting

1/14/26

Meeting called to order at 3:30pm by President Kuntz

### Roll Call

Present: Jason Fridrich, Olivia Titcomb, Bernie Marsh, Susan Josephson, Kimmy Ho, Lisa Aune, Troy Kuntz, Amanda Chorne, Kirby Baier, Ian Anguiano, Linda Carlson

### Consent Agenda

Motion to Approve by Marsh, Second by Aune.  
All members in favor, motion passes.

### Order of Business

Approval of Meeting Minutes dated December 10th, 2025.  
Motion to Approve by Fridrich, Second by Baier.  
All members in favor, motion passes.

### Expansion Update

Topics of the update include; The upcoming work to be done on the roof, insulation and drain installation, pouring the concrete floor and all internal installations underground, the storefront of the building and finally interior work. \$1.1 million of the \$3.16 million project completed to date with no expenses in change orders.

Clarification was given for the project timeline and the heat source used to thaw the ground, as well as where the pipe breakage was in the construction area previously.

### Library Director's Report

Topics of the report include; Second floor restroom reopened now that electrical issues have been resolved, a new Patron Access Catalogue will be rolled out in the near future to improve the patron experience as well as add new features, said PAC is pending finalization of a contract and will come at no additional cost to the Library.

Anticipated donations from the Carnegie Foundation and Fort Abraham Lincoln were mentioned, \$10k from the former and \$20k over the course of the year from the latter. The Library Foundation donated approximately \$600k to library projects in 2025.

Thanks were extended to the Board members as well as Library staff who participated in the Director's review process. Improvement recommendations from staff were to broaden communication, and to that end the Director intends to send update communications in order to keep members of staff better informed. Improvement recommendations from the Board were to increase organizational involvement, and to ensure expectations are communicated clearly the Director will outline a set of action items at the end of each meeting going forward.

#### Unfinished Business

##### Approval of Expenditure Report

Clarification provided as to the lack of Teen Books purchased, that being expended budgets having led to fewer purchases.

Motion to Approve by Chorne, Second by Titcomb.

Fridrich Aye, Titcomb Aye, Marsh Nay, Josephson Aye, Ho Nay, Aune Nay, Kuntz Aye, Chorne Aye, Baier Aye.

Majority aye, motion passes.

##### Financial Report Review

Totals are not yet final, City Finance collects year-end expenses/income until February 12th of the new year.

Clarification was provided as to the currently represented income value being higher than the budgeted income value, the bookmobile grant from the State will be moved into a reserve account, that the February or March meeting will show full 2025 financials and that the Library is on track to be nearly at a \$0 balance.

A request for staff salary information was made, the information of Name/Wage/Longevity is public information and is able to be provided for the next Board meeting.

Motion to Approve by Baier, Second by Fridrich.

Fridrich Aye, Titcomb Aye, Marsh Aye, Josephson Aye, Ho Nay, Aune Aye, Kuntz Aye, Chorne Aye, Baier Aye.

Majority aye, motion passes.

##### Library Director Performance Review

A compilation of the reviews was submitted on 1/13/26 to the Director and Board President, and will be sent to the rest of the Board members via email after this meeting.

Next year the evaluation process will be conducted by the City of Dickinson according to their policies..

## New Business

### Hoopla Cost and Maintenance

Discussion over the sustainability of maintaining Hoopla as a service going forward, as its growth continues to expand beyond the Library's digital media budget. Potential solutions to explore were;

1. Reduce the total number of checkouts per user.
2. Reduce the maximum cost per item allowed to circulate.
3. Eliminate either Hoopla or Libby as a service offered.
4. Charge a voluntary fee to users to access the service.
5. Explore alternative services to replace Hoopla.
6. Ask Hoopla about the possibility of a fixed cost.
7. Implementing a cap on daily user spending.

Hoopla will be contacted for answers to some of the questions regarding how implementing some of the above changes would function, and Libby will be contacted for user demographic data. Legality of charging a voluntary fee would need to be examined by the City attorney.

### Tentative Building Closure May 2026

Expansion construction may be completed as early as the end of May, once it is complete closure for about a month will be necessary to rearrange the building and move in new furniture. If the closure were to occur in June or July, it will impact typical summer programming.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, February 11th.

Motion to adjourn by Baier with no Second.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Submitted by,

Austin Bartholomew  
Administrative Support Librarian