

MILLARD OAKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES
OF MEETING 11/18/2025

ATTENDEES:

BOARD MEMBERS: Thelma Danner, Brenda Wimingham, Deb Newkirk, Helen Carter, Cindy Robbins, Jerry Schetterer, Rita Reagan-Underhill.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Phillip Talley, Cindy Robbins, Gail McGowan, Gregg Nivens

REGIONAL LIBRARY STAFF: Matt Kirby, Regional Director

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Deb Newkirk

LIBRARY STAFF: Judith Cutright, Director

AGENDA:

Reading and approval of meeting minutes: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Schetterer. Motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was made by Rita Reagan-Underhill with second by Helen Carter. All approved.

1. Board Discussion:

A. ALA Grant- Judith informed the Board that the company installing the doors were here yesterday and they are looking to have the doors operational by mid-December.

B. Secretary of State letter- A letter was sent out to all the state libraries asking for a review of books that had been purchased with state or federal funds to be sure that they are in compliance with applicable federal and state laws. Judith said that Angie had gone thru the children's and found a couple of books that the Board might want to review. Judith brought the books to the meeting so that members could review them. Matt Kirby said that every decision is a local one and that we have a good selection policy in place along with a reconsideration policy should someone find a book that they disagree with. Judith, Jerry and I all watched the tele-conference with the State Archivist. That conference provided no answers nor guidance. Jerry's concern is what is the purpose for the review, it seems to be preemptive. Cindy wanted the books pulled from the shelves stating that she did not want books like these in the library. Jerry said that we would not preemptively pull books from the library without a review. The discussion then

focused on when to meet to hold the review since a report was due to the Secretary of State showing that we had completed a review. It was decided that we would meet on Jan. 6, 2026 to review the books and decide on our next step. Cindy once again said that she and Rita did not want ~~to~~ the books to go back on the shelf to which Jerry told her that we would review them in Jan. At that point, without looking at the books, she stated that ~~she~~^{she} did not want her name to be associated with a Board that would put this type of material on the shelf and that she resigns her seat. Rita also resigned. A motion was made to meet on Jan 6, 2026 by Deb with a second from Helen.

C. Animal Rescue Angel Tree- A representative from the Animal Rescue came to meeting to request permission to place an Angel Tree in the library lobby which would have pictures of the animals at the rescue site and supplies or toys that could be purchased for the individual animal. A motion was made to allow this first by Jerry and a second by Helen.

2. Friends of the Library – Deb informed the Board of a Pizza Hut grant that was applied for. She read a letter that was to be submitted with the grant, that was written by a member of the local school system praising our summer reading programs and the library staff. She also let the Board know that a book sale was scheduled for that Friday and Saturday.

3. Regional Library Report – Matt stated that the letter from the Secretary of State was basically his report with the libraries trying to figure out what they are doing with this and where they go from here. He said that there will be a staff training done at MOPL with Claire. It will be dealing with multi-generational topics as well as going over basics of dealing with the public and library work.

4. Directors Report:

A. Meeting Room complaint- There was an organization which had recently used the meeting room and some of the members could be heard in hallway using foul language. The library was still open and there were parents and children who could hear the exchange between these men. It was decided that the meeting room policy agreement will be changed to state that obscene language should not be used in the public spaces in the library. Also, organizations using the meeting room must abide by the courteous conduct rules. The new agreement will state that the lack of adherence to the rules will be documented. The first occurrence will result in a verbal warning, the second a written warning and a third will result in a ban from using the room.

B. Financial Report- The Financial reports were attached.

5. A motion to adjourn was made by Deb with a second from Brenda.

The next Board meeting will be held on January 6, 2026 to review books with the regular meeting being held on January 20, 2026 at 4:30P.M.

Deb Newkirk

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Newkirk

Secretary/Recorder