

Minutes of the Fairbury Public Library Board

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

7:00 pm

601 7th Street, Fairbury, NE 68352

1. The regular meeting of the Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by president, Kristin Vaughn. Notice of this meeting was posted in advance in the Fairbury Journal News. The Open Meetings Act was posted in the room as required by law.
2. In addition to the president, Kristin Vaughn, members present were LeAnn Krause, Sarah Moorman, and Stan Smith. Warner Krumme was present via phone. Our director Debbie Aden was also present.
3. There were no comments from the public.
4. The November 5th minutes were reviewed. Stan made a motion to approve the minutes. Sarah seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Kristin, yes; Stan, yes; Warner, yes, and Sarah, yes. Motion carried.

5. The Director's Report

Building:

-Lynne Bohling has agreed to paint the Carnegie inside walls! The estimate comes in at just over \$6,000 for everything, including wall repairs if needed.

-Sprinklers turned off

-Mike Siebe cleaned gutters. We have a branch from the east walnut tree resting on the building roof he is going to cut off and remove (when the weather improves). This tree has had problems in the past and may need to be evaluated as a potential hazard.

Technology:

-Six new computers for the children's side purchased from Best Buy during Black Friday sales.

City Business:

-Although the city will be closed Friday, Dec 26, the library will be open regular hours. We will be closing at 3pm (instead of 7) on Wednesday, Dec 24.

Library events and programming:

-Mush, with Sophia, the sled dog! program held at the Bonham Monday, Nov 10. Only 45 people attended.

-The second of three Humanities Nebraska speakers focusing on agriculture was held November 4: Jody Lamp, "Stories from Nebraska's Agricultural History."

-The third program will be December 2: Ranae Hunt, "Footprints and handprints: Days on the farm in the early 19th century."

-December 8-12 we will have a week of drop-in family crafts

-December 20th is the Jeffs Gone Mad Christmas party

Director activities and other happenings:

- Following the Mush, with Sophia program, both the library and the Bonham theatre received emails from PETA lamenting our support of the Iditarod by holding this program and asking for our promise we would not support it in the future. Neither myself, or the Bonham, responded to their email. It was followed a week later by another asking again for a response, and yet again the week after that.

-I purchased my last set of sale books from Baker & Taylor. There has been no update from the Library Commission regarding our annual report, formerly conducted using B&T software, on how we will be processing it this year. It is due February 20.

- From an ALA bulletin: Last month a Federal judge struck down the Trump administration's attempts to dismantle the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Actual funding remains in limbo.
- The library Foundation received a \$1,000 memorial donation from Carol Steele, Dennis Steel's wife.
- The Fairbury Library Foundation met November 24. Other than normal business, there was a discussion regarding Jefferson County Gives participation. The group decided that requesting funds for a specific project instead of a general ask may be more likely to receive donations. They decided to focus on improving the curb appeal of the library, specifically hiring a landscape architect to clean up the flower beds, trim and remove dead plants, and plant/mulch for a cleaner, nicer look.

6. Bills in the amount of \$8,899.19 were reviewed. A motion was made by LeAnn that the bills be approved and paid as written. Stan seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Kristin, yes; Stan, yes; Warner, yes, and Sarah, yes. Motion carried.

7. Current Business

None

8. Announcements or Other Discussion

Next regular meeting will be January 7, 2026

9. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

LeAnn Krause