

**Minutes of the James River Valley Library System Board of Directors
Library Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 12, 2026**

Board members present were Jackie Barnes, David Schloegel, Denise Waldie, Amanda Hastings, Meranda Vetsch, and Kathy Burkle. Absent was Melissa Thury. Also present were Library Director Joe Rector, Assistant Director Jill Pfaff, and Sarah Helleckson.

Jackie called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Meranda made a motion to accept the July 10 minutes, seconded by Kathy. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

NEW BOARD TREASURER

The new MOA specifies a City Council or County Commissioner is not allowed to hold office; therefore, a new Board Treasurer must be elected.

Meranda Vetsch volunteered to be the new Board Treasurer.

Amanda made a motion to appoint Meranda Vetsch as Treasurer, seconded by Kathy. Roll call vote showed 6 ayes, 0 nays. 1 absent. Motion carried.

ADD NEW TREASURER AS SIGNER TO UNISON BANK ACCOUNTS AND LEAVE ALL OTHER SIGNERS IN PLACE

Kathy made a motion to add Meranda Vetsch as a signer to Unison Bank accounts and leave all other signers in place, seconded by Amanda. Roll call vote showed 6 ayes, 0 nays. 1 absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIALS

Joe gave the financial report for the month of July.

Joe followed up on the discussion from last month regarding funds being held at Jamestown Community Foundation. LeAnn Fuchs helped Joe update totals into QuickBooks. Pending instruction from LeAnn, Jill will update the Stifel interest every month going forward.

Jackie said she spoke to a Jamestown Community Foundation board member. The board member said a vote still needs to take place on whether to discontinue holding funds for JRVLS. No official notification has come from JCF.

The board recommended that Joe contact the library attorney to be proactive regarding the Meidinger funds.

BILLS TO BE PAID, PAYROLL AS PAID, AUTO PAY AS PAID, AND AMAZON TO BE PAID

Amanda made a motion to approve the bills to be paid, the payroll as paid, auto pay as paid, and \$4,882.04 Amazon EFT, seconded by Meranda. Roll call vote showed 6 ayes, 0 nays. 1 absent. Motion carried.

BUDGET FOLLOW-UP

Amanda informed the board that Joe was asked to participate in a meeting with Mayor Hemmer and Commission Chairman Taylor. Joe requested that Amanda as a County representative, David as a City representative, and Jackie as library board president also be present at the meeting. Amanda said they would like to discuss the library budget and possibly request the library reduce the budget request from the City and County. Amanda reminded the board that the deadline to challenge the library's budget request was July 15, and the City and County deadline to approve the budget request was July 31. The meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, August 13, at 1:30 pm. Amanda said no decisions will be made at the meeting; however, she would like to know how the library board feels about lowering the budget request. The consensus was that no promises would be made until the full board can discuss and vote.

UPDATE RE: REMOTE LOCKERS FROM BIBLIOTHECA

Joe provided additional information about the remote lockers from Bibliotheca.

Joe noted that he has reached out to the City of Medina. They plan to bring the remote lockers up at their next meeting. Joe offered to be at their meeting.

ADPL & SCL MAINTENANCE NEEDS

Joe reviewed the maintenance needs of ADPL and SCL. He asked the library board to prioritize what projects should take place first. They recommended he prioritize repairs on the sidewalk, driveway, and steps at SCL along with the retaining wall at ADPL; followed by the phone system.

PLS 2025 LIBRARY FUNDING COMPARISON

Joe shared the PLS 2025 library funding comparison. He pointed out that Dickinson and Williston, which have been compared to JRVLS, got around \$200,000 from the state in 2025 compared to \$80,000 that JRVLS received.

SPACE NEEDS STUDY UPDATE

Joe informed the board that the library has an opportunity to get an updated space needs study with JLG Architects. The board has been invited by JLG to a behind-the-scenes tour of the new Moorhead Public Library.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

- Joe presented statistics for the month of July
 - Patron count: 5,404
 - Patron cards: 8,446
 - Libby/Overdrive usage: 2,350
 - Hoopla usage: 771 uses for a total of \$1,785.63
 - Item usage: 7,111
 - Computer usage: 673 (ADPL) and 168 (SCL)
- Annual reports to City Council and County Commission complete
- New HVAC installed at SCL
- Joe joined MPLA
- Jill reported the bookmobile was in the Buffalo Days Parade and handed out candy and 3D printed animals. Bingo for School Supplies was success with 153 attendees. Holocaust presentation was cancelled so Ramona Klein volunteered to take her place with a different presentation. There will a few more small programs for children in August, plus the end of summer reading program for children, teens, and adults.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next regular board meeting Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 3:30 pm, ADPL.

ADJOURNMENT

Jackie adjourned the meeting at 4:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Pfaff
Secretary