



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Board of Trustees  
Webster Groves Public Library  
February 18, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21st. President Anita Radcliffe presided, and Library Director Madison Morris kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Fred Toelle, Leanne Waugh, Janey Worthington, Lea Ann Coates, Jenine Harris, Ed Scholl, Sherry Taylor and City Council Liaison David Franklin. Not present, Dana Cooley

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None

**Minutes of the January 21, 2026 Meeting**

Ms. Worthington moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Taylor seconded. All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

**Correspondence**

None

**President's Report**

Ms. Radcliffe referenced a PBS article shared by Dr. Harris regarding changes that could affect nonprofit libraries serving as passport acceptance facilities. While the article suggested that some nonprofit libraries may no longer be able to process passport applications, it was noted that this does not currently impact the Webster Groves Public Library.

Ms. Morris reported that the Library completed the required documentation last year to confirm its status as a passport acceptance facility. The Library received notification from the U.S. Department of State confirming that Webster Groves Public Library remains approved to continue processing passport applications as usual. However, the situation will continue to be monitored for any potential future changes.

**Librarian's Report**

Ms. Morris reported that the HVAC project is moving forward. The Children's Room is currently closed, and different sections of the Library will be closed as work progresses. Areas

will likely be closed approximately every week and a half. The next areas scheduled for closure are the Nonfiction Room, followed by the Reference Area, and then the Meeting Room.

Ms. Morris also reported that the Shushbooth, funded by the Friends of the Library, has been delivered and has already been used by patrons.

### **Advanced Planning**

Dr. Harris reported that the committee compiled a summary of the Director's Reports from board packets over the past several years that align with the Library's strategic plan. She noted that many positive accomplishments have taken place during this time and that the Library is entering the final phase of the strategic plan in a strong position.

### **Building and Grounds**

See Librarian's Report.

Other:

Ms. Waugh has tendered resignation from the Library board starting at the end of March 2026.

### **Finance**

Mr. Scholl reported that the Library received a significant portion of its property tax revenue. A total of \$1,000,000 was transferred to the reserve account.

For the month, the Library was approximately \$30,000 under budget; however, a \$242,000 capital payment for the HVAC project caused total expenses to exceed the monthly budget.

There was discussion regarding tax revenue, with the Library currently reporting approximately \$400,000 less in revenue than projected. The Board discussed whether a budget amendment may be necessary.

Ms. Morris stated that the Library should have a clearer understanding of the situation within the next month. She explained that property tax payments have been arriving more slowly than they did last year, but another significant portion is expected to be received in the coming month. At that time, the Library will have a better understanding of overall revenue and whether a budget amendment will be needed.

Mr. Scholl also noted that additional tax revenue is typically received in May, when taxes that were previously withheld are distributed.

Ms. Worthington moved to approve the financial report. Dr. Harris seconded. All were in favor, and the report was approved.

## **Human Resources**

Dr. Harris stated there will be a closed session later in the meeting.

## **Policy**

None.

## **Friends Report**

Ms. Taylor reported that the Friends of the Library are working to rejuvenate the pavers program and increase visibility for both the Friends and the Library. She noted that a new brochure has been mailed, and members should be receiving it soon if they have not already.

## **City Hall**

Mr. Franklin reported that the City is in the final rounds of interviews for the Fire Chief position. He also noted that the City Manager has resigned, effective April 2026, and that an Interim City Manager will be announced soon. In addition, the City has begun its budget planning process.

## **Tax Levy**

Ms. Morris reported that the committee met prior to the meeting to review their current progress and discuss next steps. She noted that she expects to have additional information to share with the Board in March. Ms. Morris also stated that she has a comprehensive tax levy document compiled by librarians across the state, which she plans to share with the full Board.

## **Old Business**

None.

## **New Business**

See Advance Planning.

## **Closed Session 610.021 subsection 13**

Ms. Worthington moved for the meeting to be closed under 610.21 subsection 13 for the purpose of personnel discussion. Ms. Waugh seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed.

Roll Call:

Mr. Toelle

Ms. Worthington

Dr. Harris

Ms. Coates

Ms. Waugh  
Ms. Taylor  
Mr. Scholl  
Ms. Radcliffe

Ms. Waugh moved to end the closed session. Mr. Tolle seconded. All were in favor and the regular session was restored.

### **Adjournment**

Dr Harris moved to adjourn, Ms. Taylor seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:18.