



Springfield-Greene County
Library District

Springfield-Greene County Board of Trustees

February 17, 2026
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield-Greene County Library District met on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at the Library Center. The Trustees in attendance were: Aaron Jones, Carol Anne Robinette, David Yancey, James Nevins, Mar'Ellen Felin, Melanie Weiler, Rachael Morrow (joined at 4:05pm) and Stacey Penney.

Absent: Christopher Bozarth

Call to Order

Aaron Jones called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

Disposition of Minutes

Correction: Page 1, Paragraph 3 corrected text to read "**Disposition of Minutes: December 16, 2025, Board meeting: Mar'Ellen Felin moved and Stacey Penney seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion was approved (6 yes, 0 no, 2 absent).**"

Subject to the correction, the minutes of the January 20, 2026 Board meeting were approved.

Stacey Penney moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Aaron Jones (8 yes, 0 No).

Retirement Recognition

Leland Blatter, Buildings and Grounds Manager, retired in February 2026. He was recognized for his outstanding service and the excellent work he provided over the past twelve (12) years.

Report of Committees

- **Buildings and Grounds Committee**

- **FY2026 Capital Project**

- **Library Station (LST)**

- Bids for the Foyer/Restroom Remodel were received and exceeded the base bid amount of \$197,692. Nabholz was selected as the contractor with a bid of \$360,000. The team is in discussions with Nabholz to explore cost reductions. HVAC updates were completed, including the replacement of AC units.

- **The Library Center (TLC)**

- Work continued on the pavilion, including the installation of lighting and fans. Approval was received from the city to construct a concrete pad for the Friends of the Library shed. The front canopy repair was completed. Replacement of the children's department flooring was underway and was expected to take approximately four weeks to complete. A bid of \$57,000 was received for the Author Walk grout repair and main entry tile replacement. This project was not included in the current budget and would be considered during the next year's budget planning process. Working on getting the Fire Detection Trouble Code (Sensor #52) replaced.

- **Park Central (PRK)**

- A discussion was held with the building owner/Lessor/Landlord regarding floor replacement. Concerns were raised about issues with the subfloor, which might also need to be replaced.

- **ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) Updates**

- 1. **Midtown (MID)**

- Final payment approval was still pending. It was discovered that during the removal of the old boiler, the 18-inch exhaust chimney was also taken out, and the resulting opening was not adequately sealed. Consequently, cold air was entering the building and birds were able to access the area. A permanent solution was required to properly close the chimney opening. Follow up with the construction firm would be done, as sealing the chimney should have been included in the original scope of work when the old system was removed.

- 2. **The Library Center**

- Proposal to increase the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) by \$13,852 to cover change order number 4v2 to pour a concrete pad and install the Friends of the Library Donation Shed was discussed. The cost will be covered by a grant from the Friends of the Library (FOL).

- Motion** from The Buildings and Grounds Committee that the Board of Trustees accept the proposal to increase of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) by \$13,852 to and approve Change Order #4 version 2 (CO#4v2) to pour a concrete pad and install the Friends of the Library (FOL) Donation Shed. The cost will be covered by a grant from the FOL.

- The motion was carried (8 yes, 0 No).

- 3. **Republic Branch**

- Proposal to increase the GMP and decrease the contingency by \$50,441 and approve CO#34 to replace the asphalt parking lot was discussed.

- The parking lot was originally believed to have adequate asphalt; however, it was later discovered that the asphalt depth was only two inches and would need to be fully replaced.

- During initial discussions, the estimated cost for replacement was \$76,000. Funds for this work would be transferred from the project contingency.

- Motion** from The Buildings and Grounds Committee that the Board of Trustees accept the proposal to increase the GMP and decrease the contingency by \$50,441 and accept Change Order #34 (CO#34) to replace the asphalt parking lot.

- The motion was carried (8 yes, 0 No).

- **Finance and Personnel Committee**

- **Summary of Compensation, Classification & Benefits Report**

- The final report had not yet been received and would be reviewed at the next meeting.

- **Financial Report Review – January 2026**

- Nevins reported that the Finance and Personnel Committee reviewed the January 2026 financial report. At 58.3% of the fiscal year, current tax revenue received totaled \$12,137,419.21. Revenue from sources other than taxes totaled \$108,809.15. ARPA project income totaled \$738,405.27. Cash at the beginning of the period was \$4,394,493.07, and cash at the end of the period was \$14,794,958.86. A projected decrease in tax revenue of \$185,000 was reported, attributed to the senior tax freeze. Revenue other than taxes reflected \$355,054 in anticipated revenue. An additional net revenue of \$169,859 was projected for FY2026. The personnel (salaries) budget was reported to be 4% under budget. The committee reviewed the FY2026 Budget Revision and recommended that the Board approve the FY2026 Budget Revision.

- Motion** from the Finance and Personnel Committee that the Board of Trustees approve the FY2026 Revised budget. The motion was approved (8 yes, 0 no).

- **2026-2027 Annual Goals**

- The Annual Goals were updated to reflect revised budget projections and new information that impacted planning for the upcoming year.

- Motion** received from the Finance and Personnel Committee that the Board of Trustees approve the 2026-2027 Annual Goals. The motion was approved (8 yes, 0 no).

- **FY2027 Budget Draft**

- The draft budget for FY2027 was not yet available, as revisions were currently in progress.

- **Programs, Services & Technology Committee**

Sarah Rosendahl, Human Resources/Training Associate presented an Overview of Staff Training: Learning & Development in the Library.

Institutional Advancement Report

Dr. Nancy O’Rielly presented a check for \$18,000 to support the Rosie Book Club, which is scheduled to meet six times per year. A family in Republic provided funding for improvements to the Youth Services Manager’s office, the staff break room, and the Youth Services Department. A Mahjong event was scheduled for March 12. End-of-year giving highlights included the Ava Louise Smith gift. In total, the library received donations from 246 individual donors, with 457 separate contributions, showing continued growth. Work was underway to transfer the Ava Smith gift to the Commerce Trust Company who was selected to manage the assets. The endowment will provide unrestricted income for the Library District. A check for \$50,000 was received from David Jones to increase the Preserving the Ozarks Endowment.

Executive Director’s Monthly Report

A legislative update was provided. Approximately 90 bills related to libraries had been filed to date being actively tracked. Staff visited the State Capitol twice, including meetings with the legislative leaders and Greene county representatives and senators. Legislative leaders are focused on ending income tax revenue. Greene County representatives were positive and encouraging. Discussion included involvement of other library directors in legislative advocacy, highlighting that many library personnel are actively engaging with legislators in Jefferson City to raise awareness of the significance of library funding.

New Business

January Monthly Comparisons, January 2026 Board Report, January 2026 Raw Data and Bookmobile Stats were reviewed. Responses noted that Midtown and Republic locations were performing well. Circulation, library traffic, and Bookmobile data from before and during the COVID-19 period would not continue to be included in reported information, given that the figures are beginning to stabilize. The Bookmobile typically misses one week each year due to inclement weather. In January 2026, it was out of service for two full weeks for repairs.

A question was asked regarding how Bookmobile locations are selected. The response indicated that stops are chosen in areas where residents have limited access to reliable transportation, including locations with a high concentration of seniors or individuals with physical limitations. Schedules are adjusted based on school calendars and times when families with children are most likely to be home. Overall, the stops are working well and effectively serve the customers who most need the service.

Closed Session

Roll Call Vote

James Nevins motioned to go into closed session under RSMo 610.021 (2). Carol Anne Robinette seconded. The motion was approved (8 yes, 0 no)

Aaron Jones, President, Member:	Yes
Carol Anne Robinette, Member:	Yes
David Yancey, Member:	Yes
James Nevins, Treasurer and Member:	Yes
Mar’Ellen Felin, Member	Yes
Melanie Weiler, Secretary and Member:	Yes
Rachael Morrow, Member:	Yes
Stacey Penney, Member:	Yes

The meeting went into closed session at 4:42pm.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Stacey Penney; seconded by David Yancey. The motion was approved (8 yes, 0 no). The meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm.