



Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees

July 21, 2026

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield-Greene County Library District met on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 4 p.m. at the Library Center. The Trustees in attendance were: David Yancey, Esther Owens, Mar'Ellen Felin, Carol Anne Robinette, Robert Guiler, Aaron Jones, and Chris Bozarth.

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The June Board of Trustees meeting minutes were not included in the packet and the agenda item was tabled until next month.

Introduction of New Board Members

- New Administrative Associate Hunter Mayo was introduced.
- Preexisting Board members Christopher Bozarth, Carol Anne Robinette, Aaron Jones, James Nevins, Mar'Ellen Felin, and David Yancey introduced themselves and briefly spoke about their backgrounds and experiences.
- New Board members Robert Guiler and Esther Owens introduced themselves.
- The final new Board member still needs to be approved by the City Council.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Bozarth presented the committee report.

- **The Library Station (LST) - Foyer/Restroom Remodel:** Demolition began last week as scheduled. Rust was found which caused slight complications, but the project is otherwise going well and according to plan.
- **The Library Center (TLC) - Pavilion:** The Pavilion project is waiting on a sufficiently dry weather period.
- **Midtown/Schweitzer Brentwood - Irrigation:** Bids (\$35,000 for Midtown and \$60,000 for Schweitzer Brentwood) have been placed for work by the same company as did previous irrigation work at TLC. More bids are needed due to the \$10,000 threshold. The current bids are anticipated to be the lowest received as the aforementioned company has historically returned with lowest bids.

- It was noted that there is a landscaping grant available to municipalities and agencies for which an application will be submitted to allow further work to be done with a match grant.
- **ARPA Updates**
 - **Hatch Auditorium (TLC):** Minor repairs, including repainting, door rehanging and adjusting, dewrinkling of retractable screen, and work on exterior lights, have been completed. The staff fence gate is still in need of repair.
 - **Republic FF&E:** Long lead items still awaited.
- **Memory Lab Project:** Pre-bid meeting occurred today. Bid opening is scheduled to week from today.
- **Janitorial Services RFP:** The RFP evaluation form has been adjusted to better meet preexisting standards. The bids evaluation will be completed soon.
- **Hail Damage Repairs:** Adjuster has moved total damage from \$1.2-1.5 million down to \$1 million. The out-of-pocket cost with deductibles for work on repairs is estimated to be around \$100,000. The possibility of federal aid was noted. The RFP for hail damage is out and due July 31. The actual cost will be better understood afterwards.

Finance & Personnel Committee

Nevins presented the committee report.

- As of June 30, 99.9% of anticipated tax revenue had been realized and 97.1% of the operating expenses had been incurred, excluding ARPA-related activity.
- At the end of the fiscal year, there was a surplus of \$716,612, primarily arising from healthcare premiums and claims being lower than anticipated. Some operational expenses were also lower than anticipated.
- The Greene County Collector's Office inadvertently remitted \$1,391.16 in collection fees to the Library. It will be recollected by the Collector's Office next month. It will be noted in the financial report as a liability.
- The Finance and Personnel Committee motioned to receive funds from the Lipscomb family for the Memory Lab Project into the Reserve Fund and pay expenses for the project from the Reserve Fund. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).
- The Finance and Personnel Committee motioned to approve the Service Animal Policy. Motion carried (7 yes, 1 no).

Programs, Services & Technology Committee

Mar'Ellen Felin presented the committee report discussing the Day In The Life of a Branch in light of the year's master plan.

- Katy Pattison, branch manager, presented about the day in the life of Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library.
- Katy Pattison, Legislative Committee Chair, discussed the Committee's upcoming Library awareness campaign in anticipation for the August 2027 ballot initiative. Campaign efforts will center on staff speaking in the community about the library's impact and advertisements.

Institutional Advancement Report

Bridget Dierks presented the report.

- Two Foundation Board members, Bob Shaw and Sarah Muegge, have retired. Danny Perches and Marjorie Shavers have been added to the board.
- There were over \$1 million in charitable gifts to the Library for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The Foundation gave \$624,000. The Friends of the Library gave \$436,000.
- An additional \$1.6 million (minus taxes and bills) from the Ava Louise Smith Trust is anticipated for the Library.
- In support of the August 2027 ballot initiative, the Foundation has put out a mailer in support of the eLibrary services and resources.
- The Foundation has prepared an estate planning packet for estate attorneys and wealth advisors to discuss with their clients.
- Katie Hopkins announced that The Robert M. "Bobby" Allison Charitable Trust has approved a \$50,000 grant to upgrade Midtown's children department.

Executive Director's Monthly Report

Walton presented the report, emphasizing focus of energy in the upcoming year on the ballot initiative and the decision for the Microsoft transition being due to increased risk of ransomware on library networks.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

- The slate of officers for FY2027 was presented as including President - Christopher Bozarth, Vice President - James Nevins, Treasurer - Mar'Ellen Felin, Secretary - Carol Anne Robinette. Nevins motions to accept the slate of officers. Yancey seconded. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).

- Committee chairs were assigned: Buildings & Grounds - Robert Guiler, Programs, Services, & Technology - Esther Owens, Finance & Personnel - Mar'Ellen Felin.
- The June 2026 and Year End Statistical reports were reviewed.
 - It was noted that the loss of access to ILL materials could have contributed to the -1.49% reduction in the use of physical materials.
 - Walton noted that the Library has signed a memorandum of understanding with MOBIUS to test their new code to integrate the two library systems. If it proves to be successful by December 16, the Library District will rejoin MOBIUS. The Library District will maintain both Tipasa and MOBIUS as ILS vendors.

Yancey motioned to adjourn. Nevins seconded. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.