



Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees

June 16, 2026

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield-Greene County Library District met on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 4 p.m. at the Library Center. The Trustees in attendance were: James Nevins (arrived at 4:04 p.m.), Carol Anne Robinette, Mar'Ellen Felin, Rachael Morrow, Melanie Weiler, Christopher Bozarth, David Yancey, Aaron Jones and Stacey Penney.

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

Meeting Minutes

The May Board of Trustees meeting minutes were approved as presented. Felin motioned to approve the minutes. Bozarth seconded. Motion was approved (9 yes, 0 no).

Recognitions

- Collection Services Manager Lisa Sampley was honored for her retirement after 45 years of service.
- Stacey Penney, Rachael Morrow and Melanie Weiler were thanked at their final board meeting following completion of their service on the board.
- Aaron Jones was acknowledged for his service as board president during the past year.

Report of Committees

- **Buildings and Grounds Committee:**
 - The Library Station restroom remodel is scheduled to begin June 29, with Nabholz Construction beginning work. The pavilion at the Library Center is substantially complete, with floor covering installation awaiting a dry weather window and new fans expected to be installed by the end of the month. ARPA-related projects include ongoing punch list coordination at the Library Center, including remaining work on seating and repair of a fence post and gate. The Memory Lab project is progressing, with final drawings expected by the end of June, bids anticipated in mid-July and

project completion projected for December. RFP responses for janitorial services were higher than anticipated, and the scope is being reevaluated. The hail damage at the Library Station and Republic Branch Library is estimated at \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million.

- Paragon Architecture presented the final Facilities Master Plan, summarizing a six-month process that incorporated stakeholder feedback, facility assessments, demographic analysis and operational input. The plan is intended as a decision-making framework and long-range roadmap rather than a fixed construction plan and is organized into three volumes covering findings and input, demographic data and branch-level analysis. Key themes include systemwide priorities focused on preserving existing assets, improving building system reliability and enhancing services to meet current and future needs, supported by a portfolio approach to owned and leased facilities. The report emphasizes balancing maintenance of existing facilities with targeted investment, validating assumptions before major expenditures and aligning future decisions with changing service demands and demographics. Next steps include refining priorities, developing funding strategies and moving into implementation planning.

- **Finance and Personnel Committee:**

- As of the reporting period, 91.7% of the fiscal year has passed, 99.4% of anticipated tax revenue has been received and 87.6% of operating expenses have been incurred. The budget is expected to end the year on target, including anticipated retirement-related costs, which are being offset through delayed hiring.
- Regarding ARPA, it was noted that initial projections anticipated a \$4 million deficit; however, the projects are now expected to not only eliminate that shortfall but also result in an estimated \$2.5 million in reserves upon completion.

- **Programs, Services and Technology Committee**

- Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Manager Katy Pattison presented results of a community survey assessing public perception of the library, priority service areas and support for potential funding options to inform future planning. The survey, conducted January-February by Opinion Research Specialists LLC, included 4,000 mailed surveys and 807 responses, yielding a 95% confidence level and a 3.5% margin of error. Results indicated strong overall support for the library, with key priorities including children's services, community spaces, safety, accessibility and digital collections. A 5% property tax increase received the strongest support among funding scenarios, with lower support among nonusers, older

voters and residents outside the Springfield area. A multi-year awareness and engagement strategy was outlined through 2027, including continued public education efforts, community partnerships and a planned follow-up survey to inform future funding considerations.

Institutional Advancement Report

The fiscal year is nearing its end, with board transitions and ongoing grant activity supporting library programs and services. Recent funding includes \$30,000 from the Schneider Foundation for Maker Space initiatives, a \$50,000 grant from the Musgrave Foundation for the Republic Branch Library teen department, a \$5,000 gift from Alex and Cathy Primm supporting the Memory Lab and a \$5,000 donation from the Republic VFW supporting the Republic Branch Library community fridge. It was also noted that documentation has been received regarding the Ava Louise Smith Trust Fund, which will be presented to the Library Foundation board, with an update expected in July.

Executive Director's Monthly Report

The Summer Reading Program is ongoing with strong participation, and additional materials have been ordered to meet increased demand.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

- **May 2026 Statistical Report:** Trend lines show a gradual increase in use of facilities and resources, with levels continuing to recover toward pre-COVID activity, though full recovery is still expected to take several years. This pattern is consistent with national library trends as in-person use continues to rebuild.
- **Executive Director's Evaluation**
The Board moved into closed session for this discussion.

Miscellaneous Item of Business

none

Closed Session

Roll Call Vote

Yancey motioned to go into closed session under RSMo 610.021 (13). Penney seconded. The motion was approved (9 yes, 0 no).

James Nevins, Treasurer and Member:

Yes

Carol Anne Robinette, Member:	Yes
Mar'Ellen Felin, Member:	Yes
Rachael Morrow, Member:	Yes
Melanie Weiler, Secretary and Member:	Yes
Christopher Bozarth, Vice President and Member:	Yes
David Yancey, Member:	Yes
Aaron Jones, President and Member:	Yes
Stacey Penney, Member:	Yes

The meeting went into closed session at 5:02 p.m.