

Josephine Community Library District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 16, at 5:30 pm
Grants Pass branch | 200 NW C street, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Members present: Gina Marie Agosta, Pat Fahey, Tina Gotchall, Rachele Selvig

Members absent: Kelly Robinson

Staff present: Library Director Kate Lasky, Communications and Partnership Manager Brandace Rojo, Operations Manager Jessica Perez, Library Foundation Executive Director Rebecca Stoltz

CALL TO ORDER. Ms. Agosta called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

STANDING ITEMS

Approval of consent agenda. Consent agenda items included:

- a. September 18 Board Meeting minutes
- b. Resolution 2026-013: Policy 3-1-2
- c. Resolution 2026-014: Policy 3-4-11
- d. Resolution 2026-015: Policy 3-4-12
- e. Resolution 2026-016: Policy 3-1-7

Motion: Mr. Fahey moved to approve the consent agenda.

Ms. Gotchall seconded.

Approved by Ms. Agosta.

Approved by Ms. Selvig.

Ms. Robinson absent at vote.

Public comment. Nolan Guerrero

Nolan Guerrero addressed the board regarding the new security guard at the Grants Pass branch. He stated that he recently visited the library and was surprised to see a security guard standing behind the service desk. After discussing the matter with his mother, she met with the library director and learned that the district contracts with the same security company used by the Jackson County Library System. Nolan reported that his mother contacted the company directly and was informed that whether guards are armed is determined by the contracting agency.

Nolan requested greater transparency from the district about how the decision was made to select an armed security guard and expressed concern that the guard's uniform and tactical vest, along with the visible presence of an armed officer, may make the library feel unwelcoming to minority populations. He also stated that as a former library employee, he had direct knowledge that August is typically a higher-incident month and therefore felt the decision resulted in more security presence than he believed was necessary.

Correspondence. Chris Barnett

In an email to the library board, Josephine County Commissioner Chris Barnett, the commissioner apologized for earlier challenges, affirmed support for the library, and

recognized Ms. Lasky as 2025 Librarian of the Year. He confirmed the lease was signed and expressed optimism for the library's future.

Annexation Petition Review: Annexation petition review: James & Donna Byrd

Motion: Mr. Fahey moved to endorse the annexation petitions for James & Donna Byrd.

Ms. Gotchall seconded.

Approved by Ms. Agosta.

Approved by Ms. Selvig.

Ms. Robinson absent at vote.

STAFF REPORTS

Library director's report. Ms. Lasky referred to the Library Director's Report dated October 16, 2025, highlighting the following items:

- The board and staff discussed security at the Grants Pass branch. Grants Pass Police Sergeant Josh Nieminen recommended an armed guard given the severity of the incidents. While the City of Grants Pass posted an RFP for facilitation of the resting site two blocks away from the library, full management of the resting site would not go into effect until spring 2026. Ms. Lasky asked to extend the contract with Northwestern Defense until June 2026 due to continued incidents on the premises.
Motion: Ms. Selvig moved to authorize Ms. Lasky to extend the contract with Northwestern Defense through June 2025.
Ms. Agosta Seconded.
Approved by Mr. Fahey.
Ms. Gotchall and Ms. Robinson absent at vote.
- Wi-Fi is available during operating hours only at the Grants Pass and Illinois Valley branches.
- Nearly 90 participants attended the second session of Declaration 250 at the Grants Pass branch.

Financial report. Ms. Lasky reviewed the September 2025 Financial Statement memo dated October 16, 2025. She also referred to the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual-General Fund statement through September 30, 2025, and the Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2025.

ACTION ITEMS

Ratification of Grants Pass Lease Agreement

Motion: Mr. Fahey moved to approve Resolution 2026-009 to ratify the Grants Pass Lease Agreement with Josephine County.

Ms. Agosta seconded.

Approved by Ms. Selvig.

Approved by Ms. Gotchall.

Ms. Robinson absent at vote.

First Reading: Operations Policy—security Cameras.

The board of directors held its first reading of a revised version of a security camera use Operations Policy to better match practices.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Library Foundation liaison report. Ms. Stoltz shared that the library foundation is onboarding two new board members: Bela Toledo and Tommi Drake.

The fall fundraising drive kicks off the week of Thanksgiving. ‘I love my library’ lawn signs and bumper stickers will be available beginning November 1 in support of the fundraising drive.

Facilities Oversight Task Force. In Illinois Valley, the front door hydraulics that had previously failed have been repaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comments from board members. None.

Date and agenda items for next meeting. The next regular board meeting will be at 5:30 pm on Thursday, October 16, at the Grants Pass branch library.

ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm to move into executive session per ORS 192.660(2)(i).

CALL TO ORDER. Ms. Agosta called the meeting back to order at 6:30 pm.

The Board of Directors authorized Board President Ms. Agosta to meet with Ms. Lasky to review her performance evaluation and contract, and to present an appropriate wage increase.

ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BR' followed by a stylized flourish.

Brandace Rojo for Board Secretary Kate Lasky
Josephine Community Library District