

Lewistown Public Library



**Meeting Minutes
Lewistown Public Library
Board of Trustees**

**Wednesday, June 17, 2026
2:00 PM
Lewistown Public Library**

Mission Statement

The Lewistown Public Library provides free and equal access to quality materials and services, which fulfill the educational, informational, cultural, and recreational needs of the entire community.

2:12PM – Call to order – Roll call – Regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees called to order by Board Chair Mary Callahan Baumstark. Trustees Present: Mariah Shammel, Jean Collins, Mary Jo Hamling and Andrea Payne. Library Staff present: Chiara VanderBeek and Drew Ketterling. City of Lewistown Staff present: Holly Phelps (City Manager) City Commissioner Present: Dani Beuhler.

Appoint Recorder of Minutes: Mariah

Reading of the Mission Statement: Andrea

Revisions to the Agenda: Mary CB asked to add an action item under “Financial Reports” to reflect the discussion that took place during our special budget meeting prior to this meeting. She asked for action items to transfer money from Central Montana Foundation to both pay for book spending and refill the depreciation account with the City.

Comments for the Good of the Library: None

Public Comment on All Agenda and Non-Agenda Items: Dani Beuhler, City Commissioner, told the Board she’s heard great feedback from community members on the library staff and how great they’ve been through all the recent changes, as well as throughout scheduled programming.

Disposition of April 29, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes

- Mariah moved to approve minutes, Andrea 2nd. No discussion. Motion passed.

Disposition of May 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

- Andrea moved to approve minutes, Jean 2nd. No discussion. Motion passed.

Financial Reports

- Jean moved to approve claims for both April and May, Andrea 2nd. No discussion. Motion passed.
- Mariah moved to authorize a transfer of \$5,000 from Central Montana Foundation to the depreciation fund held by the City. Jean 2nd. No discussion. Motion passed.

- Jean moved to transfer an amount to be determined, pending budget approval, from Central Montana Foundation to the City of Lewistown to cover the book and video collection. Mariah 2nd. No discussion. Motion passed.

Discussion of Director's Report

- Chiara and Drew gave an in-depth Director's Report. There are 290 kids in the Summer Reading Program and 112 adults. The inter-library loan program will be up and running soon, which will be a good thing for the library.

Communications

- **Friends of the Library | Mary Jo Hamling**
 - Mary Jo updated the Book Station sale dates. They could really use more volunteers as they're slammed with books at the moment. FOL is sponsoring a \$1 movie day at Judith Theater, and they decorated for the Lewistown Downtown Association's window contest marking America's 250 year anniversary. They also got the sink and toilet fixed, which is very exciting.
- **City Commission | Dani Beuhler**
 - Budget season has started. There has been a lot of interaction with the community lately on various issues including appointing someone to the police commission, approving a grant to accrue more parking lot space, potentially moving the Farmer's Market away from Symmes Park and more. The city is excited to hear from the library at an upcoming meeting where they will get an in-depth presentation regarding the library and all it has to offer the community.
- **Building Committee Report | Andrea Payne**
 - Mosaic is still planning on hitting their September deadline. Engineers will most likely be in Lewistown by July. They've asked the committee, as well as the Board to start looking at other buildings, specifically libraries, similar to ours to get some ideas on what we would like to see and what changes we think need to happen. They want us to think about moving the library into the future, not just how to maintain the building and provide upkeep. Andrea is very optimistic and excited about the opportunities in front of us.

Continuing Business

- There was no continuing business.

New Business

- **Review and revise 2026/2027 budget proposal:**
 - As discussion was had in the special budget meeting, directly before this one, no more discussion took place. We will wait to see how the meeting with the City goes and then will adjust the budget as needed.
- **Director Interview Process:**
 - The board decided to have a hiring committee instead of utilizing the entire Board. Andrea and Mariah will join Nikki Brummond, from the City, and will ask both Jennifer Saunders, County Commissioner, and Diann DeRossier, community member at large, to take part in the process. Mary and Mariah will reach out to the State Library to make sure

the listing is posted and the committee will hopefully interview in July with a recommendation at the next Board meeting in July.

Trustee Minute: Everyone discussed their summer plans and chatted about the World Cup taking place across the Americas. Mariah will be leaving for a quick, impromptu trip, and Jean will not be around for the July board meeting as she will also be gallivanting around the world.

*3:30 p.m. Jean moved to adjourn, Andrea 2nd. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully submitted by: Mariah Shammel*