

SILVER LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD of TRUSTEES

FEBRUARY 9, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

The regular February meeting of the Silver Lake Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 6 p.m. by President Liz Steckel. Other Board members present were Deanna Lowe, Erin Flach, Connie Kelsey, Ashley Hanson, Georgia Ransone, and Library Director Alexandra Teske. Also in attendance: Sarah Noble, Cheri Corwin, Karen Gross, Lisa Herkenrath, Travis Milner, Amber Jackson, Rebecca Milner, Mikayla Sjeklocha, Sara Thomas, and Myranda Lowe. The Board expressed appreciation to the Milners for bringing cookies from T's Tiny Bakery.

Ashley moved that Public Comment be moved to the top of the agenda; Deanna seconded. After discussion, Ashley, Deanna, and Erin voted yes; Liz, Connie, & Georgia voted no. The motion failed due to lack of a majority. Georgia asked that Financial Reports be removed from the Consent Agenda. Liz added the Foundation Board to New Business. Ashley added an Executive Session to New Business. Ashley moved to accept the amended Meetings Agenda; Connie seconded. Approved 6 - 0.

Liz introduced a Proposed Amendment to Article II Meetings of the Trustee By-laws. After explaining the proposal and that it would be taken up for consideration at the March Board meeting, Liz moved that the evening's discussion on each topic be limited to 10 minutes and that the current meeting be limited to no more than 2 hours. Connie seconded; approved 6 - 0.

Ashley moved to accept the Consent Agenda; Erin seconded. Approved 6 - 0.

Georgia discussed that both the Township and the Fire Department Boards invest funds in Certificates of Deposit in order to earn more interest. After discussion, Liz moved to postpone purchase of CD's, Connie seconded. Liz and Connie voted yes; Ashley, Deanna, Erin, and Georgia voted no. The motion failed due to lack of a majority. Erin moved that the Board authorize the Treasurer, Connie, to invest in CD's at both Silver Lake Bank and Stockgrower's State Bank of Silver Lake in the amount of \$100,000 each. Deanna seconded. The motion carried 5 - 1; Liz voted no. Georgia moved to accept the Financial Report; Connie seconded. Approved 6 - 0.

Deanna announced her resignation from the Board of Trustees effective at the end of the current meeting. Alexandra handed out correspondence from Michael McDonald, Director of the Northeast Kansas Library System about Agenda Practice for "Correspondence and Communication" and a copy of his letter to the House Committee on Local Government about HB 2410.

Erin informed the Board that Cathy Newland is unable to serve on the Grievance Committee and has been replaced by Jill Burton.

Alexandra reported that there are documents missing from the files of some Trustees and requested that forms be completed. It was concluded that the missing documents were likely filed elsewhere by previous Directors.

After discussion, Liz moved that the addition to Exhibits, Displays, & Bulletin Board Policy regarding the information allowed for display on the Library's bulletin board be approved. Erin seconded; approved 6 - 0.

Liz noted that Director Alexandra Teske will replace the previous director, Brynne Lassiter, on the Building Committee. She confirmed that she, Erin, and Georgia would continue to serve on this committee.

Liz proposed an amendment to the Service Policy regarding the Library as a Meeting Place. The amendment states that the Library is reserved exclusively for Library-affiliated programs, services, and events. Georgia moved to accept the amendment; Liz seconded. Approved 6 - 0.

Deanna announced her resignation from the Library Foundation. Nikki Womack resigned from the Foundation Board effective January 21, 2026.

Ashley moved that the Board recess into Executive Session for 10 minutes to discuss library personnel pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Liz seconded. Approved 6 - 0. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. and came out at 7:27 p.m. Deanna moved that the Board continue in Executive Session for 2 more minutes. Ashley seconded; approved 6 - 0. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. and came out at 7:31 p.m.

Erin and Georgia explained the proposed addition to the Fiscal Policy regarding Budget Oversight. Liz moved to accept the addition; Erin seconded. Approved by 5 votes; Ashley abstained.

After making one change to the Social Media & Internet Safety Policy, Liz moved to accept the amended policy; Erin seconded. Approved by 5 votes; Ashley abstained.

Liz moved to postpone until the next meeting consideration of the Trustee Code of Conduct Policy and the Board/Director Communication and Supervision By-law Amendment. Connie seconded; approved 6 - 0.

After discussion, Georgia moved to accept the addition of Public Comment to the Trustee By-laws Article II Meetings. Liz seconded. Erin, Georgia, Liz, & Connie voted yes; Deanna voted no, and Ashley abstained. The motion was approved.

Public Comment: Cheri Corwin spoke about the Library building's mold issue and asked for clear public communication. Karen Gross spoke about her termination from Library employment.

Liz moved to adjourn; Connie seconded. The motion carried 6 - 0 at 8 p.m.

The next meeting is March 9, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Submitted by Georgia Ransone