

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**North Valley Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting**

208 Main Street, Stevensville, MT 59870

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 3pm

Meetings are open to the public.

***Agenda***

- **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT<sup>1</sup>**
- **GUESTS**
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - ❖ Board minutes from 9/17/2025.
- **FINANCES**
  - ❖ Chair compares the monthly bank statement to reconciliation report.
  - ❖ Statement of Revenue
  - ❖ Statement of Expenditure
  - ❖ Cash Report
- **ONGOING & UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  - ❖ New building plans, discussion & decisions
  - ❖ Current building upkeep
  - ❖ Foundation
- **NEW BUSINESS**
  - ❖ Review Summer Reading Report
  - ❖ Board training: [Children/Minors in the Library](#)
- **BOARD/DIRECTORS ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMENTS**
  - ❖ Tamarack online meeting October 16 at 6pm – Kate will attend.
  - ❖ Tamarack 2026 will take place April 24 & 25, 2026 – Kate will attend.
- **ADJOURNMENT**

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<sup>1</sup> If you are a member of the public and are unable to attend the Board meetings, the Board would still like to hear from you. Please email the Director at [denisea@northvalleylibrary.org](mailto:denisea@northvalleylibrary.org) or you can email board members directly. A link to Trustee contact information can be found on our website at [northvalleylibrary.org/board—information](http://northvalleylibrary.org/board—information).

## MINUTES OF THE NORTH VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 3pm

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** Dianne called the meeting to order at 3:11 via telephone.

Board Present: Caitlin Dunn, Margy Gilbertson, Dianne Snedigar via telephone.

Victoria Howell arrived during new building, 3:16; Kate Kowal arrived during Foundation 3:23.

Board Absent: None

Staff Present: Denise Ard, Library Director

**PUBLIC COMMENT** No public was present so there was no public comment.

**GUESTS** Carla Sanders, President of the NVPL Foundation

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Caitlin made a motion to approve the 9/17/2025 minutes and Margy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### FINANCES

**Chair compares the monthly bank statement to reconciliation report:** The Chair attended via telephone so will compare the monthly bank statements later.

**Financial Reports:** Caitlin made a motion to approve the financial reports. Margy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### ONGOING & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**New building plans, discussion & decisions** The board spoke about the land for sale off Eastside Hwy on Mystic River Road just east of Middle Burnt Fork Rd. The board will keep it in mind as they continue to pursue the new building project, but Red Willow Drive is not available on the general market and can be saved for the library, so it is a better option for the library. (Victoria arrived.) Carla said she and Carla talked about the options for the campaign consultant. They will present their recommendation at the January meeting for the capital campaign consultant.

**Current building upkeep** Nothing new to report.

**Foundation** Carla gave a report on the Foundation fundraisers. She said selling books by the inch at their book sale was a big hit. The next bookorations is first Friday in December and they will expand to Saturday selling the remaining bookorations. She said there were many paperback books left over so they may have a paperback palooza in January or February.

Carla said the budget for Friends for 2026 is \$955. The Friends budget includes teen stacks, Creamery picnic float, scarecrow festival décor, Halloween candy, big book sale and bookorations expenditures and Christmas thank you gift cards for staff. The budget does not include a 2026 spring fundraising event because the event is undecided. (Kate arrived.) The Foundation will brainstorm new ideas for a spring fundraiser.

The Foundation received a Rapp grant for adult books, tray tables for the community room, an a-frame chalk board, and chess/checkers sets for adult programming.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Review Summer Reading Report:** The board said it was exciting to see all the kids being impacted by the library.

**Board Training: Children/Minors in the Library presented by attorney and librarian Kris Goss.** The training provides foundational knowledge about legal and operational issues related to children in the library. The goal is that children are welcome into a library, and parents feel the library is a safe place for their children. Kris starts out his trainings on the laws

related to the issue he is discussing. Laws related to children in the library start with the US Constitution Article 1, the right to access information for all ages. Then the MT Constitution Article 11, Section 7 about freedom of speech that extends to access of information and is available to each Montanan including those under that age of eighteen. Montana Constitution also gives right to privacy Article II, Section 10.

Kris says we then look at new laws and how they interact with existing laws. There are new parental engagement laws Section 40-6-701 which say all fundamental parental rights are exclusively reserved to the parent of a child without obstruction or interference by a government entity. A government entity may not withhold from a children's parent's information that is relevant to the physical, emotional, or mental health of a child. It

What that means to a library as a government entity is that the library ensures the rights of those parents are honored through the operation of the library. It requires a balance between the rights of the child and the rights of the parent to oversee the upbringing of their child. And all that will play a role in how the library develops its policies.

Montana also has the library records confidentiality act 22-1-1103.

It gets a little entangled so how can it all work in a clear policy?

The board stopped at 25:20 into the presentation. (Victoria needed to leave the meeting at this point.)

#### **BOARD/DIRECTORS ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMENTS**

The board said it was nice to read all the kudos collected in the Director's report.

**ADJOURNMENT** Caitlin made a motion to adjourn at 4:18. Kate seconded the motion. All agreed.

Minutes by Catilin Dunn and Denise Ard