

MINUTES OF THE FENNVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
February 19,2026

Present: Jody Martin, Donna Matula, Willow VandenBerg, Marilyn Jessup,  
Bob Sherwood, Kathy Yankee

Absent: Becky Jamros

Staff Present: Teresa Kline

Observers Present: Justin Hunsberger, Elise VanKampen

Meeting Called to Order: 4:00pm

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Yankee, seconded by Matula to approve the agenda  
with addition of a CD that is due and Staff Appreciation.  
Passed 6-0.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of January 15, 2026 meeting approved with one correction:  
Under Unfinished Business, Beautify Pullman, end of first sentence  
should read, "-which is most of their payment for the library service to  
their citizens." Moved by VandenBerg, seconded by Sherwood,  
Passed 6-0.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None

Financial and Budget: Received and filed.

Director's Report: -The elevator is not working at all. Repair person is scheduled.  
-Problems with the downstairs women's toilet.  
-New shelving has been installed in Starring room.  
-Teresa attended LEO grant close-out meeting webinar and met  
-with Katie and Matt (architect) about pay-out issues.  
-Teresa met with ACCF with Krista regarding "My Future Funds".  
This is a program for Allegan, Plainwell and Fennville where  
Kindergarten students get \$65 in an account in their name (held  
by ACCF). The student can earn more funds by attendance at  
library events.

-Teresa has given a list of possible items for our future Tool Library to Dickinson's Hardware for them to submit prices on items. This is in hope of spending the funds locally.

-Teresa, Krista and Marilyn met with Beautify Pullman leaders to explain how the possible changes to use of Penal Fines could impact hopes for a library kiosk in Pullman.

President's Remarks: Jessup enjoyed the dinner at Boatwerks with board members and their spouses.

Board Member's Remarks: -Sherwood shared that the Casco Twp. Hall has been renovated. The primary entrance is now on the south side of the building.  
-Yankee mentioned that Barb Raak has accepted the appointment as new trustee from Ganges Twp. She replaces Robin Buchler who is moving out of the township.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business: -Parking lot construction Change Order #6 - metal building materials for the city square were accidentally charged to the library account. This has been corrected and the library total for the parking lot is \$21,000 less. Next payment of \$147, 989.07 is due soon.  
-Teresa attended an MLA Advocacy Hour session regarding the loss of penal fines to trial courts. A 'Study Group' came out in 2024 with a proposal for alternative funding which would mean a loss of \$16.8 million for libraries statewide. It is in committee in the Legislature and will probably not be voted on this year. Board members should contact our state representative, Rachelle Smit, to voice our concern. It was suggested we invite her to speak to our community at a meeting at the library.

New Business: -ACCF TAG has awarded us a \$1000 grant for summer kick-off event.  
-Audit: Elise VanKampen of DeLong & Brower presented their audit of FDL financial records. She stated that Teresa and staff were "super responsive" and that she was presenting "a nice clean audit". Copies of the audit were presented to each board member. She suggested double checking on Teresa's retirement funding as it may have been shorted a small amount.  
-The Annual Report was presented by Teresa. It will be distributed to the city and to township clerks.  
-A FOIA request for purchasing records was received and fulfilled.

- Michigan Notable Book Tour: Teresa requested author Robert "Carlos" Fuentes to speak about his book "Vacation - A Teenage Migrant Farmworker's Experience Picking Cherries in Michigan." The request was granted and Teresa will hopefully schedule him for the June 27 Grand-opening celebration event.
- There have been multiple patron incidents recently involving patrons being in staff-only areas, inappropriate behavior, and aggressive/profane verbal attacks on staff. Teresa is dealing with these with the Board's full support.
- Universal Services payment has been renewed, meaning the library will be reimbursed 90% on monthly internet cost.
- Mature CD - Yankee moved and Vandenberg seconded that we invest \$100,000 in a Goldman Sachs CD for 24 months at 3.85%. Passed 6-0.
- Staff appreciation lunch will be held April 16 at 1:00pm.

Public Comments: None

Adjourned: at 5:00pm

Next meeting: April 16, 2026 at 4:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathleen Yankee, Secretary



