

Heartland Regional Library System
Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2026

Roll Call: The Heartland Regional Library Board met at the Vienna Library for the March meeting. President Carole Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:03. The following board members were present: Carole Wagner, Toleda Jett, Rachel Williams, and Heather Walker. Lerilee Huhman, Stacey Dunham, Brittany Davenport and Tierney Webb attended via Zoom. Genna Jett and Nora Bond were absent.

Staff members present were Director Lisa Garro and Assistant Director Lysha Thompson,

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes: Rachel made the motion to approve the minutes as presented and Toleda seconded. All approved.

Financial Reports: Discussion was held concerning the percentages spent on utilities and Lagers to date. The financial reports were approved after a motion was made by Heather and seconded by Rachel.

Approval of monthly expenditures and transfer of funds: Following discussion related to a CD due at the Central Bank in Tuscumbia, Toleda made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures and transfer of funds and Heather seconded. The motion passed.

Director's/Librarians' Reports: Lysha gave the programming librarians' reports. She reported that Michelle and Leah are working hard, planning upcoming programs, and summer programming. Their statistics reports for in-branch and outreach were shared.

The Assistant Director's report:

- Some grant funds are paying for new science kits (pollinators and biodiversity) and hope to add more in the future.
- The Chromebooks for the Eldon branch have arrived and are ready and available for patrons to use. The Eldon Advertiser will run an article about the library's Chromebooks being donated by the 100 Empowered Women of Eldon organization.
- Several new packs of Tonies were ordered.
- Upcoming events: March— plant/seed swap, pantry mixes, candle painting and peep dioramas. Also weird soda tasting and hand knitted pillows. Battle of the Books will be happening at the Vienna school —Mark Twain on 3/18 and the Gateway competition is also happening soon.

The Director's report:

- Successful staff meeting on Friday, March 13th. Topics covered included: assisting patrons with forgotten passwords, promoting online resources, maintaining kits, and troubleshooting Tonies.
- Vienna branch is having electrical issues related to the smoke detectors. Breakers are off until they are repaired but this may be more extensive than originally thought.
- Planning to attend the Public Library Association Conference in Minneapolis 3/31-4/4.
- Website will need to be updated to be ADA compliant. Exploring options and have requested a quote from Library Market.

- The Hwy 42 road closure for bridge work is progressing and may finish ahead of time.

**See the Director's Report for March 2026 for more details.

Communications: None.

Old Business: Owners of Hard Times Bar and Grill sent a drawing of the potential plan to add onto their property either by leasing or purchasing property from HRLS. The drawing does not seem to match the description presented to the board last month. After some discussion on the matter, the topic was tabled until next month. The board plans to arrive early to survey the area. Lisa will ask the owners to give the approximate width of the sidewalk and slab that were on the drawing. The length was given but not the width.

New Business: The Employee Satisfaction survey will be sent out this month to the staff to complete.

District Board Reports: None.

Committee Reports: None.

HRLS Policies: The Patron Policies section was discussed and several suggestions were made. Lisa will make the changes so it can be approved at next month's meeting.

Executive Session: An executive session was needed. The HRLS board entered into executive session at 7:42 and returned to the regular monthly meeting at 7:47.

Adjournment: Rachel made the motion to adjourn at 7:50 and Toleda seconded. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted, Lerilee Huhman, HRLS secretary