Heartland Regional Library System
Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2026

Roll Call: The Heartland Regional Library Board met at the Iberia Library for the August meeting. President Carole Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00. The following board members were present: Carole Wagner, Toleda Jett, Lerilee Huhman, Stacey Dunham, and Brittany Davenport. Heather Walker, and Rachel Williams attended via Zoom. Genna Jett, Nora Bond, and Tierney Webb were absent.

Staff members present were Director Lisa Garro, Asst. Director Lysha Thompson, and library programmer Michelle Vaughn.

Public Comments: None.

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

Financial Reports: The financial reports were approved after a motion was made by Lerilee and seconded by Stacey.

Approval of monthly expenditures and transfer of funds: Following discussion regarding mileage reimbursement**,** Toleda made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures and transfer of funds and Stacey seconded. The motion passed.

Director's/Asst. Director's/Librarians' Reports: Michelle gave the programming librarians' reports. She shared the stats and some photos for the month. Passive programs are continuing to go well. There was great attendance at the Braiding classes and interest in another "hair" class. The professional hair stylists also enjoyed the classes and are willing to come back. One suggestion was to do an "up-do" class in February or March before prom. Planning for the fall programming and school visits is going well. Michelle reported that she is planning to collaborate with more outside agencies. One such program will be "Stop the Bleed".
See Miller and Maries County stats sheet for August for more details.

The Assistant Director's report:

- Lots of compliments regarding the Summer Library Program. One concern came up and will be utilized in planning for next year.
- Assisting in covering the business office while Camelia is out on medical leave.
- Working on final reports for SLP 2026 grant due at the end of the month.
- Scheduling the program -- "How Do You Know It's Not AI?" in the next two months.
- Upcoming: MU Extension class on pasture management at Vienna on 9/1, Fairy Light lanterns, edible fruit pearls (spherification --like Boba), book sale

The Director's report:

- HRLS hosted the Librarians 411 group at the Belle branch with seven in attendance and several topics discussed.
- New fee structure for MO Evergreen – HRLS total for fiscal year 26-27 is $4,399.48.
- Some position changes-- Nancy is retiring October 31, and Angel is training to fill the cataloging position. Need to hire Angel's replacement soon so Angel can help train the new hire.

- Training each branch to create weeding and inventory templates and print reports to complete those two jobs.
- Possible changes to E-rate (federal program) may increase the cost of Internet and networking services in the future. The FCC is considering making these possible changes.

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

Communications: None.

Old Business: Two items of old business were completed by the board. A new purchase agreement from Hard Times for the adjoining property was provided and signed by Miller County board members. Next, the MOCAAT resolution was signed and will now be submitted.

New Business: Maries County Board has a possible candidate to join the board. She will be invited to next month's meeting.

District Board Reports: Carole reported that the Maries County Board voted to set the tax levy for the coming year at the rate of 0.1583. Lerilee stated that the Miller County Board voted to set the tax levy at the rate of 0.1203 for the coming year.

The Maries County Bank requested an update on all accounts for the Maries County Library Board. The following changes are needed.

Add to the accounts:
Rachel Williams
Heather Walker
Toleda Jett
Camelia Hallahan

Remove from the accounts:
Laura Schiermeier
Ann Haring
April Noblett
Eleanor Terry

Keep on the accounts:
Carole Wagner
Lisa Garro

Online Banking for all accounts:
Camelia Hallahan
Lisa Garro

Committee Reports: None.

HRLS Policies: The following policies were reviewed and discussed.

- Operational Policies were discussed and then approved with a motion from Toleda and a second by Brittany.

- The board discussed some minor changes to the Administrative Policies and will vote on it at the next meeting.
- The Retirement Benefits section was reviewed and approved on a motion made by Stacey and second by Toleda.
- After discussion, the Holiday Benefit policy was approved as presented. Stacey made the motion, and Brittany seconded it.
- The board then reviewed the Library of Things Release and Use Agreement. Brittany made the motion to approve, and Stacey seconded and motion passed.
- The board voted to close the library for the holiday season on the following dates in December and January. Stacey made the motion and Toleda seconded. Motion passed.

  December 24, 25, 26, 31
  January 1, 2

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Toleda made the motion to adjourn at 7:57 and Brittany seconded. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted, Lerilee Huhman, HRLS secretary