

**Heartland Regional Library System
Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

Roll Call: The Heartland Regional Library Board met at the Vienna Library for the September meeting. Vice President Nora Bond called the meeting to order at 6:03. Board members present were Rachel Williams, Denise Tyler, Toleda Jett, Nora Bond, Tierney Earp, and Lerilee Huhman. Carole Wagner, Heather Walker, and Brittany Davenport attended via Zoom. Stacey Dunham was absent. Staff members present were Director Lisa Garro, Lysha Thompson, Jenny Dillon, and Michelle Vaughn.

Public Comments: None.

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

Financial Reports: Following a brief discussion the financial reports were approved after a motion was made by Rachel and a second by Toleda.

Approval of monthly expenditures and transfer of funds: Discussion was held on several items, then Denise made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures and transfer of funds, and Rachel seconded. The motion passed.

Director's/Librarians' Reports: The director, assistant director, and programming librarian reported on the following:

The programming librarians, Jenny and Michelle, shared their stats reports. Michelle reported that her first school program at Our Lady of Snows went well. Her programming at other schools will be starting soon. She also shared that the character scavenger hunt was a big hit with kids telling other kids to go to the library! The Hobbit Door Wreaths are happening now. Jenny talked about the book clubs and that she also is starting to go to schools and daycares.

The Assistant Director's report:

- The final report for the summer learning program was submitted on Monday.
- Good news from the Missouri State Library that funding for 2026 has been appropriated. The plan is to apply for grants by Oct 1st for Chromebooks for the Vienna and Iberia branches.
- Tonies are now processed and are going to the branches to be available for checkout.
- Iberia's adult book club met recently and discussed the book *Jackie*. Also chose the next book *All the Other Mothers Hate Me*.
- Resource Handouts are being updated to share with patrons and public.
- Upcoming events in October – puzzle competition (10 teams - limited to 4 players per team).

The Director's report:

- Four similar house bills were introduced in the MO legislature. All of them propose complete elimination of person property taxes. Attended a Google meet that discussed the potential impact of libraries and other tax-supported entities.
- Plan to update and clean up the HRLS website.
- Third staff meeting of the year was held and covered weeding guidelines, shelving procedures, among other topics. Staff were encouraged to promote 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and other programs. Insurance and Tonies were also discussed.
- Upcoming items: appointing committees, election of officers for 2026, closing for Ranger Days, holiday closures, staff holiday meeting and meal on Dec. 12th.

See the September 2025 Director's report for further details.

Communications: None.

Old Business: Lerilee handed out the minutes from the executive session held on September 12th. Carole talked about the benefits of enrolling in the LAGERS retirement system. It will help with employee retention and recruitment for the library. The board decisions regarding the one-time elections and the benefit elections within LAGERS were discussed. Lisa will meet with the eight full-time employees that are qualify to be enrolled.

New Business: None.

District Board Reports: None.

Committee Reports: None.

HRLS Policies: None.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Toledo made the motion to adjourn at 7:30 and Rachel seconded. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted, Lerilee Huhman, HRLS secretary