MINUTES
Library Board
5:00 PM - Monday, September 21, 2026
Library, 1101 6th Avenue

The Library Board of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 5:00 PM, with the following members present:

PRESENT:	In Person: Am Thayer, Bob Hoyt, Bob Read, Kelsey Logan, Kristen Miller, Melissa Alexander, Nancy Miller, Ross McIntyre, Ryan Norton, Sabrina Beyer Via Zoom: Becky Garms and Julie Lammers
ABSENT:	None
STAFF PRESENT:	Bill Carroll, Kimberly Cowger, Ashley Osborn, Bob Reynolds, Hilery Livengood
FRIENDS REP:	Cheryl Kiburz
GUESTS PRESENT:	None

CALL TO ORDER
The Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board President, Ross McIntyre

AGENDA APPROVAL
Motion to approve agenda as presented. **(Action Requested)**

Moved by Miller, seconded by Alexander, to approve the Agenda as presented.
Approved unanimously

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

PUBLIC FORUM
This time is set aside for comments from the public. Please understand that the Library Board of Trustees will not take any action on your comments at this time due to requirements of the Open Meetings Law but may do so at a future meeting.
You will have five minutes to address the Board.

LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT
1. August Staff Milestone Anniversaries - Thank you to Sue Bennett who is celebrating her one year anniversary with the Library and to Christine Brodrecht for five years.
2. Krystle Mullin has resigned from the Library Board, effective September 6, 2026.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the August 2026 Meeting minutes. **(Action Requested)**

Moved by Alexander, seconded by Read, to approve the August 2026 Meeting Minutes as presented.
Approved unanimously

REPORTS

1. Friends of the Marion Public Library Report
    - Cheryl Kiburz reported that the Friends held a Volunteer Appreciation breakfast on August 22nd for the 45 Friends Volunteers.
    - The Friends made a $10,000 contribution for an Author visit to the Library in December.
    - Next Friends Booksale is November 13-15, 2026.
    - There were 82 new registrations for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library after Dolly passed.
    - The Friends long-time Treasurer, Bonnie Raasch, is looking towards the future and hopes to find someone to shadow her for a year before taking over Treasurer duties.

2. Marion Public Library Foundation Report
    - In addition to providing a Foundation Report in the Board Packet, Hilery Livengood reported that $3,000 was received for the Food Pantry from Diamond V.

3. Board Continuing Education
    - None to report.

4. Director's Report
    - Statistics Highlights
        - Bill Carroll informed the Board of two typos found in the Director's Report.
    - General Department Updates
        - The Food Pantry now has six dedicated volunteers to help get food out more often.
        - Digital Material usage is up due to a budget increase to more properly fund this popular library service.

Motion to accept all reports 1 - 4 as presented. **(Action Requested)**

Moved by Norton, seconded by Beyer, to accept Reports 1-4 as presented.
Approved unanimously

REGULAR AGENDA

1. State Library Board of *Trustees Handbook* - Ch. 4 (*Discussion*)
    - Question #1: What aspects of the library director's role do you think are most critical to the success of our library and serving the community?
        - Melissa Alexander said representing the Library in our Community.
        - Ryan Norton said working with both City partners and Library staff.
        - Ross McIntyre said there is so much more than just the Library that they oversee.
    - Question #2: What are the potential risks of hiring too quickly, and how can the

Board avoid them?
    - Bob Hoyt mentioned that background checks are important.
    - Ryan Norton said that while a decision shouldn't be rushed, you also don't want to lose a good candidate by waiting to long.
- Question #3: How have the needs and expectations of our community changed in recent years, and what role should the library director play in helping the library respond to those changes?
    - Kristen Miller said the Food Pantry is a good example.
    - Ryan Norton commented that that the Library is so much more than books.
    - Kelsey Logan mentioned that Marion is an ever growing community.

2. Policy Review (*Discussion* and **Action Requested)**
- Children's Interactive Learning Area Behavioral Guidelines - some language was cleaned up to be more specific.
- Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Policy - There was one typo correction. Ross McIntyre spotted a second typo in the last sentence that will be corrected.
- Social Media Policy - No suggested changes.
- Unattended Child Policy - Language clarification.

Moved by Alexander, seconded by Miller, to accept Policy changes as presented and one additional amendment.
Approved unanimously

3. Remove Art Donation Consideration from Table (**Action Requested**)

Moved by Logan, seconded by Thayer, to remove the Art Donation Consideration from Table.
Approved unanimously

4. Art Donation Consideration (**Action Requested**)
- The Art Work Group met to discuss the possible donation of this art work. They do not recommend the Library Board accepts this donation due to lack of information about the piece.

Moved by Lammers, seconded by Alexander, accept the request to consider this piece of art for donation.
Failed by the following votes:

Ayes:	Lammers
Nays:	McIntyre, Norton, Miller, Read, Beyer, Logan, Alexander, Garms, and Thayer

5. Parade Work Group Update (*Discussion*)
- Ross McIntyre reported that the parade went well and that a report would likely be provided next month.

ADJOURN

Moved by Miller, seconded by Thayer, to adjourn at 5:41 p.m.
Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted by:
Kimberly Cowger, Administrative Assistant