

UPPER SAN JUAN LIBRARY DISTRICT

Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm by board president Andrea Cox. It was determined that a quorum was present: Library director Barbara Brattin and board members present were Andrea Cox, Katie Cloudman, David Hamilton, Gayle Dixon, Al Northup and Marcie Taylor.

The agenda for the current board meeting was approved as written (Katie and Gayle). It was determined there was no Public Comment.

Consent Agenda: The minutes from the January 21, 2026 library board of trustees meeting were approved as written: (Katie and Gayle)

Reports:

- a. Foundation/Development Report from Katie Dobbins, Foundation Director.
The Foundation continues to write grants in support of the library update. The foundation should receive \$30,000 from the Adolph Coors Foundation by the end of March 2026. The library will benefit financially from the 19th Hole Concert Series fundraiser in Pagosa Springs the summer of 2026.
The foundation is doing a full update of their website at this time.
- b. The January 31, 2026 financial report from David Hamilton, Treasurer. David indicated the library finances continues to be strong and right on target for this time of year. The one exception is the library electric bill which was \$2,230.00 in January. Director Barb explained this was because of the construction activities. FCI, the construction company, agreed to give the library a credit for this additional expense when the project is complete.
- c. Director's report from Barbara Brattin: Barb reported we are ahead of the game with program grants. The library received \$14,000. from Cortico. It is typical to not have much tax income in January but this will turn around by April. Due to the unexpected situation with mold in the crawl space of the library, there are unforeseen costs with the construction project which will need to be resolved. The annual state audit is being prepared and will be submitted on time. Barb is working on grants specific to certain areas of the library i.e. the maker space. Librarians from our library will visit the Ignacio Library to study their "maker space". The Weminuche Audubon organization has offered a grant in support of the new landscape for the library. The

library plans to hire a children's librarian. We have received interest in the position from several outstanding candidates. The library will fly the candidates in for interviews in the near future.

New Business: The library board will form a new committee to study and manage a construction financing plan.

Unfinished Business: The GED program at the library is by appointment only. Mark is the leader. Question: do we need GED at the library? There are not many students. Could we do GED online? We need to reevaluate the program.

The ESL programs at the library are very strong. The group meets once a week with twenty students present. GED does not enjoy the same popularity as ESL.

Looking forward: Regarding the construction report, changes in plans costs money. Architect Brad Ash has been very responsive to the library director's suggestion that we reevaluate and modify plans to cut back on the cost of the project. The construction schedule is on time. The drywall portion of the project has begun. Completion date for the project is estimated to be August 6-9, 2026.

We may need to go to the voters for money to complete the "library update" or we may need to raise the mill levy as our mill levy is the lowest in the state. Our librarian, Taylor, has a contact in Denver with a group that helps libraries raise money. This could be helpful. The Library Board of Trustees will need to make a decision next month (March 2026). The task force that will handle this issue will include David Hamilton and Gayle Dixon.

Motion: Create a taskforce to make a financing plan for the remaining funds needed to complete the construction update of the Ruby Sessions Library. The motion was presented by Gayle Dixon and David Hamilton. The motion passed.

The Task Force will be made up of David and Ken as well as Kim Moore and Donna Mosher. The fundraising committee will meet on Wednesdays at 4:00pm.

The next meeting of the library Board of Trustees is on March 18 at 4:00pm via Zoom.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 4:59 PM. Motion presented by Katie Cloudman and seconded by Gayle Dixon. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie Taylor, Recording Secretary