

UPPER SAN JUAN LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by president Andrea Cox. The agenda and the minutes of the February 2026 minutes were approved as written. Katie/David.

Library director Barb announced that staff member Jeanne Hanson passed away. The library will close at 1:00 pm on Thursday, March 19 to honor Jeanne and staff members will have access to counseling at that time.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society sent a letter to Director Barb regarding the removal of the donated genealogical research collection and requesting that those materials be reinstated in the library after construction is complete. Barb appreciates the Society's interest but feels there will simply not be room for the collection in the library. Director Barb will handle this request with the genealogical society.

FOUNDATION REPORT: Foundation director Katie Dobbins was unable to be at the meeting but assures the board that the foundation continues to write applications to various foundations in pursuit of further funding for the library expansion.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurer David Hamilton indicated the financials look good overall but he questioned the high electric bill, probably due to construction. FCI will credit the library for this expense when the project is complete. David also noted the high collections/credit card fees of 59.4%. Director Barb indicated the fees are the cost of taking credit card payments and the library policy is to only allow credit card payment for items of \$10.00 or more.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The library is holding interviews this week for the children's librarian position and look forward to announcing the final selection shortly. Nicole Holt, ESL instructor, abruptly resigned her position to take a fulltime job. The ESL classes will resume when the library reopens at the end of the summer and citizenship classes will be added as many students have requested them. The library's newly designed website and logo have greatly improved the library's overall look and are getting good reviews from the public. Staff member Judy held her first Cortico teen discussion session and reported it went very well. Planning continues for this year's summer reading program, **READ WILD**, which will run from June 1 to August 30. Our community read of **Call of the Wild** will be the cornerstone of the program.

Construction report, March 2026: The old sump pumps have malfunctioned, leaking water. The mitigation requires new sump pumps and piping. The library has pulled back on several more allowances to help with emergency expenses, including new window blinds, garden benches and wall graphics in the children's room. The library has been granted \$11,900.00 from the state energy office toward our new electric vehicle charging stations. This grant will require a 10% match. The library has moved to the next phase in funding of the solar panels, which is quite promising. The T-Mobile grant application in support of the makerspace was not funded. Librarian Katie Taylor and Barb will attend a virtual funders roundtable on April 2nd. They will have five minutes to pitch their funding request to six different foundations serving southwest Colorado. By the end of March, the dry wall will be complete. On June 18, the library will be closed for one to two weeks to move and reconfigure the space. The library mill levy committee is considering if we need to be on the November ballot for additional funding for construction. This decision is due at the end of April.

New business: The EIAF grant of \$840,000. has been received. The library can still ask for a supplemental EIFA grant for help with the mold problem. **MOTION:** Director Barb will draft a letter to the state requesting a supplemental grant to deal with the mold. Motion presented by David Hamilton and seconded by Katy Cloudman. The motion passed.

Unfinished business: None

Next library board meeting: April 15, 2026 on Zoom

For the Good of the Order: The board has asked Director Barb to make a list of all unexpected expenses associated with the library construction project.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 was presented by Sherry Spears and Katy Cloudman.
The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie Taylor

Recording Secretary