

Monroe Library Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 7, 2026

Location: Monroe Library

Call to Order & Roll Call

Present: Nicki Tapps, Beccy Ver Heul, Stacie McCoy, Rachel Purvis, Kristina Cimaglia

Staff: Mallory Hackett

Guest: n/a

Approval of Minutes

Beccy Ver Heul moved to approve the minutes from December 3, 2025. Seconded by Stacie McCoy. Motion carried.

Bills and Financial Statements

Bills and financial statements were presented.

Nicki Tapps moved to approve payment of bills through December 31, 2025. Seconded by Kristina Cimaglia. Motion carried.

Director's Report

December Stats:

760 patrons entered the library

6 new patrons

448 items checked in

424 items checked out

276 renewals

105 items added to collection

134 program attendees

Annual Tea Party Christmas event and The Grinch Stole Santa program for children went very well.

30 take home activity bags were provided for extra support to families during winter break.

Will begin planning for the summer reading programming in January. The community can also look forward to a Winter Bingo challenge for all ages.

Unfinished Business

Shelter/Landscaping Update (Jasper Community Foundation Grant):

- Preparing paperwork and final grant requirements

Donation to the library in memory of Gwyneth Marilyn Lewis:

- Patio furniture was donated; Mallory is looking into a glider for story time.

Phil Van Ekeren Memorial: no updates

- The family is researching trees to plant
- Beginning to discuss plans with the Friends to move forward with plans for a solarium/atrium/theatre behind the building

New Business

Open discussion: remainder of fy 2025 and planning ahead to fy 2026

- Talked about ideas for summer reading
- Need to revisit the idea of extended hours
- Mallory will look over the strategic plan for inspiration
- Fundraising ideas: exploring grant options, vendor sale, Taste of Monroe, read-a-thon, painting class, bingo, reading challenge bookmarks
- Mallory will take grant information to the Friends, deadline to apply is January 21st

City hall library expansion meeting on the City Council agenda for 1/12/26

- Mallory plans to present potential project plans for the expansion and address questions from the council

Trustee Training (10 minutes)

Chapter 3: The Five Primary Responsibilities of Boards

- Board reviewed chapter 3 prior to meeting
- Reflected on lessons learned in recently hiring a new director
- Discussed annual budget planning & how policies are formed/adopted

Next Meeting

Date: February 4, 2026

Time: 4:15 p.m.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by general consent at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Nicki Tapps, Board Secretary