

Library Board of Directors
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 7:00pm
Library Meeting Room and Zoom
502 State St, Hood River

Library Board:

Board President: Brian Hackett, *Board Vice-President:* Karen Bureker, *Board members:* Megan Janik, Sara Marsden, and Jean Sheppard.

The Hood River County Library District will hold this meeting by offering a hybrid format. Participants can attend in-person or on Zoom Conferencing. Please use the following phone number or video link:

1-253-215-8782, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89745812618?wd=NFBFT0xUVjFSN0dDVGNiZTVsNDQ2dz09>, Meeting ID: 897 4581 2618

Agenda Items		Action	Responsible
I.	Call to Order Library Board member Jean Sheppard called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.		Jean Sheppard
II.	Roll call Fox conducted a roll call. Sara Marsden, Megan Janik, and Jean Sheppard were present. Karen Bureker arrived to the meeting at 7:15pm. Assistant Director Mo Burford was present and community member Yesi Rojas.		Rachael Fox
III.	Approval of the agenda (additions/corrections/deletions) A motion to approve the agenda was made by Marsden and seconded by Janik. The motion carried unanimously with affirmative votes from Janik, Marsden and Sheppard.	Motion	Jean Sheppard
IV.	Approval of the consent agenda i. Minutes from the March 18, 2025 regular board meeting A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Janik and seconded by Marsden. The motion carried unanimously with affirmative votes from Janik, Marsden and Sheppard.	Motion	Jean Sheppard
V.	Actual or potential conflicts of interest None stated		Jean Sheppard
VI.	Citizen comment (3 minutes each) None stated		Jean Sheppard
VII.	Reports		

	i. February and March 2025 Financial Statements Sheppard inquired whether the tax funding amount was close to the estimate. Fox confirmed that it was.		Rachael Fox
	ii. Friends update There was nothing to add to the written report.		Rachael Fox
	iii. Foundation update There was nothing to add to the written report		Rachael Fox
	iv. Director's report Regarding potential IMLS funding cuts, Sheppard inquired about continued access to Sage. Fox explained that Sage has funding for half of the next fiscal year, and Sage members plan to fundraise as a consortium for the remaining half. Sage is developing a long-term funding strategy. If courier service must be reduced to two days per week, potential adjustments include lowering the hold limit. These changes could impact our budget in the next fiscal year. Fox was interviewed by Columbia Gorge News about the potential IMLS funding cuts and their effect on library services. Sheppard asked whether the Teen and Tween Services Librarian could provide mentoring and tutoring for younger children. Community member Yesi Rojas noted that Hood River Valley High School offers a tutoring program called AVID. Fox stated she would discuss tutoring options with the Teen and Tween Services Librarian.		Rachael Fox
VIII. Old Business			
	i. Code of Conduct policy The policy was slightly changed for clarity. A motion to approve the Code of Conduct was made by Janik and seconded by Marsden. The motion carried unanimously with affirmative votes from Bureker, Janik, Marsden and Sheppard.	Motion	Rachael Fox
IX. New Business			
	A motion to approve the Resolution and the addendum by made by Marsden and seconded by Bureker. The motion carried unanimously with affirmative votes from Bureker, Janik, Marsden and Sheppard.	Motion	Rachael Fox
	i. Budget Preview discussion Sheppard inquired about the 20% increase in health insurance costs. Fox explained that her broker had informed her of this		Rachael Fox

	<p>increase. Janik noted that Hood River County had switched to OEBB and considered the increase reasonable. Fox stated she would explore OEBB. Fox added that more staff members are now utilizing the insurance option instead of HRA VEBA.</p> <p>Bureker asked about last year's increase, and Fox responded that she believed it was approximately 15%. Bureker mentioned that her employer anticipated a 17-20% increase. Sheppard shared that her organization uses Kaiser, which offers low out-of-pocket costs for doctor visits. Sheppard stated that OEBB sounds like a good option.</p> <p>Sheppard stated we still need to comply with minimum wage guidelines. Fox confirmed we are on track to meet these requirements.</p> <p>Sheppard inquired about potential increases in tax revenue. Fox explained she was still awaiting information from the county and needed to factor in Urban Renewal impacts. Fox noted we might receive additional funds next year as the Waterfront Urban Renewal program approaches its conclusion.</p>		
X.	Announcements		
	<p>i. Comments from board members</p> <p>Janik inquired about plans for a hotel development across the street. Fox responded that she was not able to attend the meeting. Board members discussed potential impacts on library parking due to the hotel's planned conference center, as well as pedestrian safety concerns for street crossing.</p> <p>Sheppard noted these issues might be challenging and there would need to be traffic assessment done for the project. Marsden proposed expanding library parking in front of the building. There was also discussion about promoting public transit. Fox committed to attending the next meeting regarding the hotel development and reporting back to the board.</p> <p>The board considered submitting a formal letter outlining their concerns if needed and consulting with legal counsel. Bureker agreed to speak with the City of Hood River liaison about the matter.</p>		All
	<p>ii. Requests/Comments from Library Director</p> <p>Fox asked whether Bureker had met with the City Council liaison member. Bureker confirmed they had met and discussed their respective roles, including the impact of Urban Renewal. She noted that both are still becoming familiar with their new positions and plan to continue their discussions.</p>		Rachael Fox
XI.	Agenda items for next meeting		Jean

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Use Policy review • Meeting Room Policy review • Tuesday, May 15, 2025, 6:00-8:00p: First Budget Committee meeting • Tuesday May 20, 2025, 6:00-7:00p: Second Budget Committee meeting, if needed. 		Sheppard
XII.	Adjournment regular meeting The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.		Jean Sheppard

Other matters may be discussed as deemed appropriate by the Board. If necessary, Executive Session may be held in accordance with the following. Bolded topics are scheduled for the current meeting's executive session.

- ORS 192.660 (1) (d) Labor Negotiations
- ORS 192.660 (1) (e) Property
- ORS 192.660 (1) (h) Legal Rights
- ORS 192.660 (1) (i) Personnel

The Board of Directors meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the Jeanne Marie Gaulke Memorial Meeting Room at 502 State Street, Hood River, Oregon. Sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired is available if at least 48 hours notice is given.