Leach Public Library
August 28, 2025

Judy Oren, Library Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Judy Oren, Brett Lambrecht, Jeena Kompelien, Simone Sandberg and Deb Loberg
Also Present: Melissa Bakken, Leach Public Library Director

Conflicts of Interest: None declared
Additions to the Agenda: November and December Meeting Dates

A motion to add corrections and to accept the July 2025 minutes was made by Ms. Sandberg and seconded by Ms. Kompelien. The motion passed.

1. The Friends of the Library (FOTL) – The next meeting for the FOTL will be on September 10, 2025 at 10:00 am. They will plan for the upcoming Chocolate, Chocolate Day event scheduled for October 9, 2025.

2. Physical Plant – There were no physical plant issues this month.

3. Library Operations -

· The July Monthly and Expenditure Reports were reviewed. Circulation numbers were up compared to previous years. Library 2Go (Libby) numbers were up as well. There were no unusual expenditures in July. This is the time of year when various subscriptions will be renewed.
· The Summer Reading Program (please refer to attached report) finished strong. There were a total of 189 participants. The total number of days read by prereader to school-age participants was 1275.
· The most popular summer programs included Mixed Nuts in June with 65 attendees and Barn Quilts in July with 14 attendees. (The room only holds 14 participants for the Barn Quilt project.)
· The community lunch program ended on August 8, 2025. There were a total of 2300 meals served throughout the Wahpeton sites.
· Fall programming will begin on September 2, 2025.

4. Old Business -

· The Going Fine Free discussion will be tabled until next month.
· The three computers (2 circulation and 1 desktop) will be replaced in August after the Summer Reading program is completed per Ms. Bakken's request.
· The Volunteer Policy will be implemented next summer.

5. New Business -

· There are two new Odin notification systems which started on August 18, 2025. One is for text and the other for email. Patrons can opt out if they choose.
· As of August 8, 2025, no one from the City Council had been appointed to the Library Board. Therefore, Mayor Lambrecht will attend the Library Board meetings for now. Thank you Mayor Lambrecht.

· Ms. Bakken applied for a discounted Microsoft Office license for the new staff computers through TechSoup, a company that offers nonprofits and libraries reduced prices. This was a recommendation from the North Dakota State Library IT Director. The library was denied the discount due to the fact that the library is not a non-profit. Board member Sandberg suggested pursuing an ASK from the Friends to cover the $300/year cost for the MS license for the 2 staff computers.

· Ms. Bakken and Ms. Kercher will attend the North Dakota State Library Association Conference in Grand Forks on October 1-3, 2025. The Library will have reduced hours for those days. Mr. Bartels will work extra hours during this time. The hours will be posted: October 1st and 2nd late opening at 2:00 and October 3rd at 1:00.

· The Leach Library will no longer receive the $10,000 Richland County Grant. This is due to a change in the Richland County's budget that was approved in August, 2025.

· The Leach Public Library fall hours will begin on September 2, 2025. Saturday hours will be 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

· Due to holidays, the Library Board meetings will be scheduled for November 20th and December 18. Both meetings will be at 4:00 pm.

Ms. Oren adjourned the meeting at 4:26.

*The next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2025 at 4:00 pm.