Leach Public Library
February 26, 2026

Judy Oren, Library Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Conflict of Interest: None
Additions to the Agenda: Library operations- eNotice Monthly Report

A motion to accept the January 2026 minutes was made by Ms. Sandberg and seconded by Ms Kompelien. The motion passed.

1. **Friends of the Library-** The latest meeting was held on February 25, 2026, at 10am. An open house is set for April 23rd from 1-3pm. The book sale is scheduled for May 28th.

2. **Physical Plant-**
    - The west bollard light on the north sidewalk will be changed when weather permits.
    - The library wall repair project was successfully completed on February 4th. The street department moved the bookcase back in place.

3. **Library Operations-**
    - The January Monthly and Expenditure Reports were reviewed and showed an average month. Libby use remains strong. Ms. Bakken has noticed an increase in patrons from the northern part of the county, likely due to Fargo's recent change of charging for the Libby access. Bookflix use has increased and Mango (language) use remains stable.
    - Winter programming has seen lower numbers.
    - Special guest reader, Mayor Lambrecht, will be rescheduled due to no attendance.
    - Library Joy Week was well received and included treats and giveaways.
    - Ms. Bakken is now able to review monthly eNotice reports. eNotices include holds, due soon, and overdue reminders. Patrons can receive notices by email, phone call, or text.

4. **Old Business-**
    - Ms. Bakken again talked about going fine free. If deciding to go fine free, patrons are still billed a replacement cost after the book has been out for seven weeks. Also, they may be locked from further check outs. Once the book is returned, the

bill is erased and the card unlocked. The Board will continue to discuss and vote when more members are present.

- Author Barb Solberg's Book Talk took place on February 25, 2026 at NDSCS Mildred Johnson Library. The event was very well done and spanned 6pm-8:15pm. The library was chosen for this book talk after applying for a free author visit.

5. New Business-

- After the wall repair and weeding out process, the books were shifted. Ms. Bakken ordered new signage to aid in browsing clarity.
- Ms. Bakken will get bids for the front step repair or replacement project.
- The 2025 Public Library Survey was filed with NDSL and accepted on February 19, 2026.
- The library received donations from the Alinda Bassingthwaite family and friends for the children's library.
- Ms. Bakken filed the Leach Library Endowment Fund Annual Report with the ND Secretary of State on January 27, 2026 which included a $10 fee.
- Ms. Bakken is aware of a Library Vision Grant opportunity due on March 13, 2026. There are small and large grant opportunities and they have to follow our library vision and strategic plan goals.
- Ms. Loberg's board position will expire on June 30, 2026. The opening will be posted and suggestions are always welcome.

Ms. Oren adjourned the meeting at 4:31 pm.

The next board meeting is scheduled on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 4:00 pm.