Leach Public Library Board of Directors
January 22, 2026

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

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

Conflicts of Interest: None
Additions to the Agenda: None

A motion was made by Loberg, seconded by Kompelien, to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

1. The Friends of the Library (FOTL) – The next meeting for the FOTL is scheduled for February 25, 2026 at 10:00 am. The FOTL received a $2500 grant from Red River Communications for their digital project. The newspaper has now been digitized through 1997.

2. Physical Plant -

- The outside wall lights have been updated to accept a timer and regular LED bulbs. Work was completed by Mueller Electric. There may be some additional issues that need to be addressed, such as a couple of the lights seem to intermittently turn off.
- The plastering and painting interior project was initiated on January 21, 2026. The library borrowed four book carts from NDSCS to transfer books. The Wahpeton Street Department assisted in moving the bookcase.

3. Library Operation -

- The December Monthly and Expenditure Reports were reviewed. The patron count was down in December as it usually is due to the Holidays and due to inclement weather.
- Rachel Kercher, Librarian, discarded 950 nonfiction books. They were discarded due to multiple copies, damage, outdated material, and not being checked out for lengthy periods.
- There were several donations made to the Leach Public Library.
- There were several expenditures for December, including the cost of the three new computers and Office 365. Also, there were costs associated with the relocation of the front desk due to ADA requirements.
- November saw great turnouts for Crafty Adults and PreK Fun Day. Programming numbers were down in December due to the Holidays and inclement weather.

4. Old Business -

- The Going Fine Free discussion was tabled until the Library Board has full attendance.
- The Library Board will keep the Volunteer Policy on the agenda until it is implemented during the summer. A waiver signed by a parent is necessary when the student applies.
- The Board will continue to work on the Glowforge Policy. It will be added to the Equipment Policy. A staff member will need to monitor its use. The Board discussed and set pricing for the materials.

5. New Business -

- The Ninth Annual Sock Tree brought in 1029 items. These were delivered to Three Rivers Crisis Center on January 6, 2026.
- Librarians completed weeding of 948 adult non-fiction books due to condition, relevance and usage.
- North Dakota author Barb Solberg will present a book talk on **What We Leave Behind** on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 6:00 pm. This event will be held in conjunction with NDSCS and Leach Public Library. Both institutions were awarded a visit and decided to make it a joint event. Everyone is welcome.
- Library Joy Week will be held February 1st through the 7th. Bakken and Kercher will develop ideas on how to celebrate.

Oren adjourned the meeting at 4:40

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 4:00 pm.