Leach Public Library
October 23, 2025

Judy Oren, Library Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:01. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Conflict of Interest: None
Additions to the Meeting: See New Business

A motion to pass the minutes with no corrections was made. The minutes will stand as read.

1. The Friends of the Library (FOTL) – The Chocolate, Chocolate Day was well attended. There were very few desserts left. The Book Sale was a success. Thank you to all the Friends of the Library for their hard work on this successful event.

2. Physical Plant

- The flowerpots have been removed for the season. The dragons outside of the west door have been removed. One dragon lost its wing and will need to be repaired.
- The start date for the plastering, repairing and painting of the interior of the library will begin on December 1, 2025. Fergus Drywall/Comstock will be completing the project.
- There have been five new trees planted on the library property. All the trees are on the west side of the building.

3. Library Operations

- The September Monthly and Expenditure Reports were reviewed. There were no unusual expenses. The ODIN (Online Dakota Information Network) fees were due. The annual website fees were also due.
- Rachel Kercher worked on discarding 754 books. These books were ones that had not been checked out for a considerable time, were multiple copies, or were in poor condition.
- Fall programming (Story Time and After School Programs) are underway. There's been good attendance.
- There were no donations during September.
- An adult Barn Quilt painting event was filled to maximum capacity.
- Ancestry.com has good usage.

4. Old Business

- The Going Fine Free discussion was tabled until the Library Board has full attendance.
- The three replacement computers (two circulation and one desktop) will be installed on Wednesday, October 29, 2025.
- The Library Board will keep the Volunteer Policy on the agenda until it is implemented during the summer of 2026.
- The corner benches have been repaired with a donation from the Lovdokkens. Ms. Bakken has written them a thank you card for their donation.
- Ms. Bakken will continue to work on the Glowforge Policy.

5. New Business

- The book distributor, Baker & Taylor, is closing. A representative from Ingram Books met with Ms. Bakken and staff on October 23, 2025. Their products and costs are comparable. They will now be Leach Public Library's (LPL) book retailer.
- Ms. Bakken reported on the Tri-Conference Library Association meeting. They offered many interesting and informative workshops. Some of the speakers included adult and childrens authors. There was a presentation on library AI.
- Ms. Bakken will consult with Don Wald to assist in the placement of the front desk to comply with American Disabilities Act (ADA) criteria.
- The Leach Public Library received a certificate from the North Dakota State Library (NDSL) proclaiming their "Excelling" rating. Congratulations to all of the LPL staff.
- Ms. Bakken applied for an author's visit. Barbara Solberg, author of **What We Left Behind,** is offering lectures to the public. This is a book about Norwegian immigrants to North Dakota and the challenges they faced. Ms. Bakken and the North Dakota State School of Science have joined forces to hold a joint lecture in February – March 2026. Details will be forthcoming.

Ms. Oren adjourned the meeting at 4:30.

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, November 20, 2025. The change in date is due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.