

Daniel Boone Regional Library Minutes, Meeting of September 11, 2025

Call to Order, Roll Call and Quorum Determination

Cori Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Daniel Boone Regional Library (DBRL) Board members present were Shannon Alvis, Margrace Buckler, Dorothy Carner, Seth Christensen, Dawn Dirks, Mary Fennel, Lisa Finn, Tonya Hays-Martin, Jean Howard, Jacqueline Kelly, Cori Miller, Pat Powell, and Travis Pringle. Jennifer Rodewald was absent.

Also in attendance was DBRL Executive Director Robin Westphal as well as DBRL managers Angela Scott, Jim Smith, Erin Magner, Karen Crago, Mitzi St. John, Nathan Pauley, Sarah Howard, Sheryl Bucklew, Mandy McConnell, Lauren Williams, Althea Harris, Kirk Henley, and other members of library staff.

Public Comment

None.

Minutes

There were no corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the August 14, 2025 Board Meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

Monthly Reports

Director's Report:

Robin began her report by reminding the Board that the Staff Picnic, which they are encouraged to attend, was the next day at 6 pm. Robin also shared that she and Jim Smith, CFO, have been paying close attention to this special session in Jefferson City, specifically the Special Committee on Property Tax. Robin added that she expects changes to property taxes in the 2026 session as, from the special session, this seems to be the priority. Robin and Jim will be leading a meeting for other library directors and CFOs to discuss how we can all better advocate for property taxes.

Moving on, Robin shared that she attended the One Read Book Discussion led by Mayor Barbara Buffaloe and her husband, adding that it was fantastic how they both read the book and came at it with different aspects. Robin further commended Lauren Williams, Kirk Henley, Kat Underwood-Stone, and the entire One Read team for the breadth of programs that cover all the different components of the book.

Robin shared some good press the Library has received recently online from our patrons and read one of the posts. Robin was excited to report that the Missouri Library Association had their elections a few weeks ago and that three of our DBRL staff members are now on the board. Wendy Rigby will continue her role as Secretary and Member-at-Large, Devon Smith is joining as a Member-at-Large, and Robin will join the board as the President Elect!

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Financial Report:

Jim Smith reported that, as seen in the August report, our Total Revenue is as expected for this time of year and that property taxes are still ahead due to the change in our collection pattern. Moving on to the Expenditures section, Jim reported that we are slightly under budget on Total Expenditures which is being driven by only having expended 60% (rather than 63-64%) under the Salaries and Benefits line. Jim shared that this line being under budget will help other lines like Health and Dental Insurance and Short Term Disability Insurance which are currently over budget. Under the General Operating Section, Jim shared that we are still over budget for Personal Vehicle Mileage as the IRS reimbursement rate increased after the budget was finalized. Lastly, Jim shared that we are also currently over budget for Postage and Mailing, due to the timing of the postage machine payments to load the postage on the machine, but he expects this to even out by the end of the year to be at budget as we likely won't need to purchase more postage for the machine this year.

Service Report:

Robin reported that we have added a summary of our notary services to the narrative of the service report as we have with our community resource statistics; we will be adding passport statistics to next month's report. Moving on, Robin shared that Circulation statistics for Holts Summit are down 20%, however, she added that Circulation was up by 20% in Holts Summit last year in September so this decrease is actually getting us back to normal.

Service Spotlight: Genealogy with Tim Dollens

Tim Dollens introduced himself to the board, sharing that he has been at the library for 37.5 years and that he has been doing genealogy programs since 2000. Tim reported that one of the programs he has is Genealogy Help which occurs twice a month and allows patrons to tell us what they would like to learn about, and then Tim helps guide them to resources they can use to do the research. Tim shared that, once a quarter, he does a How to Use Ancestry.Com or How to Use Heritage Quest program to help instruct patrons on using the services. Tim continued that, aside from these regular programs, he has two special programs planned in October co-sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Central Missouri to celebrate their 50th anniversary. After the presentation, Robin commended Tim on his hard work and dedication to DBRL and shared that he was recently awarded the Cosmopolitan International 2025 - 2025 Patrick J. Hodgins award which recognizes exemplary Cosmopolitan service over a period of not less than 10 calendar years and based on Cosmopolitan service. Congratulations to Tim Dollens!

District Reports

Columbia and Boone County Library District:

Travis Pringle reported that the Columbia and Boone County Library District met on August 14 and voted to set the 2025 Columbia and Boone County Library District tax levy at \$0.2943 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

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Callaway County Library District:

Tonya Hays-Martin reported that the Callaway County Library District board of trustees met on August 28 and voted to set the 2025 Operating Tax Rate for the Callaway County Library District at \$0.2600 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

New Business

None.

Other Business

None.

Staff Announcements

Lauren Williams shared that on September 28, we would be hosting an interview via zoom with Daniel Mason, author of our One Read book, *North Woods*.

Board Comments/Announcements

Margrace Buckler shared that the Harvest Hootenanny was coming up and shared all the great things they would have at the event.

Pat Powell shared that her granddaughter is one of the 8 finalists for the National Merit Scholarship.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Cori Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Emily Camden.

Jean Howard, Board Secretary