

MINUTES

**Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – January 29, 2026**

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, January 29, 2026, virtually.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Browne, President
Claudia Oñate Greim
Laura Dominik
Susan Kenney
India Williams
Elizabeth Warwick
Dennis Dobbels

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Jonathan Kemper
Reid Day

STAFF PRESENT: Abby Yellman, Chief Executive
Pritha Hariharan, Assistant Director / Chief Operating Officer
Qun Fang, Senior Director of Finance / Chief Finance Officer
Candice Butler-Titus, Executive Services Senior Manager
Joel Jones, Deputy Director for Library Services
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director for Public Affairs and Community Engagement
Crystal Faris, Deputy Director of Youth and Family Engagement
Jami Hrenchir, Chief People Officer
Melissa Carle, Director of Information Services

* Full list of staff in attendance available by request

Browne called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Browne introduced and welcomed newly appointed Trustee Dobbels to the Board.

Motion by Dominik to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2025 Executive Committee meeting and the December 16, 2025, Regular Board Meeting. Second, by Williams. Approved unanimously.

(Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has been

cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.

In discussing the financial reports (LBM 4818), Yellman reported that there were no expenditures to highlight outside normal business operations.

Fang noted that the Library has received close to \$8.3 million in tax revenue (LBM 4819) with more tax revenue expected in the coming months. The total revenue is close to \$9.2 million, representing approximately 29% of the budget.

On the expenditure side, salaries and benefits are close to \$9.7 million (46%) and are expected to increase due to the upcoming performance pay adjustment and new health insurance rates, with projections indicating expenditures will remain close to budget. Library materials expenditure was approximately \$1.38 million (48%). General operating expenses are close to \$2.9 million (54%), reflecting annual payments for insurance and professional fees for strategic and facilities plans. Fang noted that some of these costs will be offset by special accounts, grants and gifts, with a transfer at the end of the year. Building maintenance expenses were \$1.56 million (54%). Capital outlay expenditures were \$510,000 (38%). In total, expenditures to date are a little over \$16 million (48%).

Fang reported that gifts and grants revenue totaled \$1.56 million with \$655,000 in expenditure. Parking garage revenue is close to \$282,000, with over \$350,000 in expenditure. Cash on hand at month's end totaled \$34.7 million, including a little over \$17 million in the UMB checking account, \$10.8 million in the UMB investment account, and \$6.8 million in the Swanson Fund at Greater Kansas City Community Foundation (GKCCF). Fang highlighted donations from the Kansas City Peer Navigators (\$13,991) State of Missouri LSTA (\$11,000), Estelle S. & Robert A. Long Ellis Foundation (\$5,000).

Fang concluded by presenting the quarterly W/MBE report, noting that the Library is currently at 19.3% of its 20% goal.

Motion by Dominik to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board, Second by Oñate Greim. Approved unanimously.

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for December 2025: Payroll (12/11/25 net cash \$391,324 plus taxes \$135,662) and (12/24/25 net cash \$395,511 plus taxes \$137,544) in the total amount of \$1,060,041; General Expenditure Payments including Checks (17391-17481) and ACH in the amount of \$1,005,597. (LBM 4818)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for December 2025. (LBM 4819)

In discussing (LBM 4820), Yellman invited Melissa Carle, Director of Information Services, to discuss the action item in further detail. Carle noted that the Library is seeking E-Rate funding to replace aged network equipment hardware approximately every five years. This year's proposal focuses on upgrading traditional equipment to more cloud-based solutions to improve support and capacity. After evaluating two bids from vendors Network Computer Solutions and SHI International Corp ("SHI"), staff recommend contracting with SHI as the vendor providing the best value to the Library.

Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to contract with Vendors for 2026-2027 E-Rate Eligible Services and Equipment. Second by Oñate Greim. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4820)

There was no old business for discussion.

There was no new business for discussion.

Motion by Dominik to adjourn. Second, by Warwick. Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Secretary

Date