



High Plains Library District Friends & Foundation Board of Directors

Regular Session

August 4, 2025

LINC

4:00pm

Meeting Opened At: 4:34

1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Chair Wailes, Vice Chair Taylor, Director Epperson

Present via voice conference: Secretary/Treasurer Forland, Director Evans, Director Schnirel

Excused: Director Starr, Director Amodio

Staff present: Executive Director Matthew Hortt, Foundation Director Niamh Mercer, Finance Manager Natalie Wertz, Development Coordinator Christina Hardman

1.2. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion: Chair Wailes

Second: Director Epperson

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

1.3. Approval of November 4, 2024 Minutes (Action)

Motion: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Second: Director Schnirel

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

1.4. Approval of May 5, 2025 Minutes (Action)

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

Director Evans approved the minutes with the change of “Director Clark” becoming “Director Evans” in Items 2.2 and 5.

1.5. Public Comment

No public comment.

2. ITEMS FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

2.1. Board of Directors Icebreaker (Information)

The Board shared what library resource they have used or recommended lately. Excluding Hoopla and Libby.

2.2. 2024 HPLD Friends & Foundation 990 (Information), Natalie Wertz, Finance Manager

Finance Manager Natalie Wertz provided an overview of the Friends and Foundation's 990.

Director Taylor asked why compensation research is marked as "no" on page 6 of the 990. Wertz stated that compensation for Foundation staff goes through the High Plains Library District and therefore would not be reflected in the Foundation's 990.

2.3. 2024 Annual Report (Action)

Motion: Director Epperson

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

Director Epperson asked if the QR code on the back page is linked to Venmo and if IMLS funds the Foundation. Foundation Director Mercer stated that the QR code is linked to Colorado Gives and we have not received funding from IMLS since 2021 and when we do receive it, its project based.

2.4. Strategic Initiatives (Action)

Motion: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Director Evans

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

Director Annie Epperson left the meeting at 5:09PM

3. FINANCE REPORT Natalie Wertz-Finance Manager

Finance Manager Natalie Wertz provided a report on the Friends and Foundation's 2025 Q3 financials.

4. FOUNDATION REPORT Niamh Mercer-Foundation Director

Foundation Director Niamh Mercer shared information about the Friends and Foundation's fundraising event, Innovation Luncheon, the vehicle purchase of the Mobile Workforce Unit, and an update on volunteer background checks.

5. BOARD COMMENTS

Chair Wailes is surprised at the size of the staff based off the work that the Foundation produces. He is looking forward to the Innovation Luncheon.

Vice Chair Taylor is grateful for the staff navigating tech issues and is looking forward to the Innovation Luncheon.

Secretary/Treasurer Forland loves the library of things and plans to seek out more new things at her library.

Director Epperson recommends the book Frost Bite

Director Schnirel loves all the progress the F&F is making to fund library programs.

Director Evans is grateful for the Boards approval on the Strategic Initiatives and looks forwards to seeing grow.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

Meeting Closed At: 5:23PM