



High Plains Library District Friends & Foundation Board of Directors

Regular Session

November 3, 2025

LINC

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting Opened At: 4:03PM

1.1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Chair Wailes, Vice Chair Taylor, Director Evans, Director Epperson (arrived at 4:05pm)

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

Excused: Director Starr

Staff present: Executive Director Matthew Hortt, Foundation Director Niamh Mercer, Lisa Varra (via voice conference), Carolyn Valencia, Rita Kadavy, Finance Manager Natalie Wertz, Development Coordinator Christina Hardman, Mallory Pillard (via voice conference), Rebecca Libersat (via voice conference), Amber Greene, Tripp Letterman (via voice conference), Melissa Beavers (via voice conference)

1.2. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Director Evans

Vote: Unanimously approved, 6;0

1.3. Approval of August 4, 2025 Minutes (Action)

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Vice Chair Taylor

Vote: Unanimously approved, 7;0

1.4. Public Comment

No public comment.

2. ITEMS FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

2.1. Board of Directors Icebreaker (Information)

The Board of Directors shared how they plan on supporting their library this giving season.

2.2. 2025 Board Designated Fund Reports (Information)

Staff presented on the results of their programs and events that were fully or partially funded by the Board Designated Fund from 2025.

2.3. 2026 Board Designated Fund Recommendations (Action)

Foundation Director Mercer presented the Finance Committee's recommendation of a total of \$33,023.75 in Board Designated Funds be designated HPLD programs in 2026.

Motion: Director Epperson

Second: Vice Chair Taylor

Vote: Unanimously approved, 7;0

2.4. 2026 HPLD Friends & Foundation Budget (Action)

Foundation Director Mercer gave overview of changes for the 2026 budget.

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Director Amodio

Vote: Unanimously approved, 7;0

2.5. HPLD Friends & Foundation Funding Priorities (Action)

Foundation Director Mercer presented the Strategic Planning Committee's recommendation for updated Funding Priorities.

Motion: Director Taylor

Second: Director Evans

Vote: Unanimously approved, 7;0

2.6. 2026 Meeting Schedule (Action)

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved, 7;0

At 6:00pm, Director Amanda Schnirel and HPLD Executive Director Dr. Matthew Hort left the meeting.

3. FINANCE REPORT Natalie Wertz-Finance Manager

Finance Manager Natalie Wertz provided an updated report on the Friends & Foundation's financial status to the Board.

4. FOUNDATION REPORT Niamh Mercer-Foundation Director

Foundation Director Niamh Mercer shared current Friends & Foundation news, including the success of the 2025 Innovation Luncheon and fundraising plans for next year.

5. BOARD COMMENTS

Secretary/Treasurer Forland stated she enjoyed being part of the Finance Committee and she is impressed with the new Funding Priorities.

Director Amodio was impressed with the staff presentations on their BDF programs and events. She appreciates the hard work that everyone puts into the Board Designated Fund process.

Director Evans stated how impressed he was with the Foundation's impact. He looks forward to assisting in planning the 2026 fundraiser.

Director Epperson expressed appreciation for HPLD staff.

Vice Chair Taylor expressed joy at the impact of the Board Designated Funds. She appreciated the work from the Strategic Planning Committee on the Funding Priorities and criteria.

Chair Wailes expressed appreciation on witnessing the impact of the Board Designated Fund process.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Director Epperson

Vote: Unanimously approved, 6;0

Meeting Closed At: 6:19PM