



High Plains Library District Friends & Foundation Board of Directors

Regular Session

February 2, 2026

District Support Services

Virtual Option: <https://meet.goto.com/842411693>

Meeting Opened at: 4:04PM

1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Chair Michael Wailes, Vice Chair Lisa Taylor

Present via voice conference: Secretary/Treasurer Julie Forland, Director Sara Amodio, Director Annie Epperson, Director Clark Evans

Excused: Director Matthew Starr

Absent: Director Amanda Schnirel

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: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Director Amodio

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

1.3. Approval of November 3, 2025 Minutes (Action)

Motion: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Second: Vice Chair Taylor

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

1.4. Public Comment

No public comment.

2. ITEMS FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

2.1. Nomination of Officers (Action)

With Secretary/Treasurer Forland's term ending in May, Director Starr is nominated to take over the Secretary/Treasurer position.

Motion: Director Epperson

Second: Director Amodio

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

2.2. Board Icebreaker (Information)

The Board shared what books are on their TBR (To Be Read) List.

2.3. Nomination of Committees (Action)

Matthew Star will not be serving on Strategic Planning since he will serving as Secretary/Treasurer.

Motion: Director Epperson

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

2.4. Volunteer Background Check Policy (Action)

Foundation Director Mercer presented the Volunteer Background Check Policy to the Board.

Motion: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

2.5. 2025 Friends & Foundation Summary (Information)

Foundation Director Mercer presented the Foundation Summary found in Packet.

Vice Chair Taylor directed Foundation staff to send the library managers donor thank you cards to sign – making them aware of the patrons who have given.

3. FINANCE REPORT Natalie Wertz-Finance Manager

Natalie Wertz presented the financial report.

4. FOUNDATION REPORT Niamh Mercer-Foundation Director

Niamh Mercer presented the Foundation Report.

5. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Amodio states she is impressed at Foundation Director's Mercers skill in collecting data.

Director Epperson feels like she is still getting a handle on being a Board Member but is grateful for being on the team.

Secretary/Treasurer Forland is impressed by the updated Foundation Summary.

Director Evans appreciated the phone calls and hand written notes as a thank you for donating during Colorado Gives Day.

Vice Chair Taylor gives kudos to Foundation Director Mercer and Development Coordinator Hardman for wanting to reimagine things and not stay complacent at the Foundation.

Chair Wailes echoes the previous comments. He is impressed by the work that two staff members do.

Meeting Closed At: 5:03PM

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Vice Chair Taylor

Vote: Unanimously approved; 6

Recording
Secretary

Maria Bocanegra

Maria Bocanegra (Jul 15, 2026 16:41:06 MDT)

Secretary/
Treasurer



Matthew Starr (Jul 15, 2026 16:42:06 MDT)