

Library Board July Minutes

The Hand County Library Board of Trustees met on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 4:00 PM in the Hand County Library.

Members present: Chairperson Andrea Fiala, Trustees Marianne Peterka, Roxanne Stevens, Mike Donlin, and Mike Anglin, and Library Director Hannah Caffee.

The Hand County Library Board welcomed their newest Trustee, Roxanne Stevens to begin the meeting. The first order of business was a discussion about our officers. The motion was made by Marianne Peterka to have Andrea Fiala as our chairperson, and Mike Donlin as our vice-chairperson. Mike Anglin seconded the motion.

The board then discussed the committee assignments. All committee assignments determined in January remained the same, and Roxanne Stevens joined the policy committee.

Hannah gave a recap of the 2025 Color Our World Summer Reading Program. The kids read 98,644 minutes and celebrated the program with a parking lot party. The adult summer reading program had increased participation this year with 7 bingo boards turned in before it finished on July 11th.

Upcoming events include the new Who Reads More: Kids vs. Adults August Challenge. Readers will sign up in our new tracking app called Reader Zone. They will track their minutes spent reading from August 6th through August 15th. On August 16th at 1pm we will have a root beer float party where the "losers" will serve the winners a float. With special thanks to Ag Performance and Agri-Dynamics, LLC, we are also able to offer kids a state fair ticket when they reach the 50 minute milestone in this summer reading program.

The 2nd Annual Zucchini Cook-Off is scheduled for August 11th at 4pm. Competitors are required to sign up by August 8th. Voters are encouraged to attend and enjoy the dishes on August 11th.

The Hand County Community Read program, funded with the Community Connect Grant, has given 32 copies of the *Anxious Generation* to library patrons. A book discussion will be held at the Hand County library on September 18th at 5:30pm. Additionally, Hannah is partnering with Jennifer Boomsma-Kelsey to host a Screen Sanity Parent Night. The kit from the Screen Sanity company provides Hannah and Jennifer with a presentation, videos, and discussion questions for participants. This event will be September 16th at 6:30pm and is predicted to last about ninety minutes. To better encourage discussion, the event will be held at the Miller School where tables can be used rather than rows of seats.

Historically, the library policy manual is updated and approved at the July meeting. However, some information could be delivered later regarding legislation passed this past spring. Hannah will be learning more about such adjustments, and she will contact the policy committee when more is known.

Outside of the library, the chess tables are nearly finished with the pergola scheduled to be installed Friday, July 25th. Hannah will work with the Slunecka family, who has kindly donated the funds for this project, to decide on the memorial sign phrasing. She will also check to see if

their family would like to attend a ribbon cutting event for the pergola during the kick-off of the Chess Club season in October.

The board discussed the lawn noting the amount of water saved by not using the sprinkler system. Andrea volunteered to brush up on the information on converting the lawn to buffalo grass. Buffalo Grass does not grow beyond 6" tall, and therefore does not require mowing. She will look into the best order of operations and seasons for this lawn adjustment.

The performance review of the library director was postponed for the August meeting.

Hannah mentioned that the Hand County Commissioners gave an initial approval of the 2026 budget. It will now be published in the Miller Press before a final decision is made in September.

Marianne Peterka made the motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Mike Donlin seconded.

Mike Anglin made the motion to approve the June financial report and bills. Roxanne Stevens seconded.

The August meeting date was set for August 25th at 4pm.

Meeting adjourned.

A & B Solutions	#(425) service contract	\$84.97
BDS, LLC	#(428) garbage	\$22.00
Book Systems, Inc.	#(422) professional services	\$1959.00
City of Miller	#(428) utilities	\$621.23
Ingram	#(426) supplies	\$427.37
Overdrive	#(426) supplies	\$497.44
Venture Communications	#(428) email address/phone	\$202.35

Salary and Benefits	#(411, 412, 413, 414, 415)	\$7045.31
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Hannah Caffee, Director


Andrea Fiala, Board President