

SALT LAKE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Approved by the Library Board on May 18, 2026

April 27, 2026 – Herriman Branch

Board Attendees:	Board Attendees:	Excused Board Members:
Anastasia Morgan, Chair	Steven Sokol, Vice Chair	Councilmember Natalie Pinkney
Ann Engar	William (Bill) Scarber	Lindsay Vargo
Jessica Strong	Kaati Tarr	
Spencer Romney		

Other Attendees:		
Joey McNamee	Anneliese Booher	Amy Watson
Brad Kendrick	Carrie Hackworth	Chris Dasanjh
Christa Warren	Jennifer Fay	Lenora Monge
Melissa Haslam	Pamela Park	Robin Chalhoub
Sara Neal	Shaun Dimick	Steve Van Maren

Other Virtual Attendees:		
Brent Roberts (Help Desk)	Alexis Alires	Ann Marie Barrett
Bonnie Bradford	Isaac Higham	Kathy Christiansen
Kim Welch	Larry Carter	Luke Rasmussen
Steph Tilt		

Anastasia Morgan, Board Chair, called the board meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

WELCOME – Joey McNamee, Library Director

Joey thanked everyone for attending, both in person and online and expressed appreciation for making the time to meet.

Those who arrived early were able to enjoy the unveiling of the *Puddle Jumpers* art installation. It was originally a summer art piece displayed at the Eccles downtown location, but Arts and Culture loved it so much they didn't want to see it go — so it is now a permanent installation at the Herriman branch.

APPROVE MINUTES: March 23, 2026 – Anastasia Morgan, Board Chair

Spencer Romney made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 23, 2026 Library Board Meeting. Bill Scarber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member:	Vote:
Councilmember, Natalie Pinkney	N/A
Anastasia Morgan	Aye
Ann Engar	Aye
Bill Scarber	Aye
Jessica Strong	Aye
Kaati Tarr	Aye
Lindsay Vargo	N/A
Spencer Romney	Aye
Steve Sokol	Aye

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Anastasia Morgan

Heather Preece, a school counselor and author, visited to share her bilingual children's book about kindness and inclusion, titled *The Day I Outsmarted the Sparkle Sisters*. The book is also available in Spanish as *El Día que Superé a las Hermanas Brillo*.

Heather donated two copies to the library, one in each language. The donated copies have been forwarded to the acquisition librarians for review, in accordance with the library's standard process for evaluating new titles.

CORRESPONDENCE – Joey McNamee

The library receives patron feedback through a variety of channels. The online feedback form continues to improve, and QR codes are available for patrons to submit their comments easily.

Positive Experiences

Several patrons shared standout experiences with staff:

- A patron praised Aisha at the Granite branch for her help on a multi-hour project, describing her as amazing to work with.
- A new visitor at West Valley shared that they've found something to read every visit.
- A patron at Millcreek highlighted Kami's skill in recommending very specific books for their tween grandchild.
- A former high school librarian said he "drools" over our books and resources, adding that his kids are jealous of the library system.

The library recognizes that patrons often have ideas for improvement, and input is welcome. At the same time, it's worth acknowledging that staff consistently go above and beyond to deliver excellent customer service. It was encouraging to see a cluster of patrons who took the time to share their positive experiences.

Hours of Operation

A patron from Millcreek specifically recommended that the library open at 6:00 AM. While extended hours — such as 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM — would be ideal, it must be balanced against competing priorities and resources. Library staff regularly reviews usage data and patron activity to guide decisions about services, including hours of operation.

AGENDA ITEMS

INTRODUCTION OF THE HERRIMAN BRANCH – Christopher Dasanjh, Manager

Board members were welcomed to the Herriman branch, which is hosting for the second time since Chris became manager. Today's discussion focused on how the community has changed over the years.

Community Growth

When the Herriman branch first opened in 2010, the area looked very different. The population has grown significantly — from just under 22,000 to 55,000 — and the community has shifted from a rural setting to a thriving suburb with a wide variety of housing types. Population density has increased from approximately 1,000 to 2,500 people per square mile. The library is excited to continue being a part of that growth.

By the Numbers (2025)

- 3,000 new library cards issued
- 586,000+ checkouts
- 329 programs offered with nearly 30,000 attendees

Despite the significant population growth, the branch appears to handle the increased demand well, with the exception of the busy after-school hours. Many staff members live within the city limits and have a personal stake in the community's success. Their investment in Herriman drives their enthusiasm for helping it grow.

Community Engagement

Prior to the board meeting, Herriman unveiled *Puddle Jumpers* as the branch's new art installation. The event was attended by the mayor and two city council members, all of whom expressed their appreciation for the library. The board thanked Chris and his team for creating a welcoming environment where patrons and community leaders feel comfortable. The Herriman branch is considered essential to the community — it serves as a key gathering space and is the only venue within city limits that can accommodate a large number of people.

FINE FREE PROJECT UPDATE – Salt Lake County Councilmember Jiro Johnson and Christa Warren, Senior Manager of Collections

Currently, the library does not charge fines on youth items. While there is no action item at this time, the board discussed exploring a fine-free model for the adult collection, that has been suggested by Councilmember Johnson.

Christa reviewed the collections data to assess what a fine-free adult collection would look like. The library has at least one year of experience with juvenile fine-free policies and two years of fine-free summer programs. This data has been valuable in understanding internal processes and impacts.

The board also noted progress on the write-off policy: of over 200,000 accounts, fewer than 300 remain to be written off. Additionally, improved patron notification and communication systems for fines and fees were rolled out this year.

Next Steps

The team expressed enthusiasm for the proposal but emphasized the need to complete several steps before moving forward:

- Finalize cleanup of internal processes
- Analyze data on fines and fees collected
- Determine the full scope and logistics of the rollout
- Ensure patron communication is clear and proactive

A roll out a fine-free adult collection would need strong communication to patrons so there are no surprises — particularly around items sent to collections.

Board Discussion

The board acknowledged the importance of the proposal but chose to table the discussion until Councilmember Johnson can participate. Members noted that while improving access is a high priority, the library must also consider the fiscal implications. Board members want to review all available data before making a decision.

The board agreed that the lessons learned from the juvenile fine-free experience, combined with up-to-date patron information and thorough preparation, will help ensure a smooth transition for any future changes to the fine structure.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – Joey McNamee

West Valley

The board announced the selection of Method Studio as the architect for the West Valley Library project, which will be designed in partnership with the Ballet West Academy. The board thanked the team that assisted with the application and selection process.

Discussion centered on managing the transition during construction. Since the new building will be constructed on the same site, the current branch will need to close at some point, though no specific closure date has been set. The goal is to keep the branch open through the summer, if possible, while being mindful of not investing in unnecessary sunk costs.

Last summer, extreme heat combined with HVAC failure forced the branch to close for the first week of July, and then operate at reduced hours of 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for the rest of the month before an HVAC solution was found. The board expressed concern about the impact on students who rely on meals at that location and the broader issue of food insecurity in the community. Members emphasized the importance of keeping critical community resources available as long as possible.

Staff reviewed last summer's reduced-hours data and analyzed patron migration patterns to ensure surrounding branches are prepared to absorb additional demand — both during any limited hours this summer and when the branch eventually closes for reconstruction.

Midvale

Bids and an RFP (request for proposal) for the Midvale project are expected to go out in the coming weeks. The board expressed excitement about the tangible progress being made on these capital projects.

Operations Center

Construction on the new operations center location is scheduled to begin in the fall.

Taylorville Branch Renovation

The Taylorville renovation is nearing completion and the building reportedly looks beautiful — bright and refreshed. Key dates shared:

- May 18 — Staff return to the building
- June 1 — Soft opening to the public
- A grand opening celebration will be scheduled at a later date

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION – Pamela Park, HR Manager

In recognition of April as National Volunteer Appreciation Month, staff provided the board with an overview of the library system's volunteer program.

By the Numbers (2025)

- 395 volunteers served
- 7,200+ volunteer hours contributed across 16 branches
- Volunteers included community members of all ages as well as library board members

Volunteer Impact

Volunteers play a vital role across a wide range of library programs and services, including:

- [Seed Library](#) — Preparing and labeling seed packets for distribution.
- [Summer Reading](#) — Assisting with sign-ups and program support.
- [All Abilities Programs](#) — Among the most impactful volunteer efforts, as highlighted during the Draper branch presentation at a previous board meeting. Volunteers assembled over 2,000 kits that served more than 8,000 patrons with diverse abilities. What began as a branch-level initiative has evolved into a system-wide effort and is now gaining national attention — Sarah presented on the program at the Public Library Association (PLA) conference, where it has generated significant interest from libraries across the country.

Board Recognition

The board was thanked for their dedication to policy, process, and governance on behalf of the library system. Members received a small token of appreciation for their service.

OPEN MEETING ACT TRAINING – Anneliese Booher, District Attorney

Anneliese shared a video training from the [State Auditor's Office](#) on the [Open and Public Meetings Act](#) (OPMA). Following the training, the board completed a short quiz, passing with 100% accuracy. Board members were reminded that they may take the same quiz individually on the State Auditor's website to obtain a certificate.

Overview

The Open and Public Meetings Act is the state law ensuring that government action is conducted openly. It applies whenever a quorum of a public body gathers to discuss or act upon government business. Regular meetings and hearings are considered open meetings. Chance encounters and social gatherings do not constitute meetings. Hearings provide citizens the opportunity to speak publicly and carry additional requirements.

Electronic and Emergency Meetings

Electronic meetings require the adoption of a rule, resolution, or ordinance governing their use. Emergency meetings may be held, when necessary, provided the best feasible notice is given and an attempt is made to reach all members.

Closed Meetings

A meeting may be closed for specific reasons, including discussion of personal character, competence, or health; collective bargaining; litigation; certain property transactions (including water rights or shares); security personnel matters; investigation of criminal misconduct; and private or protected information under the [Utah Procurement Code](#).

A closed meeting may only be held when a quorum is present and the meeting has been properly noticed. Two-thirds (66.7%) of the governing body must vote in favor of closing. During a closed session, the governing body may not interview candidates, discuss a vacancy or absence, approve any ordinance, rule, contract, or appointment, or take any vote — except a vote to end the closed portion and return to the open meeting.

The closed meeting must be properly announced and entered into the minutes of the open meeting, including the reason for closing, the location, and the vote of each member. If the closed session involves character, security, or other specific state-body exceptions, no recording or minutes are required, but the presiding member must sign a sworn statement. For all other reasons, a recording must be made that includes the date, time, location, and names of attendees — unless disclosure would infringe on the original purpose of the closed meeting.

Notice Requirements

A minimum of 24 hours' notice is required for public meetings. The notice must include the meeting agenda, date, time, and place. Agenda topics must be reasonably specified, with each topic listed as a separate item. The governing body may not take final action on any topic not listed on the agenda. If a new topic is raised, it may be discussed, but final action must be deferred to a future meeting with proper notice.

For regularly scheduled meetings, the full year's meeting schedule must be provided in advance, including the date, time, and place for each meeting. Notice must be posted on the public body's website and on the Utah Public Notice Website. While posting is typically handled by the recorder, it remains the governing body's responsibility to ensure proper notice is provided.

Minutes and Recordings

Written minutes and recordings are required for all meetings. Minutes must include the date, time, place, attendees, topics discussed, substance of matters considered, citizen comments and their substance, a record of each vote taken, and information on any absent members. Each board member's individual vote on each item must be recorded.

Recordings must be complete, unedited, and labeled with the date, time, place, and all portions of the meeting. Any person in attendance may independently record the meeting, provided it does not interfere with the conduct of the meeting.

Pending minutes must be made available within 30 business days and clearly marked as drafts subject to change. Within three business days of approval, minutes must be posted on the public notice website, at the primary entity office, and on the public body's website. Recordings must also be posted within three business days for public access.

Public meeting minutes, pending and approved, and recordings are public records under [GRAMA](#). Any individual who raises a topic must provide a copy of relevant information for inclusion with the record.

Training manuals and videos are available through State Archives at archives.utah.gov.

Recent Legislative Changes

Several updates to the OPMA were highlighted outside of the video training:

1. The definition of "meeting" under [52-4-103\(5\)](#) has been restructured. While the substance remains the same, the previous single paragraph with numerous exceptions has been broken into more granular language. A meeting is now defined as a gathering of a public body with a quorum present, convened by an individual with authority and for the express purpose of receiving public comment, deliberating, or taking action on a relevant matter. Workshop-related provisions have been moved to a separate section.
2. Electronic meeting provisions under [52-4-207](#) have been updated. If all members plan to appear electronically, an anchor location is no longer required — unless someone requests to attend in person within 12 hours, in which case an anchor location must be provided.
3. A new section, [52-4-208](#), has been added prohibiting pre-meeting coordination. Members of a public body may not act together outside of a meeting in a deliberate way to take action on a relevant matter. This includes informal gatherings such as meeting beforehand to align on positions. Violations may result in legal action.

Statutory Reference

The full text of the Open and Public Meetings Act is available at [Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4](#).

STAFF REPORTS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Joey McNamee

Responding to Community Needs

The library system continues to evolve in response to community needs. As an example, a previous Herriman branch manager — introduced [QPR](#) (Question, Persuade, Refer) training for staff following a local tragedy, equipping them to respond when community members ask how they can help. Since then, the library has expanded its community safety efforts to include gun locks and naloxone (Narcan) at branches, which has been used to save lives.

Staff emphasized that the library's role extends well beyond traditional services like storytime and art installations. [Seed Libraries](#) are now available at approximately 10 branches, offering patrons the opportunity to take seeds, build gardens, and participate in related programming. The system actively addresses food insecurity and other critical community needs while remaining mindful of staying within appropriate boundaries and not duplicating the work of other community partners.

Upcoming Events & Programs

- [The Big Play](#) at Viridian (May 9) — A free event for children under age five featuring developmental activities, lead prevention resources, and hands-on programming designed for early childhood ages.
- [Fae Masquerade Ball](#) at Viridian (May 22) — Upcoming themed event for adults.
- [America 250](#) (April – May) — The library is participating in America 250 programming as a core community institution, including national park-related activities. The system is also partnering in a county-wide food drive tied to the [Canstruction](#) initiative, where sculptures are built entirely from canned food and displayed at seven locations throughout the county. The West Jordan branch will serve as one of the host sites. The library will also take part in [First Friday Concerts](#), combining live music with food drive collection efforts.
- [Summer Reading](#) (May 29 – July 31) — Planning is underway for the summer reading program, with more details to come at the next meeting. This year's theme is "Unearth a Story," focusing on archaeology and ancient civilizations.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on the third Monday of the month, as the fourth Monday falls on Memorial Day. The meeting was originally scheduled at the Millcreek branch, but due to ongoing AV equipment work, the location will change. Updated details will be shared soon.

WRAP UP AND TOUR – Anastasia Morgan

Jessica Strong made a motion to close the Salt Lake County Library Board Meeting. Ann Engar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member:	Vote:
Councilmember, Natalie Pinkney	N/A
Anastasia Morgan	Aye
Ann Engar	Aye
Bill Scarber	Aye
Jessica Strong	Aye
Kaati Tarr	Aye
Lindsay Vargo	N/A
Spencer Romney	Aye
Steve Sokol	Aye

The meeting ended at 1:26 PM. Christopher Dasanjh and Shaun Dimick (Facilities Manager) took interested parties on tour of the Herriman branch.