Shawneetown Public Library

Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2026

Members Present:

Olivia Bradley, Mary Ann Patton, Paige Hall, Alberta Doerr, Ashley Barnes, Randi Vickery, Judy Jones, Sheryl Scherrer, and current librarian, Julie Robbins.

Members Not Present:

Tara Wood

Call to Order: - The meeting was called to order by President Alberta Doerr at 5:15 pm. This meeting was held in person at the library. The roll call was taken by Olivia Bradley, confirming that enough members were present to hold meeting.

Secretary Report: Minutes were printed out for the members and read at the meeting. These were also emailed out to the board prior to the meeting. Judy Jones made a motion to accept the minutes, with Sheryl Scherrer making a second. All were in favor. Motion was carried out and meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: A complete treasurer's report was attached to the meeting minutes to itemize all income and expenses up to the current date. These were also emailed out to the board prior to the meeting. The checking acct has a balance as of YTD $12,955.76, savings account is at $3,642.05, 6 months CD at $14,299.65, 9 months CD at $16,280.50, and technology grant at $1,212.36. It was mentioned that on the technology grant, we haven't had any activity, but it will be next month as we have some upcoming purchases.

Mary Ann mentioned that Arlene from Botsch will be coming next week to do audits.

The treasurer's report had a motion to approve by Olivia Bradley, with Ashley Barnes making a second. All were in favor. Motion was carried out and treasurer's report approved.

Librarian Report: The librarian report was printed by Julie Robbins to be reviewed at the meeting. Included were the circulation stats for May. Also included were the stats for the new Libby program and the website views. The website has seen a lot of traffic with 5,143 visits and Libby 109.

A representative reached out to Julie about a “pillar booth”, where we can have an area at the library for privacy, since we don’t have an extra room where people can go to. The cost was around $7k. She told them that it wasn’t something we could do right now but maybe in the future. And, if we did entertain this addition, we would need to make sure it was ADA compliant.

Julie is getting low on library cards and asked about changing the logo/design in the next batch. All agreed to do so as long as there were not any added costs to do so.

The last program had a great turnout with 31 kids and 30 adults. It was well attended.

A shout out to Emily at the Harrisburg library for helping cover some of the travel expenses to assist us with 80% of the cost of the upcoming foam party in July.

We need to read on our own the included Serving our Public- Advocacy and Community Engagement. This has been included in our packets.

The Shawnee National Forest will be coming in for their program and Julie found out that they have a mascot Owl, would like to see if we could get a volunteer to be in it for that day. Olivia Bradley is reaching out to someone to see their availability.

Old Business:

Bake sale was a huge success as we raised $2,621 and we did not have anything left. We sold out, where in past ones, we had to donate leftover items. It was a great turnout from our community.

Julie brought up that she knows of someone that has done an online/auction bake sale and they have had good results. Olivia Bradley brought up maybe a good thing to try out and do before a holiday as people may be more receptive to purchase. Julie is going to do some checking on how we could do it and will report back to the board.

The Coal Days parade was also a success; participation was good and the frisbees were a hit. We will probably do these from now on since they went over so well.

There was discussion about the donation we received and how to invest it best for the library. The donation was $222,483.87. It was agreed that we need to open a checking account to get the funds to earn something and then can distribute as we see needed. It was suggested to split the funds 50/50, leaving $483.87 in the checking account. The split of funds will consist of half going to the IL Funds program with the state and the remaining half into an account locally at Legence Bank. Randi Vickery and Mary Ann Patton will go to the bank tomorrow to open accounts and discuss with them what product/option would be best suited for the library. We will revisit these accounts in 6 months to see which has best served the library on earnings and can have a discussion on whether we need to move or transfer anything around. Ashley Barnes made a motion to entertain this proposal with Judy Jones making a second. All were in favor, motion carried.

Paul Stacy came and fixed the awning. The library board signed a card to send to him as a thank you.

Randi Vickery reached out to Simon Naas about landscaping. He is going to come and replace.

New Business:

Julie attended the City of Shawneetown board meeting and reports that they will be getting a new phone system. The question raised was do we want to be on it, and would we lose our number? She asked if we did not move forward now but could sign on at a later date and they said that we could. The board agreed to wait and see how it goes and to also find out about the phone number changing if we do, as we have had that number for many years and would hate to have it changed.

She also found out from the meeting that the city is moving forward with putting in pickleball courts. She suggested it would be nice for the library to purchase a few sets that could be checked out. Olivia Bradley said that she sees these on discounts a lot online and can watch them and send them to her to purchase.

Alberta Doerr wanted to discuss the library director's performance and have a discussion on her salary. Julie left the meeting so that we could discuss without her present. We had given her a raise in January with the other city workers, being the same across the board at 3.0%. The board agreed that she does so much and has made the library more active with all that is going on and we would like to raise her salary if possible. Since it is tied to the city with her pay, we would need to get with City Treasurer Matt Martin to discuss options. Alberta will get with him and report back to the board at the next meeting.

The next library meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 5:15 pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Randi Vickery, with a second made by Sheryl Scherrer. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.